



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive
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TTY Relay: 711

www.kingcounty.gov

June 21, 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 Ordinance that would, if enacted, revise King County Code 3.12.222 to allow county employees to voluntarily donate to pandemic-related relief efforts. These donations, through the Employee Giving Program (EGP), would be converted to cash to support non-profit organizations who provide direct pandemic related relief.

Currently, the County's EGP is limited to facilitating employee donations to natural disaster relief efforts. The proposed Ordinance would allow employees to donate up to three different EGP participating non-profit organizations that King County identifies.

The world has spent the last 15 months in a state of emergency. It is estimated that more than 167 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 resulted in at least 3.4 million deaths globally. Like the rest of the world, King County struggles to comprehend the sheer magnitude of this pandemic. Many in the region have donated money, supplies, and their expertise in response to this pandemic. During this time, King County employees have contacted my office about options to assist the communities, regions, and countries that have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. This proposed Ordinance responds to employee requests to utilize the EGP to donate to pandemic related relief.

This proposed legislation reflects the King County Strategic Plan objective to align funding, policy, and operational goals of King County government with community priorities.

The Honorable Balducci

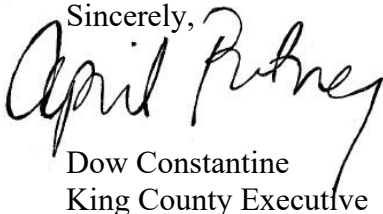
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Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. I am proud of our employees' remarkable commitments to supporting local and global communities through EGP, particularly during times of great need. I appreciate and support their desire to deepen their giving impact with this proposed Ordinance.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Junelle Kroontje, Manager, Employee Giving Program, Department of Human Resources at 206-263-9405.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "April Rutney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

Whitney Abrams, Chief People Officer, King County Executive Office

Jay Osborne, Director, Department of Human Resources (DHR)

Junelle Kroontje, Manager, Employee Giving Program (DHR)