



Fernando Martinez
President and CEO

May 3, 2021

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

RE: King County Pro-Equity Contracting Executive Order: CON-7-28-EO

Dear County Executive Constantine,

I am writing on behalf of the Northwest Mountain Minority Supplier Development Council in support of King County Pro-Equity Contracting Executive Order CON-7-28-EO (CON-7-28-EO) commitment to Pro-Equity Contracting, formalizing actions King County will take to increase Minority and Women Owned Business (MWBE) participation. The Northwest Mountain Minority Supplier Development Council (NWMMSDC) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization promoting and advancing equity in contracting with ethnic minority businesses. We serve to create an environment where ethnic minority businesses grow and economically thrive, communities of color are empowered and growing, and facilitate creation of generational wealth.

We support CON-7-28-EO and its effort to strengthen community and business partnerships. We support the intent to contract with MWBE firms. Furthermore, we support the intention to reduce contracting disparities by addressing and minimizing barriers and challenges that have historically precluded MWBE firms from fairly and equitably competing for public contracts. The NWMMSDC has, for over 40 years, consistently demonstrated that inclusion of MWBEs into the contracting process increases competitiveness, reduces costs by an average of 18%, enhances efficiencies approximately 43%, and overall increases brand reputation. Cumulatively, CON-7-28-EO will intentionally engage with MWBEs delivering significant value to King County tax payers.

Executive Constantine, please feel free to contact the Northwest Mountain Minority Supplier Development Council with any questions regarding this letter, support with implementing CON-7-28-EO, or other ways we can help execute Pro Equity Contracting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fernando Martinez", is written over a faint, larger version of the signature.

Fernando Martinez
President and Chief Executive Officer
Northwest Mountain Minority Supplier Development Council