



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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January 23, 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 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.

As reported in the July 2022 report, the tunnel boring machine (TBM) encountered a 12-foot diameter boulder in April 2022 that shut down mining operations while necessary repairs were made. In May 2022, the TBM successfully mined through the boulder and continued mining until a planned contract-required maintenance stop occurred in July 2022. In addition to performing the planned routine maintenance, inspection of the machine's cutterhead identified that additional and more permanent boulder-related repairs were required before mining could be resumed. Cutterhead repairs were completed, and mining resumed in early September 2022.

Significant progress continues on all construction activities. Mining continues on the 18-foot 10-inch diameter storage tunnel and has progressed to 8,100 feet out of a total 13,946 feet. Workers installed 32 of 82 total casing pipe segments in the eight-foot diameter tunnel with work expected to be completed in January 2023. The majority of non-construction related work has been completed. Both SPU and King County are working on startup, commissioning, operations plans, and post construction modeling and monitoring.

As outlined in the report, no financial changes are proposed to either King County's cost share or the project cost since the last report. However, the report notes that the budget will need to be increased and the schedule will need to be extended. The budget and schedule were established in 2018 and since that time the project has experienced unprecedented escalation, pandemic-related impacts, and risk events. The project team is performing a

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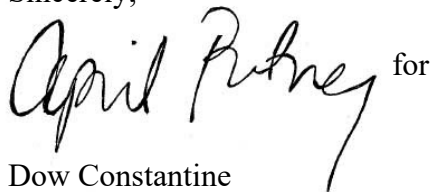
comprehensive project review and update. Preliminary estimates indicate an eight to 14 percent increase in the current project budget to \$615-\$650 million, with King County's share of this increase at approximately 30 percent or \$13.5 million to \$24 million. In addition, it is likely that the completion date will be pushed back into 2026 from the Consent Decree identified date of December 31, 2025, although specific dates will not be known until the project team completes its risk and uncertainties analysis and risk model reviews. DNRP has notified the Washington State Department of Ecology and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that the project completion date is anticipated to occur after December 31, 2025 as identified in the Consent Decree.

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

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: 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)

Kamuron Gurol, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division, DNRP