



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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August 11, 2021

The Honorable Claudia Balducci
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Balducci:

As called for by Ordinance 19210, Section 112, Proviso P3, this letter transmits a report on the Sewer Rate Cost Structure and a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, acknowledge receipt of the report.

As required, the enclosed report outlines the history and rationale for King County's sewer rate cost rate structure. It addresses the shifting of cost burden from commercial, industrial and multifamily housing sectors to single-family homeowners. The report includes options for alternative cost structures that would distinguish multifamily ratepayers from commercial and industrial ratepayers. A discussion of the balance of costs between the residential sector and the commercial and industrial sectors in the sewer rate revenues, and the criteria impacting that balance is also provided.

In developing the report, the Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks briefed the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAC) on the outline of the Sewer Rate Cost Structure Report at its June 3, 2021 meeting. WTD briefed the MWPAAC on the completed Sewer Rate Cost Structure Report at its August 5, 2021 meeting.

The work reflected in this report furthers the King County Strategic Plan goal of efficient, accountable regional and local government through transparency in the assessment of wastewater rates.

It is estimated that the report required approximately 130 staff hours to produce, costing approximately \$8,100. The estimated printing cost for this report is nominal.

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Thank you for your consideration of this report and proposed Motion. The important work discussed in the report will help King County and the MWPAAC explore sewer rate cost structure options.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Kamuron Gurol, Wastewater Treatment Division Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-263-5767.

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Janine Weihe, acting 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

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

Kamuron Gurol, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division, DNRP