



King County

**Metropolitan King County Council
Regional Water Quality Committee**

December 13, 2023

The Honorable Dow Constantine
King County Executive
401 5th Ave. Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: Regional Wastewater Services Plan Update

Dear Executive Constantine:

As members of the Regional Water Quality Committee, we are writing to request you to prioritize the update to the Regional Wastewater Services Plan (RWSP). The Regional Wastewater Services Plan was adopted by the King County Council in 1999 and has served as a foundational guide for the operation and development of the wastewater system for the last 25 years. Today and in the decades to come, our regional wastewater system faces a series of complex and often competing challenges including, aging infrastructure, growing population, changing climate, increasing regulatory demands, and rate affordability. We are now navigating these challenges and need a roadmap. As regional policymakers, we believe the best approach to addressing these policy issues and developing a roadmap for the future is through an update or replacement of the RWSP which sunsets in 2030.

In 2018 WTD began development of a “Clean Water Plan” to replace the County’s existing RWSP and address many of these issues. We recognize it was a challenging process and appreciate the decision to pause the process. It has now been more than two years since the planning process was put on hold. With the pressing issues before us, we believe that planning for the future of our regional wastewater system should not wait any longer.

The Regional Water Quality Committee stands ready to partner with the Wastewater Treatment Division and our regional partners to develop an update to the Regional Wastewater Services Plan.

Sincerely,
Members, Regional Water Quality Committee

Claudia Balducci

Claudia Balducci, Chair

Lloyd Warren

Lloyd Warren, Vice Chair



Reagan Dunn, Member



Dave Upthegrove, Member



Tim Harris, Member



Conrad Lee, Member



Alex Pedersen, Member



Penny Sweet, Member



Jessica Rossman, Alternate



Ryika Hooshangi, Alternate

cc: Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Kamuron Gurol, Director, Wastewater Treatment Division
Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Penny Lipsou, Director of Council Relations, Office of the Executive
Sharman Herrin, Government Relations Administrator, Wastewater Treatment Division
Katherine Taylor, Government Relations Administrator, DNRP
Tom Goff, Director, Local and Regional Affairs, King County Council