

November 15, 1994

Introduced By: Miller

swbudmot/jl

Proposed No.:

94 - 750

MOTION NO. 9426

1
2 A MOTION establishing policy and
3 identifying policy issues for
4 consideration by the county council in
5 1995 relating to the budget and possible
6 future rate increases for the Solid Waste
7 Division.
8

9 WHEREAS, the county council does not support the
10 executive's proposed increases in rates charged for solid
11 waste disposal for 1995 through 1998, and

12 WHEREAS, prompted in part by concerns over this rate
13 proposal, the council wishes to reconsider some of the
14 policies contained within the 1992 Comprehensive Solid Waste
15 Management Plan, adopted by Ordinance 11171 in December 1993,
16 and

17 WHEREAS, the solid waste division has sufficient
18 reserves to continue operating through 1995 without any rate
19 increase by making only relatively minor reductions in
20 proposed expenditures, but some rate increase may be
21 necessary in 1996 to avoid major reductions in current
22 programs and services, and

23 WHEREAS, prior to approving any long-term increase in
24 rates or major reductions in programs and services for the
25 division, the council wishes to conclude its reconsideration
26 of key policies in the solid waste management plan, and

27 WHEREAS, a formally updated plan is not expected to be
28 transmitted to the council until late 1996, after a rate
29 increase or major cuts in programs will probably have already
30 become necessary, and

1 WHEREAS, some of the policies to be reconsidered affect
2 not only potential rates but also anticipated 1995
3 expenditures, and

4 WHEREAS, it therefore is desirable that the council
5 declare any changes in policy it wishes to make now and
6 identify those policies it wishes to reconsider in
7 collaboration with the executive and affected cities, along
8 with a timetable for that reconsideration;

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

11 A. All spending by the solid waste division in
12 preparation for possible new transfer stations in south King
13 County and the Northeast Lake Washington area should be
14 deferred through at least June 1995, to provide for council
15 reconsideration of the need for such transfer stations, their
16 size, the services they would offer, whether or not they
17 could be built and operated more cost-effectively under
18 contract to a private company and other related issues.

19 B. The executive is requested to transmit to the council
20 by June 30, 1995, a recommended policy for the potential
21 future export of mixed municipal solid waste out of King
22 County, including a discussion of the relationship of such a
23 policy to the current and future county transfer system, the
24 continued role and useful life of Cedar Hills landfill, rates
25 charged for solid waste disposal, and the potential uses of
26 financial reserves in the landfill replacement account of the
27 solid waste division.

28 C. Financial policy for the Capital Equipment
29 Replacement Fund of the division should be conservative but
30 the current policy is unnecessarily so and should be revised
31 prior to adoption of a 1996 budget for the division. The
32 entire transfer to the fund proposed in the 1995 budget of
33 the solid waste division should be eliminated and the

1 transfer in 1996 should be determined consistent with new
2 financial policies to support the fund.

3 D. The executive is requested to transmit to the council
4 by June 30, 1995, a plan identifying the strategies he
5 believes are necessary prior to 2000 to meet the county's
6 adopted waste reduction and recycling goals, together with
7 his estimate of their costs and their likelihood of success,
8 so that the council may determine if the county's adopted
9 goals for waste reduction and recycling are realistic or
10 should be modified in any way.

11 E. The executive is requested to transmit to the council
12 by June 30, 1995, his recommendation for a possible
13 reorganization of programs within the solid waste division
14 that promote recycling and programs overseen by the King
15 County commission for marketing recyclable materials. This
16 could include putting both sets of programs under one
17 management; creation of a non-profit corporation funded by
18 businesses that might expand successful programs to market
19 recyclable materials; targeting recycling efforts to
20 materials that offer attractive economic development
21 opportunities; and ways in which the two sets of programs
22 could improve their coordination to serve overall county
23 goals.

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F. The executive is requested to assign staff to work with the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee, the Utilities and Natural Resources Committee, the Regional Policy Committee and their staffs to analyze these and other policy issues during the first half of 1995 in preparation for council consideration of adjustments in solid waste programs and rates that could go into effect in 1996.

PASSED by a vote of 12 to 1 this 5th day of December, 1994.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Kent Pullen
Chair

ATTEST:

Gerald A. Peterson
Clerk of the Council

Attachments:

None