



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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www.kingcounty.gov

March 29, 2023

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

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

As required by Ordinance 15805, this letter provides a semiannual report to the King County Council on the status of negotiations regarding a new sewage disposal contract between King County and the 34 local sewer agencies served by the Wastewater Treatment Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP). This report updates the information contained in the September 2022 report.

The term of existing contracts with 25 local agencies will terminate on July 1, 2036, and nine will terminate on July 1, 2056. Between 2014 and 2019, DNRP in consultation with the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAC) and a negotiation team consisting of staff from DNRP, four cities, and one sewer district, developed an initial draft new contract to address items of interest to the local sewer agencies and King County.

However, MWPAAC recommended that DNRP complete the necessary work on three items concurrently with the Clean Water Plan process. Those items are guiding principles for industrial waste, the capacity charge calculation through 2030, and the capacity charge calculation after its current end date of 2030. In fall 2021, we paused the Clean Water Plan to allow additional time for DNRP to consider the feedback received to date from elected officials, local sewer agencies, and other stakeholders, and to refine the planning process. Based on stakeholder feedback, DNRP is developing a revised planning process for the Clean Water Plan, including hiring a new Project Manager who is expected to start in Q2 2023.

In 2023, MWPAAC is expected to continue the discussion of an updated Capacity Charge methodology and the policy changes necessary to implement the update.

Thank you for your consideration of this report.

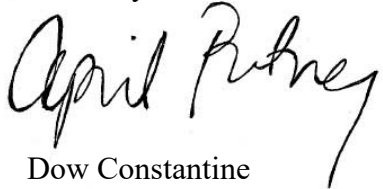
The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

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If your staff have any questions, please contact Kamuron Gurol, Division Director of the Wastewater Treatment Division, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-263-5767.

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff
Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council
Shannon Braddock, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Karan Gill, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Mina Hashemi, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Kamuron Gurol, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division, DNRP