

May 24, 1984
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Introduced by:

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Proposed No.: 84 - 332

MOTION NO. 6018

A MOTION relating to surface water management, endorsing the county executive's recommendation for a surface water management utility and providing further direction to the county executive in implementing the utility proposal.

WHEREAS, the King County council has adopted Ordinance 2281 in January 1975 and established surface water management policies for unincorporated King County, and

WHEREAS, King County's ability to implement these policies is limited to ad hoc activities and is on a case by case basis, and

WHEREAS, King County has had under consideration numerous proposals to establish a stable source of revenues to finance the implementation of these policies over the past ten years, and

WHEREAS, based on this previous work the King County council concluded in late 1982 that consideration of a service charge and surface water utility proposal warranted a detailed study, and

WHEREAS, the council adopted Motion 5382 in January 1982 authorizing the director of public works to "take actions necessary to conduct a study related to the formation of a surface water utility", and concluded: 1) "there is a need for finding a stable means of financing the growing needs for surface water management in King County and for establishing management controls to assure that services are provided as efficiently and effectively as possible" and 2) "preliminary studies indicate a surface water utility may be the most practical and feasible means of providing for the comprehensive management and administration of stormwater and erosion control", and

WHEREAS, the executive submitted his recommendation on the utility proposal in August 1983 suggesting a utility start in 1986 with two years of pre-implementation activities in 1984 and 1985, and

1 WHEREAS, the council adopted his recommendation for a 1984
2 pre-implementation budget with the following understandings 1)
3 the council would review his recommendations in early 1984, 2)
4 the council would provide direction on implementation of the
5 utility proposal and 3) that a substantial portion of the work
6 undertaken in 1984 could be used to develop a program with a
7 reduced focus if the utility and service charge concept were not
8 undertaken, and

9 WHEREAS, the council has carefully reviewed the executive's
10 proposal and concludes the surface water utility and service
11 change proposal should be implemented;

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

13 The general conclusions and direction identified in the
14 Executive's Surface Water Management Utility Study, Final Report,
15 August 1983 to provide a stable means of financing the county's
16 surface water management problems are accepted.

17 BE IT FURTHER MOVED,

18 The executive recommendation of January 1986 is accepted as
19 the target start-up date for the utility.

20 BE IT FURTHER MOVED,

21 The King County council having given careful review to the
22 executive recommendation directs the utility be developed with
23 the following guidelines:

24 A. The service area shall be as shown in Attachment A.

25 B. The service charge shall be included on the annual county
26 property tax statement.

27 C. The service charge rate structure shall be based on an
28 estimate of impervious surface as described in Chapter 4 of the
29 Final Report. Residential properties shall be charged a flat
30 rate. Non-residential properties shall be charged a rate per
31 acre based on the estimated impervious surface area of typical
32 properties in each land use class. An appeal process shall be
33

1 developed to allow for review and adjustment of rates that may
2 be incorrectly calculated.

3 D. The following discounts and exemptions shall be in effect:

- 4 1. Exempt undeveloped, undisturbed properties.
- 5 2. Exempt the undeveloped portion of open space properties.
- 6 3. Exempt low income senior and handicapped household

7 owners consistent with property taxes provided by state law.

8 4. Discount to properties with owner-maintained on-site
9 runoff control retention/detention facilities.

10 5. Charge county and state roads to help fund surface
11 water management costs but not capital projects.

12 BE IT FURTHER MOVED,

13 The executive is requested to develop an expanded public
14 involvement program, including education about surface water
15 problems and information about the utility proposal aimed at the
16 public and interested community groups, for council consideration
17 by August 30, 1984.

18 BE IT FURTHER MOVED,

19 The executive is requested to propose funding in the 1985
20 utility "pre-implementation" budget to provide resources for the
21 basin reconnaissance phase for the first half of 1985 and
22 additional resources for the public involvement program.

23 BE IT FURTHER MOVED,

24 The utility study team shall address issues and concerns
25 raised by the council's transportation and facilities committee
26 as identified in Attachment B and as may be further identified by
27 the committee.

28 PASSED this 29th day of May, 1984.

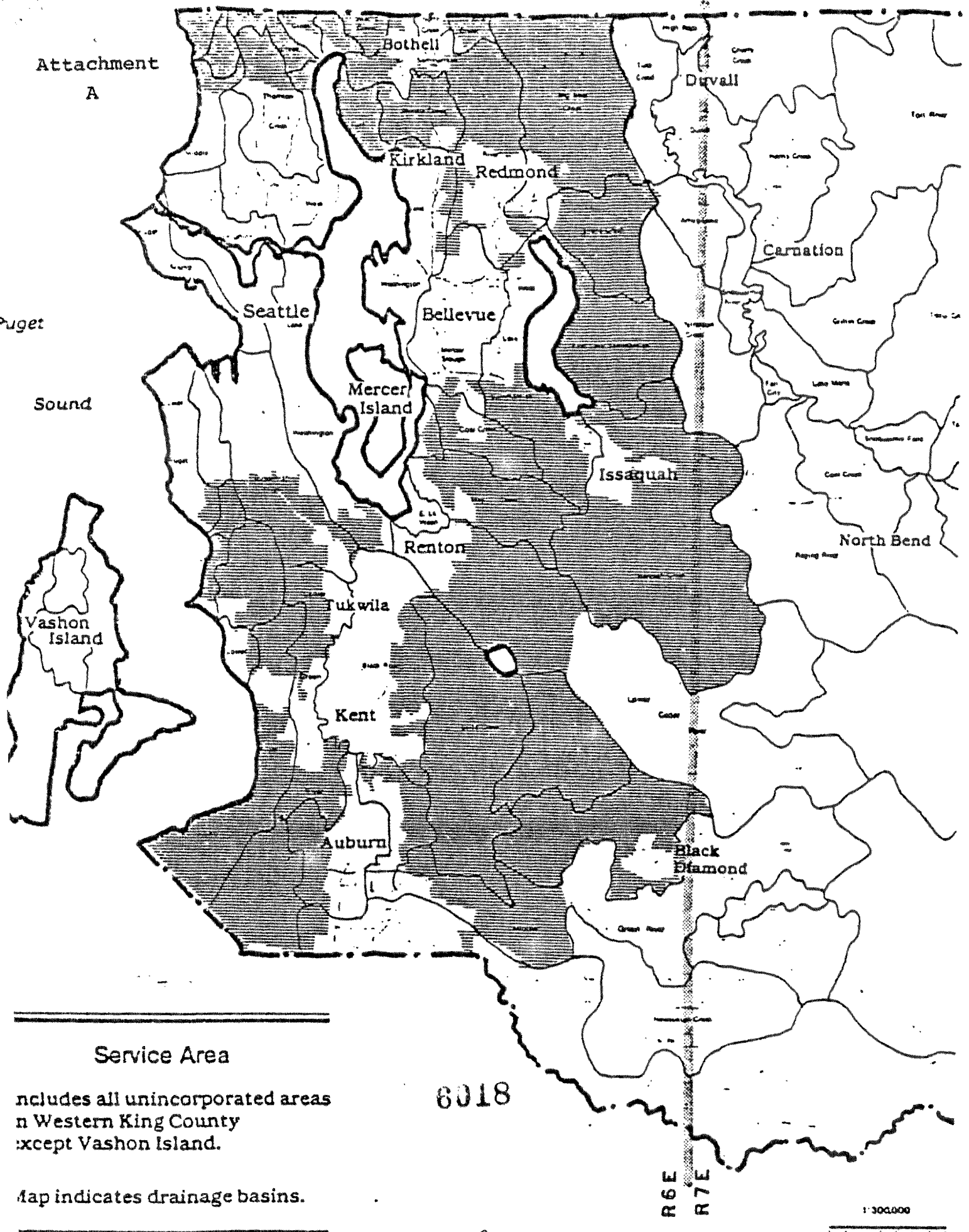
KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Gary Grant
Chairman

31 ATTEST:

32 Janet M. Owens
Clerk of the Council

Attachment
A



Service Area

includes all unincorporated areas
in Western King County
except Vashon Island.

Map indicates drainage basins.

| DESCRIPTION OF EXECUTIVE PROPOSAL | ISSUE | IMPACT |
|--|--|--|
| <u>PROPOSED PROGRAM</u> | | |
| 1. Develop program in "38" urban/urbanizing basins with a service charge in unincorporated King County. To include: basin planning, capital improvements, ongoing maintenance, regulation and management and administration. | --- | Provides capability to address SWM problems before they become |
| 2. Change focus of the Surface Water Management program from on-site to basin approach. | --- | Allows runoff to be comprehensively by basins. |
| <u>IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE</u> | | |
| 3. Start date - 1986 | Can the 1986 start date be accomplished? | --- |
| 4. Continue to implement utility in two phases 1) Pre-implementation phase and 2) Full implementation. | Delay of start-up to 1987 will allow pre-implementation activities to continue into 1986. | Revise 1985 and 1986 implementation budgets to change in activities |
| <u>PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT</u> | | |
| 5. Public Information and Education Program. | Advisory Ballot (should expanded SWM activities come from CX/RIF or service charge?) | Delay in implementation in 1986 as recommended Need decision as to accomplish towards versus "on hold" public response. |
| | Is proposed level of Public Information/Education Program (\$125,000 in 1984 and \$183,000 in 1985) at 1.5 FTE adequate? | |
| | No significant public involvement program proposed for first two years. | |
| | Alts: Questionnaire, Survey, (ie, expanded Council budget questionnaire in fall, 1984. | Provide better opportunity to educate public. Allow public involvement and 1986. |

DESCRIPTION OF EXECUTIVE PROPOSAL

ISSUE

IMPACT

SERVICE AREA

6. Levy service charge within urban and urbanizing areas of unincorporated King County.

Need for consistency with GDG rural/urban line? Should SMM utility be based on basins or a rural/urban line defined by policy considerations.

Policies for expanding into additional basins.

Expansion into new need to take into land use policies.

7. Do not establish drainage basins as individual service areas. Consider separate basin-by-basin capital service charge when capital needs are better defined.

Public sentiment for basin-by-basin approach.

Limited ability to services.

FINANCING

8. Levy new service charge under County Storm Water Control Act (RCW 36.89)

Expanded Funding. and most versatile Used by other coun

Alts: County Services Act RCW 36.9A

Requires county-wi before capital fac built. Lengthy app process including MM

9. Service Charge Revenue to pay for new and existing activities including: basin planning; capital improvements; ongoing maintenance, and management and administration.

Proposal to pay off CX Loans at \$856,000/yr for first two years

Rates: \$3.01/yr. (\$856,000 becomes first reprogramming in 3

DESCRIPTION OF EXECUTIVE PROPOSAL

ISSUE

IMPACT

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| --- | Growth Factor not calculated. New construction for 1982-86 provides 18,300 residential parcels. | --- |
| 10. Set initial service charge to cover two years of proposed program activities. | Should rate ordinance be approved in the spring or fall prior to start-up? | Earlier adoption of flexibility and ability to better refine the |
| 11. Basis for service charge is each property's contribution to runoff--measured by estimate of impervious surface. | --- | --- |
| 12. Establish seven class rate structure for service charge. One class each for residential and one for state and county roads. 5 classes from very light to very heavy for nonresidential. | --- | --- |
| 13. Charge residential properties (single family, duplex, triplex) a flat rate --impervious surface area for average parcel. | --- | Rate: \$40/year Residential (139,000) |
| 14. Charge non-residential properties a rate per acre based on estimated impervious surface area of typical properties in each class. | --- | 5 classes (5,600 parcels) |
| 15. Service charge exemptions: - undeveloped, undisturbed parcels - open space properties (undevel. portion) | | |

| DESCRIPTION OF EXECUTIVE PROPOSAL | ISSUE | IMPACT |
|--|---|--|
| <p>16. No service charge exemptions: - Public and tax exempt parcels - Low-income senior property owners</p> | <p>--- Should low-income senior owners be exempt. Should direct discharge properties be exempt.</p> | <p>--- 5,000 parcels 4,100 parcels</p> |
| <p>17. Service charge discounts: - Parcels with owner-maintained on-site runoff control R/D facilities (1 class discount) - Charge state and county roads to help fund some SWM activities, but not SWM capital projects.</p> | <p>--- Note: Owners with R/D facilities will still pay an inspection charge.</p> | <p>--- County Roads pay \$ million for drainage maintenance in 1988</p> |
| <p>- Establish an appeal process</p> | <p>---</p> | <p>\$5.55 per bill</p> |
| <p>18. Charge all ratepayers a flat charge for billing costs</p> | <p>Alts. Stand alone</p> | <p>Lower operating cost statement \$900,000 \$1.8 million in first year Higher noncollectible (27-45%) for stand alone</p> |
| <p>19. Include service charge on annual county property tax statement. Itemize charge on statement but show total amount due and collect as one amount.</p> | <p>Tight schedule for completion of system development and to assure integrity of property for collections.</p> | <p>Possible delay of</p> |
| <p>20. Provide sufficient resources and adequate time to ensure billing system development does not jeopardize tax collection process. If any problems occur start-up on service charge is delayed one year.</p> | <p>Proposal reduces current RIF support level by \$876,000/yr</p> | <p>Rates \$3.09/yr (Revised)</p> |
| <p>21. Minimize use of general tax revenues by use of service charge. Continue Funding of River Control Activities from RIF and road drainage activities from Road Fund.</p> | | |

IMPACT

ISSUE

DESCRIPTION OF EXECUTIVE PROPOSAL

MAJOR PROGRAM ELEMENTS

22. Initial pay-as-you-go CIP to address known problems. (Do not use bonds as the financing mechanism in the first two years.

Transition from county-wide to basin-by-basin CIP approach
Equity of allocating CIP money on countywide basis. Amount not established on basis of need.

Provides early CIP \$4.69 million/year.
track record for budget
Helps with future budget

Establishing Guidelines/
Priority setting for
selection of projects

Develop CIP list

23. Basin planning starts with Reconnaissance Phase followed by 3 basin plans/year in the first 2 years. Each plan to take 18 months.

Are three plans starting in mid-1986 every 18 months sufficient?

Initial basin plan not be ready until construction.

Reconnaissance schedule

Current schedule list date of basin plans
Important for establishing basin priorities.

Results of Reconnaissance
Basin Planning Activities

Drives the content of basin plans. Reconnaissance important regardless of utility proposal

24. Aggressively pursue joint financing of SMM activities with incorporated jurisdiction and neighboring counties sharing basins with unincorporated K.C. Negotiate interlocal agreements for this purpose.

Overall policy decisions need to be determined.

Potential for incorporation decisions due to likelihood of review to individual

OTHER

25. Maintain existing flood control program supported by RIF

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|--|---|---|
| <p>26. Continue to finance SWM related permit review and inspection from develop permit fees. Eliminate current R/D maintenance fees.</p> | <p>Eliminating current R/D maintenance fee is not consistent with retaining current level of funding sources.</p> | <p>Relieves developer requirement for 2-maintenance fee.</p> |
| <p>27. Define and pursue all opportunities for establishing appropriate developer charges, cost-sharing agreements, LID/ULID's to fund SWM projects and activities.</p> | <p>---</p> | <p>---</p> |
| <p>28. Define long-term financing options as basin plans are completed and capital needs defined.</p> | <p>Need for financial and utility expenditures plan including CIP.</p> | <p>Provide assurance direction on ability to efficiently and deliver expanded s</p> |
| <p>29. Fund surface water management activities outside the proposed service area from existing sources such as RIF.</p> | <p>Problems exist in areas not within service area.</p> | <p>Less attention cau focus on urban/urb area.</p> |
| <p><u>ORGANIZATION</u></p> | | |
| <p>30. Establish a SWM Utility as the organizational frame-work through which the county would provide comprehensive management of all SWM activities.</p> | <p>---</p> | <p>The current SWM Di assume responsibility the utility.</p> |
| <p>31. Make the Utility responsible for leadership, direction and management of the overall SWM program. Make utility - accountable for accomplishing the county and surface water management objectives per K.C.C. 20.50.</p> | <p>---</p> | <p>---</p> |