



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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July 30, 2024

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

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

This letter transmits a work plan regarding winery, brewery, and distillery (WBD) regulations as called for by Ordinance 19721, Section 4. The enclosed report provides a status update on litigation pertaining to the County's WBD regulations, a discussion of potential outcomes, and recommends that a six-month moratorium be adopted to allow time for litigation to resolve.

Updated WBD regulations were adopted by the County in 2019 via Ordinance 19030. Litigation regarding the Ordinance and associated SEPA review ensued and is ongoing. A series of moratoria on the acceptance of applications for the establishment of new or expansion of existing WBDs have been adopted beginning in 2020 to allow legal proceedings to resolve, during which time the code standards applicable to WBDs have been uncertain. As legal proceedings are ongoing as of the writing of this letter, the work plan recommends continuing the moratorium.

Please note that a proposed Ordinance that would establish a six-month moratorium on the acceptance of applications for the establishment of new or expansion of existing WBDs is transmitted separately and concurrently with this work plan.

Thank you for your consideration for this report. If your staff have questions, please contact Danielle de Clercq, Acting Director, Department of Local Services, 206-263-3286.

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

July 30, 2024

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Badda". The signature is stylized with a large, circular flourish at the end.

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

Danielle de Clercq, Acting Director, Department of Local Services