



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

July 10, 2024

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 a proposed Ordinance that, if enacted, would provide grant funding project allocations for the Targeted Equity Grant program managed by the Parks and Recreation Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP). These grants will improve access to recreation in underserved areas by funding programs, capacity building, and capital projects throughout the county.

The proposed Ordinance authorizes funding for eight projects totaling \$1.3 million. The proposed legislation allocates funding from the 2020-2025 King County Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Levy through the competitive Targeted Equity Grant program. Because this grant program was funded in the 2023-2024 Biennial Budget, the proposed Ordinance requires no further budget action.

As described in the attached memorandum, and in accordance with Ordinance 19166, DNRP solicited applications from eligible organizations by conducting outreach and engagement with the grant program Healthy Communities and Parks Fund. Projects recommended for funding are listed in the proposed Ordinance and the memorandum. The Targeted Equity Grant Advisory Committee convened six times in 2024 to review and rank grant proposals based upon eligibility criteria and alignment with program, department, and County goals and objectives. Parks also provided no-cost consulting to community-based organizations for grant application technical assistance.

The proposed legislation furthers the King County Equity and Social Justice strategic plan through investments in partnerships that allow the County to apply early, upstream, and preventative solutions to public health disparities.

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Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. The funds provided by this legislation will positively impact communities by improving access to parks and recreation in King County.

If your staff have questions, please contact Warren Jimenez, Division Director of the Parks and Recreation Division, 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 Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Penny Lipsou, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

John Taylor, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)

Warren Jimenez, Division Director, Parks and Recreation Division, DNRP