July 26, 2018

The Honorable Joe McDermott

Chair, King County Council

Room 1200

C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember McDermott:

This letter transmits the 2019 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (Comp Plan) with a motion required by Ordinance 18409 Section107, Proviso P1, and an Ordinance to approve the Comp Plan and associated changes to King County Code (KCC) Title 10. The Comp Plan will provide long term policy to guide the regional solid waste system for the next 20 years.

As amended by the ordinance introduced as Proposed Ordinance 2018-0267 (the Third Omnibus Budget Ordinance), Ordinance 18409, Section 107, Proviso P1, will require the Comp Plan to be transmitted by July 26, 2018.

The Comp Plan includes a range of strategies to address recycling, waste disposal, and transfer services provided by public and private participants in the regional system.

Specifically, the Comp Plan will set policy for the following:

* The Existing System: stakeholder involvement, equity, climate change.
* Forecasting and Data: forecasting, tracking progress, establishing trends.
* Sustainable Materials Management: waste prevention and reduction, recycling.
* Solid Waste Transfer and Processing System: service levels, Northeast area facilities.
* Landfill Management and Solid Waste Disposal: waste disposal, closed landfills.
* Solid Waste System Finance: efficient and responsible financial management.

The Comp Plan also furthers the goals of key County plans and initiatives as follows:

* The Comp Plan furthers the King County Strategic Plan goal of aligning King County and community priorities through solid waste policies developed in coordination with our community partners.
* The Comp Plan furthers the King County Equity and Social Justice Initiative goal of investing in community partnerships by engaging the public in the planning process and ensuring services are distributed equitably.
* The Comp Plan furthers the Strategic Climate Action Plan green building and recycling goals through policies and actions to support those goals and by choosing actions with lower greenhouse gas emissions.
* The legislation implements the Rural Economic Strategies Plan and benefits unincorporated area residents through policy guidance for solid waste services that support the rural economy.

In developing the Comp Plan, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) engaged with the public, 37 partner cities, and unincorporated area residents during a two-month-long public review period with public meetings, website information and other means of engagement. DNRP worked to incorporate public input as well as input gathered during nearly two years of discussions with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee into the Comp Plan.

It is estimated that the Comp Plan required over 6000 staff hours to produce, costing approximately $400,000. The estimated printing cost for this report is approximately $25 per copy.

Thank you for your consideration of this Comp Plan and associated legislation. This important legislation will help King County residents plan for efficient, cost effective, and environmentally sound solid waste management for the next 20 years. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pat D. McLaughlin, Division Director of the Solid Waste Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-4501.

Sincerely,

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

 ATTN: Carolyn Busch, Chief of Staff

 Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

 Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

 Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)

 Pat D. McLaughlin, Division Director, Solid Waste Division, DNRP