



## **King County**

### **Metropolitan King County Council**

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**June 22, 2016**

**Patty Hayes, RN, MN**

**Director of Public Health**

**King County**

**401 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Suite 1300**

**Seattle, WA 98104**

**RE: Seattle and King County Public Health's proposed septic tank fee**

Director Hayes,

As elected officials, our principal duty is to listen to the people we serve and ensure new policies face a fair, thorough, transparent process prior to taking permanent action.

To that end, we Councilmembers Lambert, von Reichbauer, and Dunn, would like to strongly encourage you to insure the process provides adequate time for affected residents to voice their concerns related to the proposed septic tank fee currently being reviewed by the King County Board of Health. This expedited process requiring a decision prior to the end of July is simply not enough time to properly listen to and address the concerns raised by many who rely on septic systems in the areas we represent.

A recent meeting near Maple Valley had almost 600 people in attendance, many of whom had questions and all of whom had concerns, about the fast track of implementation of this proposal. Upcoming meetings are sure to attract similar sized crowds with concerns just as vocal as the ones your staff heard last night from a growing chorus of King County residents.

With a decision scheduled for July, how can the board possibly have time to thoughtfully assess the range of technical and public concerns regarding this proposal? Would this allow for time to modify a decision that best fits all the members of our diverse county?

Again, we would strongly encourage you, as director of the department, to reschedule this proposal for a later time in order to permit the voices of the affected public to be heard.

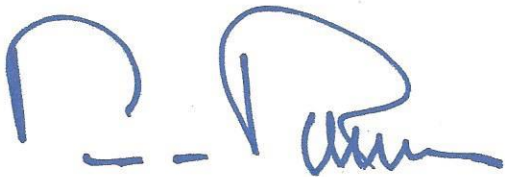
Thank you for your consideration of this matter,



Reagan Dunn  
King County Councilmember – District 9



Kathy Lambert  
King County Council – District 3  
King County Board of Health Board Member



Pete von Reichbauer  
King County Councilmember – District 7