



## King County

### **Dow Constantine**

King County Executive

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July 31, 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 the Report on Providing ORCA Cards to County Contracted Social Workers, Construction Workers, and Metro Transit Security, in response to Ordinance 19021, Section 64, Proviso 10. This report documents the feasibility, implementation mechanisms, and potential policy changes for a program aligned with the proviso's goals.

The current ORCA Business program offers regional employers a variety of ways to provide staff with transportation options. These options are currently available to employers who provide contract services with King County and could be used to provide ORCA cards to King County contract employees.

Fare policy in King County has historically tied reduced fares to need, rather than to the individual or a company's relationship to the County, as evidenced by the ORCA LIFT and Human Service Ticket programs and the soon to be implemented Income-Based Fare. Currently the County does not have the authority to fund free fares for contractors, and the Accountability Act restricts the use of the Transit funds to support other County functions.

This report supports the King County Strategic Plan goal of efficient, accountable regional and local government. .

It is estimated that this report required 30 staff hours to produce, costing \$1,500. The estimated printing cost for this report is nominal.

Thank you for your consideration of this report.

The Honorable Claudia Balducci

July 31, 2020

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If your staff have any questions, please contact Carol Copper, Managing Director, King County Metro Transit Department, at 206-477-5871.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dow Constantine".

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

Rob Gannon, General Manager, King County Metro

Chris O'Claire, Director, Mobility Division, King County Metro

Carol Cooper, Managing Director, Market Innovation Section, King County Metro  
Transit Department