



Reagan Dunn
Councilmember, District 9
Metropolitan King County Council

March 21, 2024

Sheriff Patricia Cole-Tindall
King County Sheriff's Office
King County Courthouse
516 3rd Avenue
Room W-116
Seattle, WA 98104

Sheriff Patricia Cole-Tindall,

It is with deep sadness that I write to you regarding the devastating vehicle crash that occurred in the unincorporated community of Fairwood on March 19th. This accident tragically claimed the lives of four victims—a mother and three children—and has left two other children in critical condition. As a father and husband myself, I know that this fatal accident is any parent or spouse's worst nightmare. My heart goes out to the two families who are now facing immeasurable loss.

I am deeply concerned about the circumstances leading up to this fatal car accident: a driver was allegedly traveling at a reckless speed before crashing into the van at the intersection of 140th Ave. and S.E. 192nd St. This incident is a horrific reminder that an individual's negligent and illegal actions can create senseless tragedy in the lives of others.

While I understand that this accident is still under active investigation and we do not yet have all of the facts, it is likely that the driver can be charged with vehicular homicide under RCW 46.61.520. I encourage you to investigate this possibility thoroughly. Even with more traffic enforcement, including recent initiatives to increase traffic patrols, the use of radar speed trailers, and traffic and speed cameras in nearby school zones, traffic-related fatalities are still surging in King County as dangerous driving has skyrocketed. County leaders must work together to protect our community, including through law enforcement and prosecution.

I thank you for keeping me informed on this developing investigation. I am glad to hear that the Sheriff's Office will continue increased traffic patrols in Fairwood. Given the high level of community interest, I ask that your office continue to provide updates on any new developments and actions as your investigation progresses.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Reagan Dunn
Vice Chairman, King County Council