April 26, 1993

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Derdowski

Introduced by: Sims

Proposed No.: 93-191

MOTION NO. 8972

A MOTION calling for King County and Metro to collaboratively develop policies and a plan for using cable television technology to better inform the public about public services, and to enhance public participation in the development of Metro and King County policies.

WHEREAS, government holds fundamental duties to inform the public about public services, and to facilitate public participation in public policy, and

WHEREAS, King County government will acquire the ability to use cable television technology to better inform the public and to improve public participation in the development of public policy, and

WHEREAS, the merger of King County and Metro will make this technology available to Metro, and

WHEREAS, Metro and King County have not developed polices or a plan for the use of cable television technology;

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

- The county council invites the county executive and Metro in conjunction with the prosecuting attorney, the assessor, and the judicial branches of county government to collaboratively develop policies and a plan for creatively using cable technology to maximize public information about King County and Metro services.
- The policies and plan shall be developed in consultation with an ad hoc committee of citizens, including citizens with expertise in cable communications or video Members of this committee shall be selected by programming. representatives of Metro and King County. Committee membership shall reflect the geographic diversity of King County. The committee shall be required to conduct at least two community meetings to gather citizen input and guidance prior to the development of proposed policies.

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- The plan shall include a system of oversight to assure that government cable television technology is used for appropriate public purposes.
- The plan shall include programming proposals to highlight services including, but not be limited to: public transit, vanpool and rideshare services, commuter-trip reduction services, water quality, jury duty, court and legal services, public safety, public health, property taxes and tax assessments, voter registration, disability services, licensing, permits, citizen complaints, senior citizen programs, family programs, animal control, drug and alcohol treatment, mental health services, and adult and youth detention.
- The plan shall include programming proposals to inform the public about the deliberations of the Metropolitan County Council, which will be created upon the January 1, 1994 effective date of the Metro-King County merger, and of the Regional Policy Committees which shall advise the Metropolitan County Council.
- The plan shall include proposals for the use of cable technology for interaction between members of the public and public officials responsible for King County-Metro Policies and practices.
- The plan shall emphasize programming proposals to address public information needs not met by private television. It is the intent of this motion that programs shall focus upon services and activities of direct benefit to King County residents. Programming suggestions are listed on Exhibit A.
- The plan shall develop proposals to give residents opportunities to rebut or respond to Metro-King County cable television programs.
- The plan shall address methods to make citizens aware of the service programming available on cable television, including King County and Metro publications, and interior bus advertising signs.

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Exhibit A

The following proposals represent the types of programs envisioned by the King County Council for cable television programs about Metro-King County services.

Commuter show - A program highlighting up-to-the-minute information about transit routes, emergency weather conditions, and public transit services.

Conflict resolution - Resolving disputes without going to court.

Crime victims - A program for crime victims with information about what to expect from the criminal justice system.

Disability services - Issues of concern to people with disabilities.

Domestic Violence - A program demonstrating services available to victims of domestic abuse.

Economic Development - Information for small business owners, employers and job seekers in King County.

Environmental protection - Needs addressed by Metro-King County agencies for water quality and surface water management.

Family services - Parenting skills, elder care, other services.

Feedback - A program for residents to call in with concerns about Metro-King County policies and practices.

Jail services - A program aimed at relatives or friends of people booked into the King County Jail.

Juror orientation - A program explaining jury duty and including information about transit routes to superior and district courts.

Property taxes - Explainations of the property tax system.

Pro-se family court - Dissolution without lawyers.

Public health - Programming dedicated to public health services and issues.

Public participation - Programs providing citizen interaction with public officials responsible for King County-Metro policies.

Public process - Meetings of the Metropolitan County Council, other public bodies.

Senior services - Activies and programs for senior citizens.

Transit services - Programs showing how to use bus, rideshare and vanpool services.