



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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July 20, 2021

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 the Joint Ship Canal Water Quality Project semiannual report as required by Ordinance 18313. The attached report outlines progress to date on the project undertaken by the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP), in partnership with Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), the lead agency.

This report provides a status update on a project that will benefit water quality in our region by addressing Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) issues in partnership with SPU.

The report shows that the project is on schedule to comply with all federal Consent Decree milestones. It notes that the cost estimate for the project remains at \$570.1 million in total project costs, with the County's capital cost share increasing to \$172.9 million, which represents an increase of \$1.8 million since the last report. Since the last report in January 2021, additional modeling of wastewater flows showed King County will require more capacity in the storage tunnel component of this project. While this change does not affect the overall project cost, the County's cost share increases by \$1.8 million to pay for the additional storage capacity, which was offset by a project scope reduction effort.

The report also notes that work is complete to relocate other utility pipelines before construction begins on the storage tunnel and was completed on budget. Therefore, the \$901,000 in unused contingency funds have been returned to project reserves.

The work outlined in this report furthers the King County Strategic Plan goal of financial stewardship by exercising sound financial management and building King County's long-

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term fiscal strength. Partnering with SPU to deliver this project helps ensure efficient use of limited regional financial resources for both agencies.


In developing the report, DNRP engaged SPU employees to review monthly reports and financial data. SPU also provided ongoing briefings and outreach efforts to nearby property owners, community, public and regulatory audiences.

It is estimated that the report required 40 staff hours to produce, costing \$4,000. The estimated printing cost for this report is nominal.

Thank you for your consideration of this report. The important recommendations contained in the report will help King County residents by protecting water quality in the region.

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

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: 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