



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

March 26, 2020

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 a report regarding sedimentation effects of King County's Kenmore Interceptor and a proposed motion that would, if enacted, acknowledge receipt of the report. The report and motion are in response to Ordinance 18835, Section 108, Proviso P2.

To analyze sedimentation and impacts to fish populations in the vicinity of the pipeline, the Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) retained Environmental Science Associates (ESA) to conduct an analysis and write a report.

The report from ESA shows that the Kenmore Interceptor, which is buried throughout most of the Lyon Creek and McAleer Creek deltas, does not play a significant role in sedimentation patterns in the study area. The interceptor is currently 80 percent buried in the study area, with 20 percent of the interceptor exposed by no more than 10 inches above the lakebed. While the shoreline does not contain habitat suitable to most salmonids, the Kenmore Interceptor neither affects the processes that limit salmonid survival and migration nor contributes in a measurable way to other limiting factors to salmonids in Lake Washington.

The work described in the report furthers the King County Strategic Plan goal of Healthy Environment by ensuring that King County infrastructure is not impacting salmonid survival and migration in Lake Washington. This work also furthers the Strategic Climate Action Plan goal of Preparing for Climate Change by confirming King County's Kenmore Interceptor is not negatively impacting salmon recovery which could also be affected by climate change.

In developing the report, DNRP engaged staff from the City of Lake Forest Park and King County Council staff. WTD also briefed the Engineering and Planning subcommittee of the

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Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee regarding the results of the study on March 5.

It is estimated that the report required 40 hours by WTD staff to produce, costing approximately \$4,500 in staff hours and \$62,000 in consultant costs. The estimated printing cost for this report is nominal.

Thank you for your consideration of this report. The important work discussed in this report will help King County residents understand the impacts of the Kenmore Interceptor on Lake Washington, and on salmonid survival and migration.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Mark Isaacson, Division Director of the Wastewater Treatment Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-4601.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dow Constantine". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
 ATTN: Carolyn Busch, Chief of Staff
 Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council
Shannon Braddock, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Karan Gill, Director, Council Relations, Office of the Executive
Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Mark Isaacson, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division, DNRP