



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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September 5, 2024

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

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

This letter transmits proposed 2025-2029 rates and charges for the King County Conservation District (KCD) pursuant to the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 89.08.405, which authorizes a county legislative authority to approve by resolution revenues to a conservation district by fixing a system of rates and charges to fund conservation district activities and programs to conserve natural resources.

The KCD is a governmental subdivision of the state of Washington, organized under RCW chapter 89.08. It is the role of KCD to protect and conserve natural resources throughout King County, except within the boundaries of the incorporated cities of Enumclaw, Federal Way, Milton, Pacific, and Skykomish.

The enclosed proposed system of rates and charges, and the program of work it supports, represents more than a year of strategic planning and work sessions with partners, interested parties, and KCD's Advisory Committee beginning in 2023. Two public information sessions and a public hearing were held prior to this transmittal. In addition to these convenings, KCD received public input through an online portal and encouraged participation through their newsletter, social media, and direct emails to more than 5,000 past participants of KCD's many services. Of the 141 public comments submitted, 87 percent were supportive of the proposed rate renewal. This proposal allows for the continuation of all current KCD programming with a renewed emphasis on climate resilience and equity.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal of rates and changes and associated program of work for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2029.

If your staff have questions, please contact Michael Lufkin, Food Economy Manager, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-2331.

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

September 5, 2024

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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)

Michael Lufkin, Food Economy Manager, Director's Office, DNRP