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July 20, 2023

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 the report on Economic Development and Small Business Strategies, as called for by Ordinance 19546, and a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, acknowledge receipt of the report.

The enclosed report was developed by King County Office of Economic Opportunity and Creative Economy and Department of Local Services staff. As required, the enclosed report outlines information regarding economic development and small business assistance strategies and unincorporated King County small business data.

The enclosed report demonstrates the progress the County has made on implementing its economic development and small business assistance programs. It includes an inventory of available unincorporated King County business data, a description of best practice strategies, various small business resources, and recommendations for next actions. The report describes projects the County has undertaken to overcome the barrier of data scarcity, as well as enhancements that could be made to obtain higher quality business data. The County continues to work collaboratively with its community partners to develop programs to assist small businesses in unincorporated King County.

Thank you for your consideration of this report and proposed Motion. The important work discussed in the report will help ensure that King County remains a welcoming community where every person can thrive.

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If your staff have questions, please contact Ashton Allison, Economic Opportunity Director, King County Executive Department, at 206-477-2761.

Sincerely,

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

John Taylor, Director, Department of Local Services