



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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www.kingcounty.gov

June 21, 2023

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

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

This letter transmits a proposed Ordinance that would, if enacted, provide funding to the Department of Public Health and the Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention to implement the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) with the Washington State Nurses Association (WSNA) covering staff nurses in the Departments of Public Health and Adult and Juvenile Detention for the contractual period of January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024.

The proposed budget supplemental allocates \$1,827,000 from the General Fund and \$645,000 from the Public Health Fund to fund costs included in the agreement with the WSNA that were not anticipated in the 2023-2024 Biennial Budget. These costs include the parity increase to align the pay of registered nurses (RNs) with that of public health nurses; discounted parking rates for employees posted at the King County Correctional Facility; and a \$1,000 bonus paid to members of the bargaining unit who do not receive the RN parity increase based on certain eligibility requirements.

The adoption of this proposed Ordinance will allow King County to provide agreed wages, hours, and working conditions to the employees providing nursing services in our communities and places of detention. The negotiated CBA covers approximately 229 staff nurse positions, who serve King County's residents in a wide variety of specialty areas and clinical settings. The CBA was reached pursuant to good faith negotiations and collective bargaining between King County and the WSNA and has been ratified by the bargaining unit.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. This important legislation supports the valued nursing services provided by the WSNA and allows County agencies to provide the competitive wages necessary to recruit and retain the qualified employees they need.

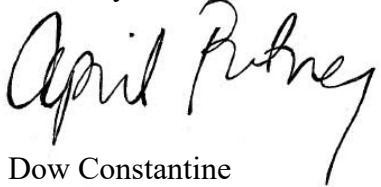
The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

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If your staff have questions, please contact Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget at 206-263-9687.

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
Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
Megan Pedersen, Director, Office of Labor Relations