



## King County

### **Dow Constantine**

King County Executive

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

June 16, 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 proposed ordinance that would, if enacted, ratify a negotiated Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Washington State Nurses Association (the Union) representing staff nurse classifications in the Department of Public Health and the Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention. This negotiated MOA is for the period of March 16, 2020, through the end of the County's emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Adoption of this proposed ordinance will aid the Seattle-King County Public Health Department in its healthcare rapid response which has expanded its COVID-19 pandemic capacities by conducting COVID-19 testing for individuals in the community and in the workplace.

The MOA covers all classifications represented by the Union. A five percent premium provided for in this MOA is applicable solely for actual hours worked by employees professionally qualified and assigned to conduct COVID-19 culture swabbing and/or COVID-19 antibody blood testing. The premium recognizes the significant change in duties, as well as the heightened risk for employees, while conducting testing for COVID-19.

The negotiated MOA was reached pursuant to good faith negotiations between King County and the Union. The terms and conditions of the MOA are intended to establish temporary pay provisions supporting the County's COVID-19 response effort.

Adoption of this proposed ordinance, which will ratify the negotiated MOA, advances the King County Strategic Plan's guiding principles and goals of efficient, accountable regional

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and local government by establishing terms necessary to meet individual and community needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

No supplemental budget authority is being requested for implementation of this MOA. A complete summary of the costs associated with this MOA can be found in the accompanying fiscal note, which has been reviewed by the Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed ordinance. If your staff have questions, please contact Megan Pedersen, Director, Office of Labor Relations, at 206-263-2898.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dow Constantine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line at the end.

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  
Megan Pedersen, Director, Office of Labor Relations