



## **King County**

**Dow Constantine**

King County Executive

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

February 14, 2023

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

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

As required by Ordinance 18627, this letter transmits a summary report of suggestions and concerns received from staff at the West Point Treatment Plant.

The enclosed report is an update on information gathered by the Bright Ideas reporting tool used by the Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) for employees to report problems they see in the workplace and offer solutions. It is a hands-on, employee-driven idea program that allows employees to submit and track their ideas through an online portal. This tool offers employees the option of reporting anonymously.

Between January and December 2022, five Bright Idea proposals were submitted that related to treatment plants and offsite facilities. Of these, three submissions were approved and implemented or are in the implementation process, and two are under review. These numbers are lower than in previous years as WTD experienced technical difficulties when the Bright Ideas platform migrated to a new server. WTD is addressing these issues and anticipates more employee interaction with the program in 2023.

It is estimated that the report required six staff hours to produce, costing approximately \$900.

Thank you for your consideration of this report. These important recommendations will help WTD as it pursues continuous improvement at its treatment plants and facilities.

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

February 14, 2023

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If your staff have any questions, please contact Kamuron Gurol, Division Director of the Wastewater Treatment Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-263-5767.

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)

Kamuron Gurol, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division, DNRP