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December 23, 2021

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 the Parks Levy Oversight Board's (Board) review of the 2020 expenditures for the 2020-2025 Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Levy, in accordance with Ordinance 18890. This is the first report on levy expenditures for this levy period.

The report summarizes the Board's review of financial materials, including how Parks Levy revenues were allocated to, and expended by, the County, cities, Woodland Park Zoo, and the Seattle Aquarium in 2020, as outlined in Ordinance 18890. It also includes a review of the Parks and Recreation Division (Division) of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks progress in meeting the goals of the Parks Levy, consistent with Ordinance 18890. The Board identified that the Division is compliant with the Parks Levy allocation requirements.

This report furthers the King County Strategic Plan goal of efficient, accountable regional and local government by having active civic review of public investments in the County's parks system. This work also aligns with the King County Equity and Social Justice Initiative by increasing community engagement to guide planning processes.

It is estimated that the report required 30 staff hours to produce, costing \$2,000. The estimated printing cost for this report is minimal.

Thank you for your consideration of this report. These important comments and observations from the Parks Levy Oversight Board will help King County residents better understand the county's progress toward achieving the purposes of the Parks Levy and the level of accountability and commitment demonstrated toward delivering on that mission.

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If your staff have any questions, please contact Warren Jimenez, Parks and Recreation Division Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-4525.

Sincerely,

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

## Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

<u>ATTN</u>: Janine Weihe, Acting 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)

Warren Jimenez, Division Director, Parks and Recreation Division, DNRP