



King County | Office of the Executive

Executive Girmay Zahilay

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

July 8, 2026

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

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits a proposed Ordinance that, if approved, would authorize the King County Executive to enter into a loan agreement with the Washington state Department of Ecology (Ecology) for loan financing of capital costs associated with the West Point Treatment Plant Raw Sewage Pump Replacement and Grit Classifier Replacement projects.

The proposed legislation authorizes the execution of an Ecology State Revolving Fund (SRF) 30-year loan agreement for state fiscal year 2026 in the amount of \$35,215,000 with an interest rate of 2.7 percent.

This low-interest loan will save King County ratepayers \$13,675,378 in interest expense (\$8,279,877 net present value), compared to 30-year conventional bond financing. The SRF loan also will provide funding for King County's construction phase expenditures of the Raw Sewage Pump Replacement and Grit Classifier Replacement Water Quality Projects.

The Raw Sewage Pump Replacement Project will increase the firm pumping capacity of the raw sewage pump (RSP) station from 330 million gallons per day (MGD) to 440 MGD by replacing the existing biogas driven engine pumps with higher capacity electric motor driven pumps. The project will also make seismic upgrades to the pump station and make improvements to meet National Fire Protection Association (NFPA 820) standards. In addition, the project will replace the existing boiler system prior to completion of the RSP replacement to provide the heat necessary to maintain a stable treatment process. The need for this replacement is driven by the age of the pumps and the need for redundancy for influent pumping during times of flooding.

The Grit Classifier Replacement Project will replace or refurbish failing grit classifiers, cyclones, and grit hopper gates at West Point. This project will also implement modifications to associated

The Honorable Sarah Perry

July 8, 2026

Page 2

structural, mechanical, electrical, and process equipment related to the grit classifier, piping, and equipment. The grit classifier equipment removes heavy inorganic materials, such as sand, gravel, and minerals from the wastewater flow during preliminary treatment. The grit classifiers that were installed in the early 1990s have deteriorated through wear and tear and are past their expected life. Their current conditions decrease equipment reliability substantially, increase maintenance cost significantly, and adversely affect plant safety. Timely replacement or refurbishment of this equipment is needed to extend its useful life for at least another 25 years.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. This important legislation will reduce costs for King County ratepayers and protect water quality in our region.

If your staff have questions, please contact Kamuron Gurol, Division Director of the Wastewater Treatment Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-549-1190.

Sincerely,



for

Girmay Zahilay
King County Executive

Enclosure

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
Mo McBroom, Acting Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Kamuron Gurol, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division, DNRP