



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800

Seattle, WA 98104-1818

206-263-9600 Fax 206-296-0194

TTY Relay: 711

www.kingcounty.gov

July 8, 2020

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

Dear Councilmember Balducci:

This letter transmits a proposed ordinance that, if enacted, would amend Ordinances 8891 and 10916 and King County Code to add two provisions to existing legislation covering recycling and disposal of construction and demolition materials. Enactment of the proposed legislation, would clarify that responsibility for recycling of construction and demolition waste begins at the construction site, and allows for on-site recycling and direct shipment of waste to approved landfills from large demolition projects. On-site recycling and direct shipment of waste will result in a reduction in transportation costs, vehicle emissions, and traffic by eliminating the need to haul small loads of C&D to transfer facilities.

This proposed legislation, if enacted, builds upon success in promoting the recycling of construction and demolition (C&D) materials generated in King County, and the associated economic, environmental, and climate protection benefits. Since its passage in 2015, Ordinance 18166 has expanded the number of approved C&D recycling facilities in King County from one to eight. Data indicates that enactment of these policies has significantly increased the amounts of C&D that is recycled. Recycling of C&D waste reduces the need to extract raw materials and reduces carbon emissions from building material manufacturing.

The existing agreements between King County and privately owned facilities that manage C&D will be revised to incorporate the updates proposed in the ordinance.

In developing the legislation, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) engaged a wide variety of stakeholders in the C&D industry, including contractors, haulers, and landfill operators of recycling facilities. Outreach was conducted through direct meetings with contractor representatives and disposal companies, and through quarterly stakeholder outreach meetings with recycling facilities, haulers, and other C&D industry representatives. DNRP incorporated input from all parties into the legislation.

The Honorable Claudia Balducci

July 8, 2020

Page 2

The proposed legislation, if enacted, supports the King County Strategic Plan goal of Economic Vitality by reducing the cost to dispose of C&D at large demolition projects. It advances the King County Equity and Social Justice Initiative goal of Economic Development and Jobs by promoting creation of entry-level jobs at local C&D recycling facilities, and furthers the Strategic Climate Action Plan goal of Consumption and Materials Management by promoting zero waste of resources that have economic value for reuse, resale, and recycling.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed ordinance. This important legislation will help King County residents maximize the economic and environmental benefits of recycling C&D materials.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Pat D. McLaughlin, Division Director of the Solid Waste Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-4501.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dow Constantine".

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Carolyn Busch, Chief of Staff

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Shannon Braddock, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Karan Gill, Director, Council Relations, Office of the Executive

Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)

Pat D. McLaughlin, Division Director, Solid Waste Division, DNRP