



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

February 24, 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 proposed Motion that will, if enacted, request the preparation and submission of an assessment report to inform possible renewal of the County's Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy. The assessment report would provide analysis and recommendations to the King County Council as it considers whether to submit a ballot measure for voter approval to renew the levy.

In November 2017 King County voters approved the Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy (VSHSL) for a six-year term, renewing and expanding the previous voter approved Veterans and Human Services levies in 2005 and 2011. The 2017 VSHSL funds capital facilities and regional health and human services, focused on five result areas: housing stability, healthy living, financial stability, social engagement, and health and human services system access and improvement. The VSHSL supports three priority populations: veterans, servicemembers, and their families; seniors and their caregivers; and vulnerable populations.

The current Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy expires at the end of 2023. To renew the levy beyond its current expiration date, King County voters will need to approve a ballot measure. The Council will need to approve the ballot measure to be placed on the ballot for voters to consider.

The assessment report requested by this proposed Motion would provide analysis to inform the Council's deliberations on a potential ballot measure. It calls for examination of the levy's impact on equitable access to human services. Specifically, the report would assess the overall effectiveness of current VSHSL services and provide recommendations on maintenance or modification of programming in VSHSL's five result areas and on the distribution of funding among population groups and result areas.

The VSHSL furthers the King County Strategic Plan health and human services goal to improve the health and well-being of all people in our community by increasing access to affordable housing and other essential human services supports. It also advances the King

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County Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan goal areas and the County's pro-equity policy agenda through supporting organizations that recognize and address the disparities and disproportionality that exist in our communities.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed Motion. If your staff have any questions, please contact Leo Flor, Director, Department of Community and Human Services, at 206-477-4384.

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure: Motion for Assessment Report

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Janine Weihe, Acting 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

Leo Flor, Director, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)