



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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www.kingcounty.gov

September 6, 2022

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, authorize King County to enter into an interlocal agreement with Pierce County for a \$266,000 financial contribution for the costs associated with construction of a new bridge for the Foothills Trail. The proposed Ordinance has no fiscal impact.

King County is working cooperatively with the cities of Buckley and Enumclaw, and Pierce County Parks, on the proposed Ordinance to construct a non-motorized bridge over the White River. The bridge will be a vital community amenity that connects the completed portions of the trail in Enumclaw and Buckley.

As part of King County's 175-mile regional trail system, the proposed Foothills Trail Segment B addition would connect communities and provide opportunities for recreation that can reduce health factors linked to obesity, diabetes, chronic illness, and reduced life expectancy. The addition of Foothills Trail Segment B also supports economic and civic growth by connecting local businesses to non-motorized transportation options for their customers and employees. By improving access and safety, and by creating a more inviting place to recreate and recharge, the Foothills Trail can become a gathering place and focal point for the community.

This proposed legislation furthers the mobility goal of the King County Strategic Plan by delivering a safe, reliable, and seamless network of transportation options to get people where they need to go, when they need to get there. Execution of the interlocal agreement would also further the facility and system improvement goals of the Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan by providing access to safe and efficient non-motorized transportation and more equitable access to recreation for all ages and abilities in a part of the county that has been historically underserved by regional parks and trails. Finally, by providing an increased opportunity for non-motorized transportation, construction of the Foothills Trail supports the Strategic Climate

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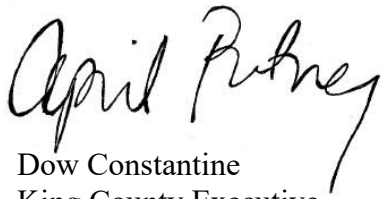
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Action Plan goal of providing and encouraging the use of sustainable transportation choices.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. This proposed legislation will give residents increased access to an inter-connected, non-motorized, active transportation network for more efficient mobility and safe and healthy recreation.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Warren Jimenez, Division Director of the Parks and Recreation Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-4525.

Sincerely,

 for
Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Shannon Braddock, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Karan Gill, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Mina Hashemi, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

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

Warren Jimenez Division Director, Parks and Recreation Division, DNRP