



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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June 3, 2022

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 status report on the impact of racial redlining on King County capacity charge customers, consistent with Ordinances 19210 and 19443. The final report on this topic will be delivered to the Council by April 2023.

This status report provides an interim update on progress to date. The final report will evaluate the effects of historic racial restrictions on the acquisition of residential real estate, including racially restricted covenants, deed restrictions, and restrictive lending practices commonly referred to as “redlining.”

Given the importance of the study to multiple King County agencies, an interdepartmental project team consisting of staff across County departments was formed to guide the work of this project. The King County project team will help oversee the project, including monitoring and reviewing the research, analysis, and findings of the study and subsequent final report.

The County also hired ECONorthwest as the lead consultant for this report. In addition, the consultant has formed a supplementary research and review advisory team comprised of university-level economists and subject matter experts. Research is nearly complete on the historical overview of race-based, restrictive real estate practices and the geographic areas and racial groups negatively affected by these practices.

The information contained in this status report furthers the King County Strategic Plan goal of increasing access to quality, affordable housing. This report also furthers the plans, policies, and budget goal of the Equity and Social Justice plan by analyzing equity impacts of past policies and considering potential ways to address these inequities through current County plans and policies.

This status report required approximately 50 hours to produce, costing approximately \$3,250 in staff time. The estimated printing cost for this report is nominal.

The Honorable Claudia Balducci

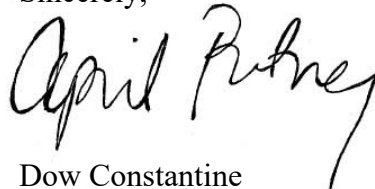
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Thank you for your consideration of this report. Staff continue to develop the final report on this important topic that addresses historic inequities in housing in the region.

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