

**VIA EMAIL (PDF) TO KCEXEC@KINGCOUNTY.GOV**

April 30, 2021

Dow Constantine  
King County Executive  
King County Chinook Building  
401 5th Ave. Suite 800  
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: Sammamish Plateau Diversion Interim Improvement Interlocal Cost Share Agreement

Dear Executive Constantine,

In 2018, the District and County initiated work to identify improvements required to the District's local sewer system as a result of the County removing the Sammamish Plateau Diversion (SPD) from its capital plans. The work initiated consisted of an interim improvement evaluation and the District initiating the transfer of assets to the County.

The County provided a proposal on March 22, 2021 to share costs for the interim improvements required as a result of the Sammamish Plateau Diversion project being delayed. We understand the County's proposal to be the following:

- WTD would pay 50 percent of the total project costs of Interim Improvement 4 (I-4) listed in the consultant study, which would be the District's responsibility to complete.
- An agreement on the cost share and project responsibilities for Interim Improvement 4 is needed between WTD and the District, with such agreement likely requiring King County Council approval.
- WTD will continue its work on the Sammamish Plateau Diversion Project with completion anticipated in 2030.
- WTD will not acquire any of the District's assets, despite the assets meeting the County's basin standards and qualifying as regional flows.

The District is appreciative of the County's proposal to cost share and would like to move forward with the acceptance of the proposal, subject to receiving additional clarification and agreement on terms.

The District has noted the following items that require clarification or further response from the County:

- The County has proposed to pay 50 percent of the total project costs to implement interim improvements identified in the consultant's study and the District will be responsible for project implementation. The District would appreciate clarification regarding whether this proposal includes the ability to apply funding to other interim

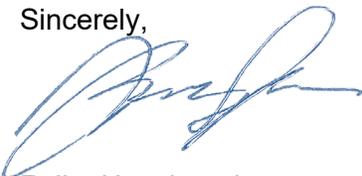
improvements identified in the January 2021 Interim Improvement Evaluation, such as expanding lift station storage capacity or the I-2 Interim Improvement.

- The County has indicated that any agreement on cost sharing would require King County Council approval. We are eager to complete the drafting of a contract for both governing bodies to consider. If there are additional contract terms beyond what was included in the County's letter on March 22, 2021, please provide those as soon as possible.
- The District recognizes that the County states that the SPD Phase 1 would be constructed by 2030. In the event the County fails to implement the SPD Phase 1 by the end of 2030, the District would seek the full reimbursement of our project costs incurred for the I-4 interim improvements, and any additional project costs that would be incurred by the District to convey regional sewage flows through the local system.
- We encourage the County to revisit its Conveyance System Improvement Plan and alternatives in relation to regional flows originating in our District. The January 2021 Interim Improvement Evaluation has identified additional conveyance system improvement options that can be constructed in a more timely and cost-effective manner than the SPD, such as Alternative Improvement A-6. Some options identified would save the County tens of millions of dollars and provide system enhancement and resiliency. We encourage the County to engage the District and consider other cost-effective options beyond the construction of the SPD.

Please be advised that on March 29, 2021, the Board of Commissioners declared an emergency to engage an engineering design consultant to further the design of the interim improvement projects that would be subject to the County's cost-share proposal. While the Board considers the need to maintain the moratorium, we are also moving rapidly to design and plan to construct improvements as soon as possible. We project that improvements can be completed in 2022-2023.

The District would like to expeditiously move forward on completing the necessary interlocal agreement and the interim improvements. We look forward to continuing our work with the County and resolving our capacity needs.

Sincerely,



Ryika Hooshangi  
Board President

cc: SPWSD Board of Commissioners  
King County Councilmembers  
Christie True, Department Director, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)  
Mark Isaacson, Division Director, King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD), DNRP  
Bruce Kessler, Deputy Division Director, King County WTD, DNRP  
Sharman Herrin, Government Relations Administrator, King County WTD, DNRP