



## King County | Office of the Executive

### Executive Girmay Zahilay

Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800  
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800  
Seattle, WA 98104-2391

June 12, 2026

The Honorable Sarah Perry  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
COURTHOUSE

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, approve the extension of Megan Pedersen's appointment as acting director of the King County Department of Human Resources (DHR) through September 11, 2026, as called for by King County Code 2.16.110(E).

On December 15, 2025, I appointed Megan Pedersen to serve as chief people officer and acting director of the Department of Human Resources. Prior to my appointment of Ms. Pedersen, she served as acting chief people officer and director of the Office of Labor Relations. Ms. Pedersen brings extensive experience in operations, labor relations, people strategy, and employee engagement.

When a person is serving as acting director of an executive department, King County Code 2.16.110(E) requires the Executive to inform the County Council of the status of the search to find a permanent replacement for the vacancy. The job announcement was posted on April 17<sup>th</sup> and closed on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Final candidates will undergo multiple rounds of interviews and participate in a meet-and-greet with DHR staff before a successful candidate is selected this summer.

If your staff have questions regarding this matter, please contact Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive, at 206-532-0773.

The Honorable Sarah Perry

June 12, 2026

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karan Gill". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "K" and "G".

for

Girmay Zahilay

King County Executive

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive

Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive

Sierra Howlett Browne, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Executive

Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive

Megan Pedersen, Chief People Officer, Office of the Executive