



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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www.kingcounty.gov

December 21, 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, if enacted, would authorize the Executive to execute an emergency mutual aid agreement with the Washington Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network, a subgroup of the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Water Works Association. This mutual aid agreement would allow King County as a signatory agency to share resources and receive emergency mutual aid assistance from other water and wastewater utilities, both locally and nationally, in the event of a regional disaster. King County, through the Wastewater Treatment Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks is currently a member of the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Water Works Association.

Washington State and King County face ongoing threats of earthquakes, flooding, severe winter storms, and wildfires. Should one of these emergencies occur, King County's participation in the Washington Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (WAWARN) agreement would enable the County to receive timely assistance from agencies from within and outside the State of Washington. Specifically, being a member of WAWARN would allow King County to access mutual aid resources from across the country during an emergency situation without having to negotiate individual agreements. Under this agreement, King County would also be able to assist other agencies facing emergencies.

By authorizing King County to join a nationwide mutual aid agreement to receive assistance in the event of an emergency, this proposed legislation furthers the King County Strategic Plan objective of enhancing community safety. Participating in WAWARN also furthers the Strategic Climate Action Plan goal of community health and emergency preparedness by ensuring that King County has support in case a crisis affects the wastewater system.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed ordinance. Joining WAWARN helps to ensure King County remains resilient in the face of emergencies.

The Honorable Claudia Balducci

December 21, 2020

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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 blue ink, appearing to read 'Dow Constantine', written in a cursive style.

for

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