



King County

Reagan Dunn

Councilmember, District 9

Metropolitan King County Council

July 29, 2021

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

Mayor Jenny Durkan
Seattle City Hall
600 4th Ave, 7th Floor
Seattle, WA, 98104

Dear Executive Constantine and Mayor Durkan:

Today's sexual assault of an employee inside the King County Courthouse in Seattle is a testament to how unsafe not only City Hall Park has become, but the courthouse itself. We can no longer ignore or defer the dangerous environment that has surrounded our seat of government, and those who attempt to access our services. It is our duty as employers and leaders of the County to make sure that everyone working, accessing services, and seeking justice in all of these buildings are able to do so without fear for their own personal safety.

Unfortunately, this is not the first time someone has been assaulted in or near the courthouse. For years, employees, jurors, and the general public have endured strings of attacks in this area. This not only has caused a fear among the general public, it is also a main point of fear for many of our employees when discussing returning to the office after being virtual. This fear is understandable and is absolutely unacceptable.

This situation cannot endure. I am requesting that the Courthouse, Administration Building, and Chinook Building be shut down to all, except employees and people with necessary business, until the situation at City Hall Park can be adequately addressed, and we can ensure the safety of our employees. And once again, I renew my request for the immediate closure of City Hall Park and the danger it poses to our employee, residents, and the community.

Sincerely,

Reagan Dunn
Vice Chair, King County Council

Cc: Councilmember Claudia Balducci, Chair, King County Council
Judge Jim Rodgers, Presiding Judge, King County Superior Court