

8/23/78

Introduced by: Ruby Chow
78-799

MOTION NO. 02702

A MOTION relating to the maintenance of County tax title property where the health and safety of the public is in question.

WHEREAS, the King County Code specifies that county departments shall be responsible for maintaining all real property for which they are custodian, and

WHEREAS, some of this property exists as vacant or abandoned tax title property in Seattle's various neighborhoods, and

WHEREAS, the Real Property Division is required to maintain and update a current inventory to justify retention of real property, and

WHEREAS, unmaintained vacant and abandoned property often becomes overgrown with flammable and noxious weeds; a repository for garbage, and a home for rats, and

WHEREAS, the County in joint administration with the City of Seattle, through the Health Department has the responsibility for the control of rats and other health hazards, and

WHEREAS, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare funding for rat control may expire after October, 1, 1978, and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle, community organizations, businesses, and individuals are working hard to rebuild and maintain neighborhoods, and

WHEREAS, complaints from citizens have been registered with the County, City, and press concerning the unsafe and unsanitary condition of vacant and abandoned innercity property--including tax title property,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

1. The King County Council intends that the County in its custodial role will be a good neighbor to the residents of Seattle and will properly maintain its tax title property and other real property as required by KCC 4.56.060.

2. The King County Council affirms that rat and rodent

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control must be vigorously enforced and that if after October 1, 1978, federal funds are no longer available, the Council respectfully requests the Executive to join with the City of Seattle in finding a joint solution to fund effective rat and rodent control.

3. The King County Council reaffirms KCC 4.56.070 requiring the Real Property Division to maintain and update a current inventory of all County tax title real property and justify departmental retention of all land holdings.

4. The Council respectfully requests the Executive and the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health to respond by September 15, as to specific measures taken to insure adequate rat and rodent control to include plans and procedures for effective rat and rodent control in the future.

PASSED this 28th day of August, 1978.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Bernice Stern
Chairman

ATTEST:

Dorothy M. Quenna
Deputy Clerk of the Council