



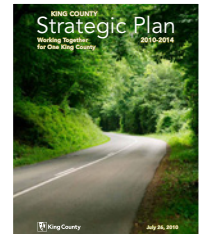
KING COUNTY EXECUTIVE DOW CONSTANTINE: 2010-2012 Midterm Report



King County

When my administration took office, our reform agenda promised to:

- Develop a culture of performance that changes the way King County does business.
- Embrace new ideas to bring reform to County government consistent with our core values.
- Forge innovative partnerships, especially with our employees.
- Provide the necessary infrastructure for transportation that is critical to building prosperity and competing for aerospace and other family-wage jobs.



Two years into this term, here is what we've accomplished:

- **King County is back on sound financial footing**, through performance-based management that is reducing growth in the cost of government.
- **Employees are creating efficiencies**—including driving down growth in health care costs by \$61 million over two years—that enable us to provide the same level of services at 3 percent less cost, leading to budgets that are sustainable and live within our means.
- **Nine of every 10 employees partnered with us** to waive part of their pay to save services and jobs.
- In partnership with private business, we are investing in **the practice of continuous improvement and employee engagement** known as Lean.
- **Open and collaborative working relationships** with our independently elected officials have led to County Council adoption of our budget proposals one week early last year and nearly two weeks early this year.
- **Construction is underway on a new South Park Bridge**, replacing an unsafe structure using funding secured through a County-led coalition effort.
- **Critical repairs to the ailing Howard Hanson Dam** will restore long-term flood protection for the Green River Valley, thanks to federal funding we secured in collaboration with valley mayors and our congressional delegation.
- Seattle and our northeast cities have been **spared the cost and turmoil of building a new jail**, by extending our regional jail contract and guaranteeing them bed space.
- **Protection for the longest remaining stretch of undeveloped Puget Sound shoreline** in King County is guaranteed by acquiring 250 acres of open space on Maury Island—including habitat that supports threatened and endangered chinook, orca and bull trout—and ending a 13-year struggle over expansion of a sand and gravel mine there.
- As a region we've finally ended the arbitrary political divisions that governed the provision of bus service, and are following **a new transit strategic plan** that allocates service equitably and efficiently.

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- We mobilized the public and the business community to avert 600,000 hours of bus service cuts and **save Metro service** for the next two years, while we work on a statewide transportation solution for both roads and transit.
- **A new regional model for animal services** has won the participation of 27 cities, turned around the operation, and brought down the rate of animal euthanasia from 40 percent to 14 percent.
- **A new fixed-fee model for building permits**, replacing hourly rates, has brought new transparency and predictability to the permitting process, along with creation of a customer service unit for rural property owners.
- **We flipped the switch on the Brightwater treatment plant**—the most extraordinary regional investment in clean water in a generation—and finished mining a 13-mile conveyance tunnel, making the tough decision to switch contractors to keep the project on track and save money.
- Through our new County energy policy and dozens of new energy efficiency projects, we are **curtailing greenhouse-gas emissions** and creating operational savings of more than \$2 million a year, along with nearly \$4 million dollars in incentive payments from local utilities and federal grants in support of these projects.
- We are **increasing opportunities for small and historically disadvantaged businesses** by creating a small-works roster to speed up contracting on small construction projects, and by joining with the Port of Seattle and other agencies to create shared standards for certification of small contractors and suppliers.
- **Creation of a new King County Aerospace Alliance** will support construction of the Boeing 737 MAX and the local supply chain, promote workforce development, and help retain thousands of family-wage jobs in aerospace design, construction, and assembly.
- **Brokering an innovative** solution to provide parking broke a years-long logjam on sale of the Kingdome North Lot property for mixed-use development and affordable housing, creating up to 2,700 construction jobs and generating more than \$727 million in needed economic activity.

Alternate Formats Available
206-263-3703 TTY Relay: 711

Vision Statement

King County: a diverse and dynamic community with a healthy economy and environment where all people and businesses have the opportunity to thrive.

Mission Statement

King County government provides fiscally responsible, quality-driven local and regional services for healthy, safe, and vibrant communities.