



King County

Shannon Braddock
King County Executive

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104

206-296-9600 Fax 206-296-0194
TTY Relay: 711
www.kingcounty.gov

April 22, 2025

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

Dear Councilmember Zahilay:

This letter transmits a proposed Ordinance that would, if enacted, update King County's school impact fee regulations to reflect recent changes made to the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 82.02.060. These state law changes require an impact fee schedule reflect the proportionate impact of the new housing units based on a unit's square footage, number of bedrooms, or other factors. The proposed Ordinance would also change the timing of fee payment for housing associated with a new preliminary plat to the time a complete building permit application is filed. Finally, the proposed Ordinance would change the school capital facility/impact fee update from an annual to a biennial cycle.

RCW 82.02.050 authorizes counties that are required to plan under the State's Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A.040) to collect impact fees to help fund school construction. Impact fees may be collected on new development to pay for public facilities needed to serve the resulting growth. King County Ordinance 11621 enables the collection of an impact fee on behalf of school districts serving residents living in unincorporated King County. Impact fees are currently assessed based on the housing unit type (e.g., single detached dwelling units and multi-unit developments). The proposed Ordinance would update the method for calculating impact fees to instead be based on unit size, measured by the number of bedrooms within a unit, meeting the requirements of RCW 82.02.060.

In developing the proposed Ordinance, the Department of Local Services collaborated with a representative of several school districts for which King County collects impact fees. This was vital to ensure that the proposed fee calculation method would be feasible for school districts to implement while fulfilling the requirements of state law.

The Honorable Girmay Zahilay

April 22, 2025

Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance.

If your staff have questions, please contact Leon Richardson, Director, Department of Local Services, at 206-263-3332.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shannon Braddock', with a stylized flourish at the end.

for

Shannon Braddock
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
 ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council
 Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council
Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
Penny Lipsou, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
Leon Richardson, Director, Department of Local Services
Jim Chan, Division Director, DLS Permitting Division