



## King County

**Dow Constantine**  
King County Executive  
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July 23, 2024

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

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

I am pleased to transmit the attached motion for the King County Council's consideration, which would, if approved, confirm Leon Richardson as Director of the Department of Local Services (DLS) consistent with King County Code 2.16.110. The enclosed materials comprise the full set of confirmation documents as established by code and practice.

I appointed Mr. Richardson as DLS Department Director, effective July 22, 2024. Mr. Richardson joined King County in 2019 and most recently served as the Director of the Adult Services Division with the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS). Prior to serving as Division Director, Mr. Richardson was the Deputy Division Director at Adult Services. During his tenure at King County, Mr. Richardson oversaw the renewal of the \$550 million Veteran, Seniors and Human Services Levy. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he oversaw the formation of three regional assessment and recovery centers to reduce the strain on local hospitals. Mr. Richardson also led DCHS's \$400 million eviction prevention and rent assistance program.

Prior to working at King County, Mr. Richardson served in the U.S. Army, where he created and implemented a robust plan to bring humanitarian aid to east Africa. His demonstrated success in strategic planning and establishing cross-functional partnerships makes him uniquely qualified to serve as DLS Director and to lead the County's efforts to connect the quarter-million residents of unincorporated King County to their local government.

Thank you for your consideration of this motion. If your staff have any questions, please contact Dwight Dively, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive, at 206-263-9687.

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

July 23, 2024

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Sincerely,



for

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Penny Lipsou, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

Whitney Abrams, Chief People Officer, Office of the Executive

Dwight Dively, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive

Jay Osborne, Director, Department of Human Resources

Leon Richardson, Director Designee, Department of Local Services