



King County

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King County Executive

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September 6, 2023

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 recommended 2024 budget and work plan for A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH) and a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, approve the budget and work plan. Pursuant to the interlocal agreement between King County and ARCH authorized by Ordinance 16898 and extended by resolutions of the ARCH executive board, King County Council approval of the ARCH budget and work plan is required.

ARCH coordinates with other public and private organizations to provide housing policies and programs that address homelessness and the lack of affordable housing in east King County. The Coalition efficiently accomplishes this by combining local resources. This proposed legislation would approve the budget and work program as recommended by the ARCH executive board on June 8, 2023. It would serve north and east King County residents by ensuring ARCH has the necessary budgetary authority to operate in 2024 and to complete its 2024 work plan.

If approved by all parties, the 2024 budget includes a \$22,259, or 14 percent, increase to King County's ARCH dues, to \$183,216. The increase in King County's dues is consistent with most other ARCH member jurisdictions' increases, and is lower than ARCH's overall 20 percent budget increase. The increase to ARCH's budget in 2024 supports a cost of living adjustment for existing ARCH staff as well as legal services needed to negotiate and finalize Housing Trust Fund agreements and to update template documents to ensure alignment with other affordable housing funders. The ARCH budget for 2024 also now accounts for its new role administering the Bellevue Housing Stability Program on behalf of the City of Bellevue.¹

New elements in the ARCH work plan for 2024 include:

¹ ARCH's new staff position to administer the Bellevue Housing Stability Program on behalf of the City of Bellevue is funded fully through dedicated City of Bellevue sales tax funds under RCW 82.14.530.

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

September 6, 2023


Page 2

- implementing actions and recommendations from ARCH's strategic planning process that began in 2023,
- developing standard tools or models for affordable housing incentive and inclusionary programs,
- supporting jurisdictions as they develop their comprehensive plans and work to comply with new housing planning requirements from 2021's Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (E2SHB) 1220 and 2023's E2SHB 1110,^{2,3} and
- administering the Bellevue Housing Stability Program for the City of Bellevue, as noted above.

This proposed legislation reflects the collaboration of multiple local governments pooling resources for efficient and strategic spending. This approach directly supports the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force Five Year Action Plan strategy to support the creation and operation of subregional collaborations to increase and preserve affordable housing in King County.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Motion. If your staff have questions, please contact Leo Flor, Director, King County Department of Community and Human Services, at 206-477-4384.

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, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive

Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Mina Hashemi, Strategic Partnerships Director, Office of the

Executive Leo Flor, Director, Department of Community and

Human Services

² Washington State Legislature. E2SHB 1220 (2021). [\[LINK\]](#)

³ Washington State Legislature. E2SHB 1110 (2023). [\[LINK\]](#)