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King County Executive
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September 29, 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 a proposed Ordinance that would, if enacted, adopt by reference the 2023-2024 capital facilities plans of school districts within King County as a sub-element of the King County Comprehensive Plan's Capital Facilities Element. The proposed Ordinance also amends the King County Code (KCC) to update the school impact fees assessed by King County on residential development in the unincorporated areas.

This proposed Ordinance updates the capital facility plans for the Auburn, Enumclaw, Federal Way, Fife, Highline, Issaquah, Kent, Lake Washington, Northshore, Renton, Riverview, Snoqualmie Valley, and Tahoma school districts.

This proposed Ordinance also updates the impact fees for the Auburn, Enumclaw, Federal Way, Fife, Issaquah, Lake Washington, Northshore, Renton, Riverview, Snoqualmie Valley, and Tahoma school districts.

Environmental review of each capital facility plan was conducted by the submitting school districts for King County pursuant to a lead agency agreement. All plans received determinations of non-significance. Key partner review was conducted through meetings of the County's School Technical Review Committee (STRC) and during the public comment period for the draft proposed Ordinance. The STRC found that all plans meet the school concurrency standards of KCC 21A.28.160. The permanent and interim improvements necessary to serve development are planned to be in place at the time the impacts of development are expected to occur.

School impact fees are calculated every year based on a formula agreed to by the County and the school districts. Individual school district fees may fluctuate from year to year based on several factors, including changes in student enrollment, changes in the district's building plan, new residential growth, and state reimbursement levels. When a district does not plan to construct capacity improvements within the next six years, no school impact fees are assessed.

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Implementation of this proposed Ordinance is expected to have minimal fiscal impact upon the County, as reflected in the enclosed fiscal note.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance, which will help the participating school districts build out their capital facilities programs.

If your staff have questions, please contact Jim Chan, Division Director, Permitting Division of the Department of Local Services, at 206-477-0385.

Sincerely,

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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
John Taylor, Director, Department of Local Services
Jim Chan, Division Director, Permitting Division, Department of Local Services