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CLERK COUNTY COUNCIL

2004-016

December 16, 2003

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

Dear Councilmember Sullivan:

The enclosed proposed ordinance, if adopted, will confirm that King County is in full compliance with the terms of the Conditional Use Permit issued by the City of Seattle (City) for ongoing wastewater treatment operations at the West Point Treatment Plant. It would also authorize a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the City under which the County would transfer about \$5 million in mitigation funds for use in Discovery Park, pursuant to the terms of the 1991 West Point settlement agreement.

This transmittal is in response to Motion 11288, which the Metropolitan King County Council adopted unanimously on September 18, 2001. The Motion was adopted pursuant to the September 1, 2000, report from the Applied Wastewater Technologies (AWT) Citizens Advisory Committee, which concluded that it would not be possible to remove the digesters at the West Point Treatment Plant by 2005. That conclusion triggers the transfer of mitigation dollars to the City of Seattle Shorelines Improvement fund for improvements to Discovery Park.

In April 2002, I appointed the West Point Citizens Advisory Committee (WPCAC) with Councilmember Larry Phillips as Chair. The Friends of Discovery Park, Puget Sound Water Quality Defense Fund, Legal Advocates for Washington, Washington Environmental Council, Magnolia Community Club and Discovery Park Advisory Council nominated representatives to the Committee. The WPCAC's charge was to recommend expenditures for the mitigation fund and to draft an MOA between the County and the City to ensure that the funds are spent as indicated in the settlement agreement. The WPCAC met seven times and, thanks to the able leadership of its chair, produced a report, including a draft MOA and a list of recommended project expenditures for use of the mitigation dollars, a copy of which is enclosed.

Funds are available in the Wastewater Treatment Fund for the West Point mitigation to be disbursed to the City of Seattle, as indicated, upon execution of the MOA.

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If you have questions about this transmittal, the WPCAC process or would like additional information about this matter, please contact Phyllis Alleyne, Committee Liaison in the Wastewater Treatment Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at (206) 684-2022.

Thank you for your review of this ordinance.

Sincerely,

King County Executive

Enclosures

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: David deCourcy, Chief of Staff
Shelley Sutton, Policy Staff Director

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Steve Call, Director, Office of Management and Budget Pam Bissonnette, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)

Don Theiler, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD), DNRP

Phyllis Alleyne, Committee Liaison, WTD, DNRP