



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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June 9, 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 would, if enacted, ratify a negotiated Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Professional and Technical Employees, Local 17 (the Union) in the Department of Public Health and the Department of Community & Human Services. This negotiated MOA is for the period of March 16, 2020, through the end of the County's emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Adoption of this proposed ordinance will aid the Seattle-King County Public Health Department in its healthcare rapid response which has expanded their COVID-19 pandemic capacities by conducting COVID-19 testing on individuals in the community and in the workplace.

The MOA covers all classifications represented by the Union. A five percent premium provided for in this MOA is applicable solely for hours worked by professionally qualified employees (e.g., Medical Assistants) assigned to conduct COVID-19 culture swabbing and/or COVID-19 antibody blood testing. . The premium recognizes the significant change in duties, as well as the heightened risk for employees, while conducting testing for COVID-19.

The negotiated MOA was reached pursuant to good faith negotiations between King County and the Union. The terms and conditions of the MOA are intended to establish temporary pay provisions supporting the County's COVID-19 response effort.

Adoption of this proposed ordinance, which will ratify the negotiated MOA, advances the King County Strategic Plan's guiding principles and goals of efficient, accountable regional and local government by establishing terms necessary to meet individual and community needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Honorable Claudia Balducci

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A complete summary of the costs associated with this MOA can be found in the accompanying fiscal note, which has been reviewed by the Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget. The MOA does not necessitate a supplemental appropriation.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed ordinance. If your staff have questions, please contact Megan Pedersen, Director, Office of Labor Relations, at 206-263-2898.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dow Constantine". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

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

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

Megan Pedersen, Director, Office of Labor Relations