



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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December 8, 2023

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

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

This letter transmits the Electric Bike Proviso Report, as called for by Ordinance 19546, Section 17, as amended by Ordinance 19633, Section 9, Proviso P6, and proposed Motion that would, if approved, acknowledge receipt of the report.

This report provides an analysis of a sample of e-bike rebate and lending library programs in the United States, including the city of Denver. Using information gathered from literature reviews and virtual interviews with over 20 subject matter experts, this report outlines a proposal for administering an e-bike program consistent with Washington State Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1125, Section 310(16).¹

This report puts forth a proposal for King County to address the growing demand for electric bikes (e-bikes) in a manner that promotes equitable outcomes. Consistent with the Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan (2016-2022) strategy to invest where needs are greatest,² the proposal put forward in this report is a hybrid model focusing resources on income qualified individuals or households. Based on available funding, the recommendation utilizes a lending library approach administered through a community grant that incorporates funding for rebate vouchers as part of the program. Oversight of such program is recommended to be performed by the King County Office of Climate to ensure program alignment in advancing strategic initiatives at the nexus of climate, transportation, and equity.

¹ Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1125, Section 310(16). <https://lawfilesexxt.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2023-24/Pdf/Bills/House%20Passed%20Legislature/1125-S.PL.pdf?q=20230822144820> ; This HB appropriates \$7 million from the Carbon Emissions Reduction Account to establish statewide e-bike rebate and lending library programs.

² King County Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan (2016-2022): <https://kingcounty.gov/en/legacy/elected/executive/equity-social-justice/strategic-plan.aspx>

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If your staff have questions, please contact Dwight Dively, Director, King County 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 Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Penny Lipsou, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance Strategy and Budget