



## King County

### **Dow Constantine**

King County Executive

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January 3, 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, authorize King County to enter into an agreed Order amendment to Agreed Order 8439 (Order). Order 8439 was entered into by the Washington State Department of Ecology and King County on January 31, 2013. The Order requires King County to clean up contaminated open space at the Maury Island Site, formerly known as the Glacier/Northwest Aggregates Sand and Gravel Mine. The proposed Ordinance would amend the Order allowing King County to implement the final cleanup of the Maury Island Site.

The Maury Island Site, together with the adjacent Maury Island Marine Park, are the largest public open space holding of protected marine shoreline in all of Puget Sound. These spaces provide a unique passive recreation opportunity for the residents of King County.

On December 30, 2010, King County acquired the Maury Island Site. As part of the terms of the purchase and sale agreement, King County assumed all responsibility for any remedial obligations related to hazardous substances at, or migrating from, the Maury Island Site. Per the terms of the Order, King County conducted a remedial investigation, feasibility study, and draft cleanup action plan for the Maury Island Site, where there had been a release of hazardous substances due to aerial emissions from Asarco's Tacoma smelter. The remedial measures for the Maury Island Site are part of the much larger Tacoma Smelter Plume Project.

The proposed legislation furthers the King County Strategic Plan goal of a healthy environment by enhancing King County's natural resources and helping to protect critical, intact shoreline that has important ecological value to the Puget Sound ecosystem and recovery of species. The proposed Ordinance also furthers the King County Equity and Social Justice work by providing equitable access to a safe, clean environment for recreational use for all ages and abilities. In addition, the proposed legislation supports the goals in the Strategic Climate Action Plan related to preparing for climate change by implementing actions that equitably reduce climate change vulnerability and increase the resilience of natural systems. Budget for this work has

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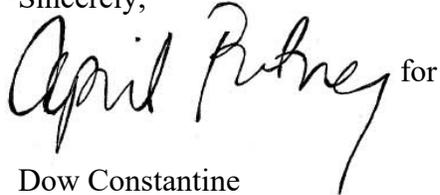
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already been appropriated, and no additional budget action is needed to implement this amendment.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance, which would help rehabilitate community assets and increase the opportunities for enjoying the Maury Island Natural Area. If your staff have any questions, please contact Warren Jimenez, Division Director of the Parks and Recreation Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-4525.

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  
Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)  
Warren Jimenez, Division Director of the Parks and Recreation Division, DNRP