



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

March 28, 2025

The Honorable Girmay Zahilay
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Zahilay:

This letter transmits a parks community center plan relating to the Skyway-West Hill Community Center project, as called for by Ordinance 19546 and a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, acknowledge receipt of the report.

Residents of the Skyway-West Hill community have long expressed interest in a community center. King County and local community-based organizations in Skyway-West Hill have collaborated on various engagement and planning initiatives to ascertain the community's priorities regarding the establishment of a community center. The Parks Division (Parks) of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) is currently working with a consultant to complete planning and schematic design of a community center to be constructed in Skyway Park in Skyway-West Hill. The community center plan transmitted with this letter includes preliminary information about the financial implications of developing and operating such a community center.

King County's 2016-2022 Equity and Social Justice (ESJ) Strategic Plan established a strategy of investing upstream and where needs are greatest. Skyway is part of the Sunset Parks Maintenance District, which the Parks Division 2024 ESJ Action Plan identifies as containing higher numbers of underserved priority ESJ populations than other districts. In the Sunset District, 60 percent of residents are Black, Indigenous, or people of color and 30 percent of residents have a household income below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Eight percent of residents reside in limited English-speaking households and 38 percent speak a language other than English at home.

Organizations, including the Skyway Coalition, have advocated for increased funding to the area, resulting in the current project funding. Parks is prioritizing community engagement through the design process to ensure the community center meets community needs. There are

The Honorable Girmay Zahilay

March 28, 2025

Page 2

three distinct opportunities for public input during the contracted planning and design work, two of which have already taken place. Each opportunity for public input involves a public meeting with the consultant and an online survey. Parks has also regularly met with Skyway Coalition to solicit input throughout the process.

Thank you for your consideration of this report.

If your staff have questions, please contact Warren Jimenez, Division Director, Parks and Recreation Division, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, 206-477-4525.

Sincerely,



for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
 ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council
 Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council
Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Penny Lipsou, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
John Taylor, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)