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July 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, if enacted, will add 6.00 FTE to the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) to implement the investment of Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account (PSTAA) proceeds in King County.

In alignment with Motion 15492 and the 2019-2020 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 18835, as amended by Ordinance 19022, Section 1, Proviso P1, as amended, a draft implementation plan for the investment of PSTAA proceeds has been transmitted separately to the King County Council, along with a motion to approve the implementation plan.

The proposed plan identifies strategies to be funded and outcomes to be achieved with King County PSTAA proceeds. Proposed investment strategies aim to improve kindergarten readiness; high school graduation rates; postsecondary program acceptance rates; and postsecondary degree or certification completion, while reducing achievement gaps, for vulnerable and underserved populations. Toward these ends, the proposed plan is designed around three main strategies: early learning facilities; college, career, and technical education; and community-based supports.

Approval of the enclosed proposed ordinance will allow DCHS to promptly begin next steps for hiring staff and moving forward with PSTAA strategies upon approval of the implementation plan.

Action on this legislation enables King County to position itself for further alignment with the King County Strategic Plan health and human services goals by promoting childhood health and academic skills and enabling support for the optimal growth and development of children and youth throughout our region.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important proposed ordinance. I look forward to working with the County Council and the community to ensure equitable opportunities for all children and youth to achieve their educational goals and enter adulthood healthy and thriving.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Leo Flor, Director, DCHS, at 206-477-8384.

Sincerely,

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Dow Constantine King County Executive

Enclosures

cc: King County Councilmembers
<u>ATTN</u>: Carolyn Busch, Chief of Staff
Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council
Shannon Braddock, Deputy Chief of Staff, King County Executive Office
Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
Leo Flor, Director, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)