

April 22, 1997
votesystemsupport.doc
clerk 10/16/97

Introduced By: Kent Pullen

Proposed No.: 97-639

MOTION NO. **10346**

1
2 A MOTION approving an optical scan vote tabulation system for
3 King County.
4

5 WHEREAS, punch card systems have been used by King County to tabulate election votes
6 since 1971, and

7 WHEREAS, considerable advancements in technology have been made since that time,
8 and

9 WHEREAS, such advancements threaten to make punch card vote tabulation systems
10 obsolete, and

11 WHEREAS, it is increasingly difficult to obtain punch cards for King County's current
12 punch card system, and

13 WHEREAS, the division of records and elections has considered replacing the current
14 punch card system with an optical scan vote tabulation system, and

15 WHEREAS, other jurisdictions across the nation have implemented similar optical scan
16 systems, and

17 WHEREAS, the council included a proviso in a technical corrections ordinance to the
18 1996 adopted budget stipulating that the purchase of a new election system would require council
19 approval via motion, and

20 WHEREAS, the council wants to ensure the implementation of an effective, reliable, user-
21 friendly and, above all, safe and secure vote tabulation system;

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

1 The purchase of an optical scan vote tabulation system for implementation no earlier than 1998 is
2 approved by the county council contingent upon the following:

3 A. The division of records and elections shall use the period before implementation of this
4 new system to communicate with the public on its use and to gather public input on ways to ensure
5 the safety, security, and effectiveness of the new voting process.

6 B. By July 1, 1998, the division of records and elections shall, at minimum, develop and
7 report the following to the county council:

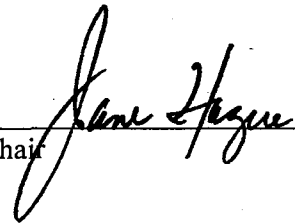
8 1. procedures that ensure the safe and secure transportation of ballot materials to and
9 from polling places;

10 2. procedures that ensure the safe and secure handling of ballot materials in individual
11 polling places and that account for the general physical abilities of polling place staff and
12 volunteers; and

13 3. materials that inform voters of the proper use of the optical scan ballots, including
14 guidance on the types of vote marks that are readable by the system, the approximate fraction of
15 the vote mark space that needs to be filled in to be read by the system, and the types of marking
16 instruments that make marks that can be read by the system.

17 PASSED by a vote of 10 to 0 this 3rd day of November, 1997.

18 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
19 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

20 
21 Chair

22 ATTEST:

23 
24 Clerk of the Council

25 Attachments: None