



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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February 15, 2024

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

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

I am pleased to transmit for the King County Council's consideration the attached proposed Motion, which would, if enacted, confirm John Taylor as Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) consistent with King County Code 2.16.110. A full set of confirmation documents will be submitted under separate cover.

After an extensive search process, I appointed Mr. Taylor as DNRP Department Director, effective February 12, 2024. Mr. Taylor is a seasoned manager with over 20 years of experience in the public and private sector. He has made significant contributions on environmental policy issues, such as: Vermont's first "Smart Growth" legislation; Seattle's Restore Our Waters Initiative; creation of the Puget Sound Partnership; King County's Land Conservation Initiative, and the County's Fish, Farm, and Flood agreement. In Mr. Taylor's most recent role as the inaugural Director of the Department of Local Services (DLS), he championed the allocation of resources to historically underserved areas of the County and facilitated stronger inclusion for these communities to have a greater voice in County budgeting processes.

Prior to joining the DLS, Mr. Taylor served as the Deputy Director of the King County Water and Land Resources Division within the DNRP. In addition, Mr. Taylor served as Strategic Advisor to the Director of Seattle Public Utilities, as a Legislative Analyst for the Seattle City Council, and as the Senior Policy Advisor to the Governor of Vermont. His private sector experience includes several years as a consultant, serving as the Manager of Government and Community relations for CleanScapes, a Seattle-based solid waste and recycling company, and as the Policy Director for the Downtown Seattle Association.

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Mr. Taylor's experience and background make him an excellent candidate to serve as the Director of the DNRP, an agency committed to protecting and restoring the natural environment and contributing to our region's unique quality of life.

Thank you for your consideration of this motion. If your staff have any questions, please contact Dwight Dively, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive, at 206-263-9687.

Sincerely,



[OBJ]

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
Whitney Abrams, Chief People Officer, Office of the Executive
Dwight Dively, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive
Jay Osborne, Director, Department of Human Resources
John Taylor, Director Designee, Department of Natural Resources and Parks