



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

October 4, 2022

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 would, if enacted, ratify a negotiated memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the Amalgamated Transit Unit (ATU). The agreement applies to benefits-eligible employees in the Metro Transit Department (MTD) for the contractual period of January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024.

This agreement covers ATU-represented active benefits-eligible employees in MTD who perform work in support of the Metro Transit bus, streetcar, and light rail operations. These employees are highly valued for their services providing smooth transit operations. The negotiated MOA was reached pursuant to good faith negotiations and collective bargaining between King County and the ATU. The MOA has been ratified by the bargaining unit. Adoption of this proposed Ordinance will enable King County to continue to provide fully insured and self-insured medical, dental, vision, disability, accidental death and dismemberment, and life insurance programs to ATU eligible employees.

Two notable changes from previous agreements are reflected in the 2023-2024 ATU benefits agreement attached to the proposed Ordinance. The first change sets the County's benefits funding rates at \$1,600 per employee per month for 2023, and \$1,629 per employee per month for 2024. These changes are increases of 6.1 percent the first year and 1.8 percent in the second year over the rate that the County is paying at the expiration of the current contract term.

The second change is the modification of employees' out-of-pocket costs, which lower various out-of-pocket cost points for employees who select the Accountable Health Network (AHN) plans. These modifications are designed to incentivize employees to select the AHN plans over the Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) plan.

Adoption of this proposed Ordinance, which will ratify the negotiated MOA, advances the King County Strategic Plan goal of efficient, accountable regional and local government.

The Honorable Claudia Balducci

October 4, 2022

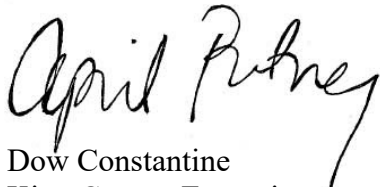
Page 2

Funding for these agreements are included in the Executive Proposed 2023-2024 King County Biennial Budget that was transmitted on September 27th. A complete breakdown of the costs associated with these agreements are in the accompanying fiscal note, which has been reviewed by the Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. This important legislation keeps King County's fiscal stewardship commitment to the public by managing its costs in a sustainable and predictable manner.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Megan Pedersen, Director, Office of Labor Relations, at 206-263-2898.

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
Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
Megan Pedersen, Director, Office of Labor Relations