



## **King County**

### **Dow Constantine**

King County Executive

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

July 19, 2021

The Honorable Claudia Balducci  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Balducci:

Please find the enclosed Disability Equity Plan (Plan) and proposed Motion that acknowledges receipt of the Plan as called for by Ordinance 19210, Section 19, Proviso 1. The enclosed Plan outlines our Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance efforts and highlights how we are making King County a place where all people, including those living with disabilities, can thrive.

Staff from our Office of Equity and Social Justice (OESJ) developed this Plan in partnership with disability community advocates including the Alliance of People with disAbilities, the Arc of King County, the Northwest ADA Center, and the King County Disability Consortium. The principle recommendation to restore the County's Section 504/ADA Committee with a focus on disability equity rather than compliance, comes directly from community feedback received by OESJ during the outreach conducted for this report.

The Plan highlights work underway and the utilization of our ADA liaison network deployed across departments in the executive branch. Grounded in an intersectional approach, the Plan outlines strategies and recommendations for King County to further coordinate and enhance the County's ADA functions, training, compliance and reporting in King County agencies; address disability equity in King County plans and policy documents; and, conduct a review of disability equity practices within individual King County agencies based on the role of each agency.

This work reflects the King County Strategic Plan goal to improve the health and well-being of all people in our community. The recommendations of this report further the goals of the King County Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan by highlighting ways the County can utilize civil rights work upstream and advance equity and social justice principals in the legal system, workplace, and workforce, as well as in building community partnerships.

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It is estimated that completing the enclosed report cost approximately \$9,800. The estimated printing cost for this report is nominal.

The recommendations of this plan are essential to ensuring that people with disabilities are able to access vital resources and services offered by King County. This Plan is also our commitment to moving beyond compliance to co-creating responsive, equitable policies and practices in service to people with disabilities.

Thank you for your consideration of this report and proposed Motion. If your staff have questions, please contact Anita Whitfield, Chief Equity & Inclusion Officer, at (206) 477-2669.

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine  
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers  
ATTN: 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  
Anita Whitfield, Chief Equity & Inclusion Officer, Office of the Executive