



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800

Seattle, WA 98104-1818

206-263-9600 Fax 206-296-0194

TTY Relay: 711

www.kingcounty.gov

August 27, 2020

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 Motion that, if enacted, would authorize the King County Executive to accept a conservation easement donation of approximately five acres on a private property southwest of Woodinville, appraised at three hundred thousand dollars, for forest conservation purposes. A map showing the location of the property is attached.

The proposed motion would protect land in the rural area and permanently protect fish and wildlife habitat. In addition, this proposed property donation would support a condition of the landowner's revised application for enrolling the property in the Public Benefit Rating System which requires that the conservation easement be donated to King County before the end of 2020.

Approval of this proposed legislation would support the King County Strategic Plan goal of Healthy Environment and the objective of protecting and supporting healthy and productive farms, forests, and spaces. It also supports the mission of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks by protecting natural ecosystems that benefit the people of King County.

The proposed motion also furthers the Strategic Climate Action Plan goal of protecting forest lands and the multiple benefits forests provide including supporting greenhouse gas reduction efforts through carbon sequestration and increasing forest canopy in urban and rural areas of the county.

This proposed property donation is consistent with the King County Open Space Plan which calls for the preservation of open space properties that provide public benefit and natural resource protection, and helps implement the Land Conservation Initiative which seeks to protect the remaining high conservation value lands within King County by 2050.

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Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Motion. This important legislation will help preserve forested acreage for future generations of King County residents.

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: Carolyn Busch, Chief of Staff

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Shannon Braddock, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Karan Gill, Director, Council Relations, Office of the Executive

Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

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

Warren Jimenez, Division Director, Parks and Recreation Division, DNRP