



## 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](http://www.kingcounty.gov)

September 4, 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 approving the King County Metro (KCM) Agency Safety Plan, a comprehensive document intended to ensure the safety of customers, employees, contractors, emergency responders, and the general public, as required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

This plan provides information on KCM's Safety Management System (SMS). SMS is a comprehensive, collaborative approach that brings management and labor together to build on KCM's existing safety foundation to control risk, detect and correct safety problems earlier, share and analyze safety data more effectively, and measure safety performance more carefully. SMS applies resources to risk and is based on ensuring that KCM has the organizational infrastructure to support decision-making at all levels regarding the assignment of resources.

Some key parts of SMS include:

- Defined safety roles and responsibilities;
- Strong executive safety leadership;
- Formal safety accountabilities and communication;
- Effective policies and procedures; and
- Active employee involvement.

Pursuant to FTA regulations, operators of public transportation systems that are subject to this requirement must develop and implement SMS processes as part of their agency safety plans.

The approval of this plan is required per the FTA's Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) regulation at 49 CFR Part 673 as authorized by Congress' Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). It is required for all operators of public transportation systems that are recipients and sub-recipients of FTA grant funds. It is due to the FTA on or before December 31, 2020.

The Honorable Claudia Balducci

September 4, 2020

Page 2

Approval of this plan supports the King County Strategic Plan's Mobility goal of providing fiscally responsible, quality-driven local and regional services for healthy, safe, and vibrant communities. More specifically, it supports the objective of ensuring the safety and security for customers and employees using the mobility network. It also supports King County Metro's own Council-approved Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-2021 by building on its top goal of keeping people safe and secure by promoting safety and security in public transportation operations and facilities.

Thank you for your consideration of this plan. The important work reflected in this document will help King County Metro continue to be a safe public transit system for employees, passengers, and the region at large.

If your staff have questions, please contact Rebecca Zelt, Interim Managing Director, Safety & Security, King County Metro, at (206) 477-3976.

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  
Terry White, Interim General Manager, King County Metro