



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

January 27, 2021

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 motion that, if enacted, would authorize the King County Executive to accept two conservation easement donations of approximately 23.5 acres near Shadow Lake, north of Covington, appraised at one hundred sixty-seven thousand and five hundred dollars, for fish and wildlife habitat conservation purposes.

The proposed motion would protect land in the rural area and permanently protect fish and wildlife habitat, including a 5,000-year-old peat bog that offers habitat to numerous protected species and which drains to salmon-bearing streams. The proposal will also expand existing land protection in this area, which currently totals over 70 acres. Two maps showing the location of the properties are attached.

Approval of this proposed legislation supports the King County Strategic Plan goal of Healthy Environment by preserving open space and rural character while addressing climate change through the preservation of healthy forests, permanent conservation of fish and wildlife habitat, and the protection of land in the rural area. It also supports the mission of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks by protecting natural ecosystems that benefit the people of King County.

The proposed motion also furthers the Strategic Climate Action Plan goal of protecting forest lands and the multiple benefits forests provide, including supporting greenhouse gas reduction efforts through carbon sequestration and increasing forest canopy in urban and rural areas of the county.

This proposed property donation is consistent with the King County Open Space Plan, which calls for the preservation of open space properties that provide natural resource protection and helps implement the Land Conservation Initiative which seeks to protect remaining high conservation value lands within King County by 2050.

The Honorable Claudia Balducci

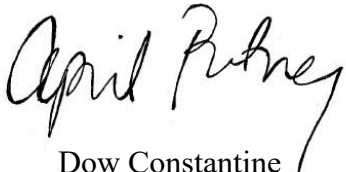
January 27, 2021

Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Motion. This important legislation will help preserve forested acreage and unique habitat for future generations of King County residents.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Warren Jimenez, Division Director of the Parks and Recreation Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-4525.

Sincerely,



for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosures

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)

Warren Jimenez, Division Director, Parks and Recreation Division, DNRP