



## King County

### **Dow Constantine**

King County Executive

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800

Seattle, WA 98104-1818

**206-263-9600** Fax 206-296-0194

TTY Relay: 711

[www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov)

June 4, 2024

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

This letter transmits the Tree Retention Regulation Proviso Report, as called for by Ordinance 19546, Section 90, Proviso P2, together with a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, accept the report.

As required, the report assesses current best practices for tree retention regulations and enforcement mechanisms within urban unincorporated areas. It also considers the practices of tree retention and enforcement for neighboring municipalities within King County, as well as neighboring counties. The report uses this information, combined with an examination of King County's current tree retention regulations and enforcement mechanisms, to recommendation potential updates to the County's regulations.

As noted in the Fall City Subdivision Moratorium Work Plan Report (Report 2023-0439), attached to the Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County Community Service Area Subarea Plan, this report considers the need for adopting tree retention regulations and enforcement mechanisms for Rural Towns.

Analysis conducted for the report finds that while King County's tree retention regulations and enforcement mechanisms incorporate some industry best practices, many of these regulations and enforcement mechanisms could be strengthened and additional practices added to provide increased protection of the urban tree canopy. The King County Code standards that could strengthen are recommended to be informed by a public engagement process, as described in the report.

Thank you for your consideration of this report and proposed Motion.

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

June 4, 2024

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If your staff have questions, please contact Jim Chan, Director, Department of Local Services, Permitting Division at 206-477-0385.

Sincerely,



for

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Penny Lipsou, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

Danielle de Clercq, Acting Director, Department of Local Services

Jim Chan, Division Director, DLS Permitting Division