



**King County**

**Water and Land Resources Division**

Department of Natural Resources and Parks  
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TTY Relay: 711

September 5, 2024

**To:** The Honorable Dow Constantine, King County Executive

**VIA:** John Taylor, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)

Initial  
JT

**FM:** Josh Baldi, Division Director, Water and Land Resources Division, DNRP

Initial  
JB

**Re:** Nomination of Donna Klemka and Richard Bard and the reappointment nominations of Michael Brown, John Martinak, Morgan Brown, and Mary Bruno to the Vashon-Maury Island Groundwater Protection Committee

**cc:** Tala Mahmoud, Office of the King County Executive

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**Board Background:**

The Vashon-Maury Island Groundwater Protection Committee was enacted by Ordinance 14214 in 2001. The primary focus of the committee has been implementation of the groundwater management and watershed plans. There are eleven positions on the committee.

**Recruitment and Outreach Plan (For New Appointments):**

King County staff advertised in the Vashon Beachcomber (the local newspaper) for multiple weeks. We recruited through various community posts on Facebook pages including the Vashon Island Growers Association, Vashon Nature Center, and the others. The committee's existing members reached out to their communities. The committee is experiencing ongoing recruitment challenges post-covid.

King County is committed to inclusiveness and outreach on all King County boards and commissions to ensure that King County boards and commissions are reflective of the community we serve.

**Recommendation for reappointment and appointment:**

Of the eleven positions on the committee, I request reappointment of committee members in positions 1, 3, 6, and 10. And I recommend new nominations for positions 4 and 7.

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**Position 1:** I recommend Michael Brown for a reappointment to the Vashon-Maury Island groundwater protection committee. Michael Brown is being reappointed to fill position 1 representing Vashon-Maury Island residents. Michael Brown resides in Council District 8. I am requesting a waiver from policy Executive Policy ACO-5-2-EP, so that Mr. Brown may serve a third term. Mr. Brown is a professor of geophysics at the University of Washington and his expertise is specialized and unlikely to be replaced with a new candidate. Committee deliverables next year will benefit from his expertise.

**Position 3:** I recommend John Martinak for a reappointment to the Vashon-Maury Island groundwater protection committee. John Martinak is being reappointed to fill position 3 representing Group A water systems. John Martinak resides in Council District 8.

**Position 4:** I recommend Donna Klemka for an appointment to the Vashon-Maury Island Groundwater Protection Committee. Donna Klemka is being appointed to fill position 4 representing exempt well owners. Mrs. Klemka is currently retired. Mrs. Klemka has been involved with groundwater issues since the mid-1980's through community planning processes. She excels at translating technical issues into common language. She previously served on the committee until 2013. Donna Klemka resides in Council District 8.

**Position 6:** I recommend Morgan Brown for a reappointment to the Vashon-Maury Island groundwater protection committee. Morgan Brown is being reappointed to fill position 6 representing business entities. Morgan Brown resides in Council District 8.

**Position 7:** I recommend Richard Bard for an appointment to the Vashon-Maury Island Groundwater Protection Committee. Richard Bard is being appointment to fill position 7 representing Vashon-Maury Island residents. Richard Bard is currently a self-employed boat captain and author. Mr. Bard previously served on Water District 19's board and is a neighbor to Beall Creek. Mr. Bard understands the complexity of the interaction between surface and groundwater and stresses the importance of sustainable use. Richard Bard resides in Council District 8

**Position 10:** I recommend Mary Bruno for a reappointment to the Vashon-Maury Island groundwater protection committee. Mary Bruno is being reappointed to fill position 10 representing local non-profit organization. Mary Bruno resides in Council District 8.

**Appointment Material:**

Attachments: Board Profile

Applications for Donna Klemka, Richard Bard

Reappointment Request Forms for Michael Brown, John Martinak,

Morgan Brown, Mary Bruno

Financial Disclosure Forms for Donna Klemka, Richard Bard