



Legislation Text

File #: 2021-0390, **Version:** 2

A MOTION authorizing the King County executive to accept a donation of seven million five-hundred thousand dollars from Amazon, to aid the King County parks and recreation division of the department of natural resources and parks in completion of the two Wilburton projects of Eastrail.

WHEREAS, donations that will help fund the completion of significant regional trail projects with iconic presence, skyline views, and connections to high-capacity transit and regional commercial centers are highly desirable, and

WHEREAS, Eastrail is a forty-two-mile nonmotorized corridor that is built on a historic railroad line connecting Renton to Snohomish County and is owned and managed by the King County parks and recreation division, the cities of Kirkland, Redmond and Woodinville, as well as Snohomish County, Sound Transit and Puget Sound Energy, and

WHEREAS, the Eastrail's Wilburton segment is owned and operated by the parks and recreation division, and includes the yet to be completed Wilburton Trestle and Central Wilburton Interim Trail projects, and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 18890, enacted May 2, 2019, called for a special election to approve a measure to renew what is popularly known as the King County Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Levy for 2020-2025, which, in part, provided limited funds for the Wilburton projects of the Eastrail, and

WHEREAS, on August 6, 2019, King County voters approved the 2020-2025 King County Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Levy, and

WHEREAS, under K.C.C 7.08.070, the King County parks and recreation division has the authority to

solicit gifts from individuals, foundations, not-for-profit organizations, and corporate sources, and

WHEREAS, under K.C.C. 2.80.060, any and all gifts for parks and recreation purposes that exceed fifty thousand dollars require acceptance on behalf of King County by the King County council by motion, and

WHEREAS, all gifts to the King County parks and recreation division are used only for parks purposes, and

WHEREAS, the financial donor, Amazon, is pleased to support completion of these two key projects on the Eastrail and help bring this opportunity to reality through a public-private collaboration, and

WHEREAS, this generous gift provides the remaining funds needed to restore and transform the Wilburton Trestle into an elevated trail connected to high-capacity transit and complete key trail projects in the Wilburton neighborhood;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

The King County executive is authorized to accept a donation of seven million five-hundred thousand dollars from Amazon, to aid King County in completion of the two projects in the Wilburton portion of Eastrail. The parks and recreation division is responsible for handling the donation agreement and is authorized to execute such other documents as are necessary to complete the transaction.