

March 17, 2020

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, if enacted, would authorize condemnation as necessary to acquire the remaining easements on one property to allow for the construction of the North Mercer Island and Enatai Interceptors Upgrade Project (Project). This project is needed to add capacity to King County's wastewater conveyance system to protect public health and support growth in the region. The existing pipelines do not meet required levels of service, risk sewer overflows, and the North Mercer Island Pump Station requires an upgrade.

Built in the 1970s, the regional sewer lines serving north Mercer Island and Enatai are aging and reaching capacity. The Project will upgrade these sewer pipelines and add capacity to serve projected future growth in the region through 2060.

The Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks has successfully acquired easements from 47 of 48 property owners needed to complete this Project. However, WTD has reached an impasse with one property owner. Attachment A to the proposed ordinance provides more detail on the property and negotiations to date. The proposed ordinance would authorize WTD to file for condemnation, if necessary, to acquire the remaining property easements from this property owner to ensure the Project remains on schedule.

Per Revised Code of Washington 8.25.290, a notice of public hearing will be posted for two consecutive weeks in the legal newspaper with the largest circulation for the area where the properties are located.

This ordinance supports King County's Strategic Plan goal of a Healthy Environment by ensuring the Project will continue on schedule. Once completed, the Project will allow WTD to continue providing safe, reliable wastewater treatment to this portion of WTD's service area. The ordinance also supports the King County's Strategic Plan goal of an Efficient, Accountable Regional and Local Government by ensuring the ability to comply with WTD's long-term capital improvement plan and deliver needed services.

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Thank you for your consideration of this ordinance. This important legislation will support growth in the region and continue to protect public health and enhance the environment for King County residents.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Mark Isaacson, Division Director of the Wastewater Treatment Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-4601.

Sincerely,

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Carolyn Busch, 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

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

Mark Isaacson, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division, DNRP