

**King County****Dow Constantine**

King County Executive

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www.kingcounty.gov

July 29, 2024

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

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

I am pleased to transmit a proposed Ordinance that would if enacted, approve the Doors Open cultural access program implementation plan as called for by Ordinance 19710, as well as govern the expenditure of the cultural access sales and use tax from 2024 through 2031 to achieve outcomes related to public and educational benefits and economic support for arts, science, and heritage organizations.

In December 2023, the King County Council passed Ordinance 19710, authorizing the creation of the King County Doors Open cultural access program. Ordinance 19710 requires the transmittal to the Council of an implementation plan that, once adopted, will govern the expenditure of the sales and use tax's proceeds until the tax expires in 2031.

The sales tax is expected to generate approximately \$741 million in revenue between 2024 and 2031, according to the King County Office of Economic and Financial Analysis's July 2024 forecast. The enclosed plan describes the forecasted expenditure of sales tax proceeds consistent with Ordinance 19710. It identifies and describes how the Doors Open program will utilize this funding to:

- enhance and extend the reach and offerings of cultural organizations;
- ensure continued and expanded access to cultural facilities and the programs of cultural organizations by underserved populations; and
- provide financial support for cultural organizations to continue and extend the numerous public benefits they provide.

The enclosed implementation plan further details the program priorities and processes for administering funding, and an assessment framework for how the program will measurably increase access to cultural offerings for King County residents and visitors, especially those living in underserved areas.

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

July 29, 2024

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Thank you for your continued support of the Doors Open cultural access program.

If your staff have questions, please contact Brian Carter, Director, Executive Director of 4Culture, at 206-263-1586.

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

Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

Aaron Rubardt, Deputy Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

Brian Carter, Director, 4Culture