



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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September 30, 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 the Annual Parks Levy Moneys Reallocation Report, as called for by Motion 15378 which also specified use of proceeds from the 2020-2025 King County Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Levy (Parks Levy). The enclosed report addresses categories of spending specified in Attachment C to Motion 15378.

In April 2019, the King County Council passed Ordinance 18890, which placed the Parks Levy on the ballot. The King County Council also passed Motion 15378 in April 2019, which provided additional guidance for the use of levy proceeds. Levy proceeds are to provide for the operations and maintenance of King County's parks and trails, support the growth and connection of regional trails, establish grant programs to expand access to recreation, and protect open space for King County residents, as well as directly support parks in King County cities, the Woodland Park Zoo, and the Seattle Aquarium. In August 2019, King County voters approved the ballot measure by more than 70 percent.

DNRP is midway through the five-year levy period and continues to make progress toward meeting the levy's specific capital project commitments. Planning for the 2023-2024 biennial budget focused on ensuring that projects have adequate funding to meet all commitments in the levy period.

Within the Regional and Other Public Trails System section of Attachment C of Motion 15378, DNRP proposes reallocating \$5 million from the Lake to Sound Trail Renton and Tukwila segments to the Lake to Sound Burien Segment and \$3.5 million to the Green River Trail North Extension. Operationalizing the Lake to Sound Burien Segment and the Green River Trail North Extension projects will significantly increase recreation access and mobility to King County residents and are on track to be completed by 2024. The projects require additional funding for construction due to cost increases, supply chain issues, and inflation. The proposal reallocates future levy proceeds and does not disappropriate any existing project budget. Please see the accompanying report for further details.

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This reallocation is included in the 2023-2024 proposed budget, which is currently under consideration by the King County Council.

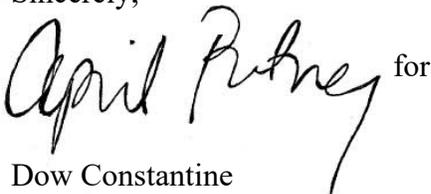
The proposed reallocation furthers the King County Strategic Plan mobility goal of delivering a safe, reliable, and seamless network of transportation options to get people and goods where they need to go, when they need to get there by funding the construction of critical non-motorized trail connections. Additionally, completing these trail projects furthers the Strategic Climate Action Plan's reducing greenhouse gas emissions goal six: Regional Trails: 10 miles of new regional trail. Finally, the trail projects proposed to receive additional funds advance the Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan by increasing access to recreation, non-motorized transportation, and economic opportunity areas for historically disadvantaged communities with high proportions of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities.

It is estimated that the report required 13 hours by DNRP staff to produce, costing approximately \$1,585 in staff hours. The estimated printing cost for this report is nominal.

Thank you for your consideration of this report. I look forward to continuing to work with the Council to assure that the many projects and programs supported by the Parks Levy are able to advance our common goals and align the distribution of these funds with needs countywide.

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

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
 ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, 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
Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Warren Jimenez, Division Director, Parks and Recreation Division, DNRP