

# PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, all people should have access to safe, healthy, and affordable homes; and

WHEREAS, studies have found that each \$100 increase in median rent results in a 15 percent increase in homelessness in metropolitan areas and a 39 percent increase in homelessness in nearby suburbs and rural areas; and

WHEREAS, King County as a region completed a comprehensive and coordinated effort through the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force to develop a regional plan for addressing affordable housing needs, including identifying collective tools and options to create and preserve more affordable housing countywide; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force found that over 100,000 households in King County are severely cost-burdened, which means they pay more than half of their income for housing; and

WHEREAS, severe cost burden disproportionately affects those who are Black, Indigenous, or People of Color; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has layered an immediate housing emergency on top of a long-term crisis, creating economic uncertainty for thousands of families in King County, jeopardizing their ability to pay rent, and putting them at risk for eviction once the statewide moratorium on evictions ends; and

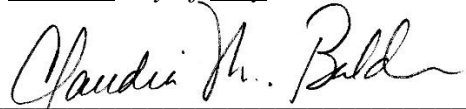
WHEREAS, the theme of Affordable Housing Week 2021 is "Housing is Healthcare," in recognition of the deep connections between healthcare and housing in the midst of the most challenging public health crises to each industry, both of which disproportionately impact marginalized communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Metropolitan King County Council, proclaim the week of May 9-15, 2021, as

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING WEEK

in King County and encourage all county residents to advocate for building, preserving, and subsidizing affordable housing in our communities.

DATED this eleventh day of May, 2021.



Claudia Balducci, District Six, Council Chair



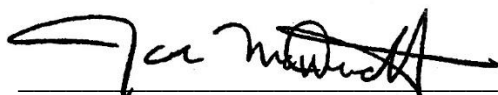
Rod Dembowski, District One



Kathy Lambert, District Three



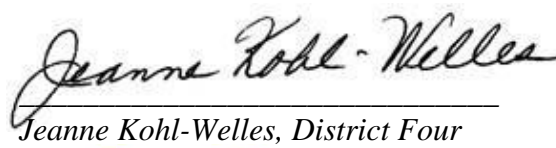
Dave Upthegrove, District Five



Joe McDermott, District Eight, Council Vice Chair



Girmay Zahilay, District Two



Jeanne Kohl-Welles, District Four



Pete von Reichbauer, District Seven



Reagan Dunn, District Nine, Council Vice Chair