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November 17, 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 a donation of \$25,000 from Amazon.com, Inc., to help meet the basic needs of recently arrived refugees impacted by events in Afghanistan who are staying at a County-owned former hotel in Federal Way.

In fall 2021, King County welcomed an influx of refugees impacted by events in Afghanistan to Federal Way as they resettle in the United States. Specifically, King County provided temporary housing for the refugees at a County-owned former hotel property while the refugees await placement in permanent housing. The County also invested \$500,000 for language supports and grants to community-based organizations supporting the refugees.

In late October 2021, Amazon.com, Inc. offered to donate \$25,000 to King County to help meet basic needs for the refugees staying at the former hotel. These funds are covered under existing appropriation, so no supplemental budget request is needed to accept Amazon's donation and distribute the funding to the refugees.

This work furthers the King County Strategic Plan goal to improve the health and well-being of people in our community. It also aligns with the King County Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan focus on addressing inequitable outcomes for immigrant and refugee communities.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed Motion as expediently as possible.

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If your staff have any questions, please contact Kelly Rider, Government Relations Manager, Department of Community and Human Services, at 206-263-5780.

Sincerely,

**Dow Constantine** 

King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

<u>ATTN</u>: Janine Weihe, Acting Chief of Staff Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Shannon Braddock, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive Karan Gill, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive Leo Flor, Director, Department of Community and Human Services