

December 14, 1998

Introduced By: Chris Vance
Louise Miller

dc

Proposed No.: 98-688

MOTION NO. **10600**

A MOTION establishing the 1999 federal legislative agenda for King County.

WHEREAS, the joint King County Legislative Steering committee has the responsibility to recommend a state and federal lobbying agenda to the Committee of the Whole and then to the full council, and to coordinate the county's federal and state legislative activities in order to carry out that agenda, and

WHEREAS, the metropolitan King County council and the King County executive have worked through the joint King County Legislative Steering Committee to develop a federal legislative agenda and desire to bring their positions on issues facing the 106th Congress to the attention of the United States Congress, and

WHEREAS, King County desires to work cooperatively with other local governments and other organizations such as the National Association of Counties, the American Public Transit Association, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, the American Public Works Association, the National Association of County Engineers, the Association of Washington Cities, the Washington Transit Association, Regional Transit Authority, Washington Association of County Officials and

1 the Washington State Association of Counties to achieve its 1999 federal legislative goals,
2 and


3 WHEREAS, counties have been recognized by Congress as partners with the
4 federal government in the delivery of such critical services as transportation, criminal
5 justice, public health, community and human services and water resources, and

6 WHEREAS, the King County council and the King County executive will continue
7 to review legislative developments for possible revisions of King County's 1999 federal
8 legislative program;


9 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
10 The specific objectives set forth in the attachment to this motion are King County's highest
11 priorities for passage during the 106th United States Congress.

12
13 PASSED by a vote of 13 to 0 this 14th day of December, 1998.

14 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
15 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

16 
17 Chair

18 ATTEST:

19 
20 Clerk of the Council

21 Attachment: King County, Washington 1999 (FY 2000) Federal Agenda and Action Plan,
22 dated December 14, 1998

**KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON
1999 (FY 2000) FEDERAL AGENDA AND ACTION PLAN**

PRIORITIES

- Priorities are the items for which The Ferguson Group is seeking specific earmarks for King County only in the federal process.
- Legislative Interests are advocated for in partnership with national organizations or issue-specific coalitions and are part of a program.

	ITEM	DESCRIPTION
1	Salmon Recovery	Federal funding, and maximum flexibility for the use of any federal funding, for the Washington State salmon recovery program. Federal funds are needed for habitat improvements, studies and habitat plans, regulatory enforcement, and monitoring for tribal ESA response activities. The current federal funding goal is anticipated to be \$50 million in fiscal year 1999. King County's salmon recovery needs to be sought as part of the state and multi-state initiative.
2	Endangered Species Act	Flexible implementation of ESA restrictions resulting from the listing of Puget Sound Chinook salmon and other species. Work to achieve, for example, an acceptable agreement between the federal agencies (EPA, USFWS) and King County/State regarding the integration of Clean Water Act requirements and ESA requirements.
3	Transportation Projects	Coordinate with the federal lobbyists for Sound Transit, surrounding counties and communities to ensure that a regional package is submitted and advocated collectively. King County will advocate locally that its position should include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) \$10 million for park and ride lot expansion program; 2) \$750,000 in capital improvements for the Elliot Bay Water Taxi; 3) \$5 million in transit technology improvements; 4) \$90 million for Fast Corridor, including funding for SR 509 Extension; and 5) \$10 million for design for the Translake Corridor Study Implementation.
4	Covington/Timberlane Development	\$903,000 to upgrade the water pipe system in this housing development.
5	Fuel Cell Demonstration Project	\$4 million from EPA for the 1-Megawatt King County Fuel Cell Demonstration Project. In fiscal years 1999 and 2000, EPA approved \$5 million -- \$2.5 million in each fiscal year -- for this important project. Approximately \$14 million is needed to complete construction of this project.
6	Corps of Engineers Projects	Additional funding for ecosystem restoration and protection projects currently underway in King County for ecosystem restoration projects. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Lower Bear Creek;

		(2) Chittenden Locks fish passage; (3) Green-Duwamish ecosystem restoration; and (4) Cedar River Watershed Restoration. (5) Funding for the Cedar River flood control project under the Corps of Engineers Section 205 authority.
7	Transportation Grants	SMART Growth grant funding to implement the urban amenities portion of the Rural Transfer of Development program and for the transportation demand management components of the Transit Oriented Development grants are from the Federal Highway Administration's Community Preservation Program (Section 1221 of the EPA's Challenge Grant program.
8	Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO)	Passage of legislation (such as 1998's H.R. 4242, Combined Sewer Overflow Control and Partnership Act) grant funding for CSO projects.
9	Land Acquisition	Federal funding to support local land acquisition needs, particularly those associated with salmon recovery.
10	Flood Hazard Reduction	Additional funding for the Snoqualmie flood hazard reduction project and the North Bend Area flood hazard reduction project.
11	Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)	Federal support for state and local agencies to develop TMDLs. Specifically, funding to support the effort to determine TMDLs on rivers and streams that are important to area salmon populations. Also, work with local agencies on models and plans for determining TMDL's on rivers and streams within King County.
12	HUD	Develop and secure King County congressional delegation sponsor for federal legislation to help prevent assisted housing stock that is particularly at risk of conversion to market rate rents far outstripping what contract rents.
13	Brownfields	Funding through: (1) HUD's Brownfields Economic Development Initiative; (2) HUD's Section 108 loans; and (3) EPA's Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund.
14	* Justice	Directive language and/or funding to study King County's number of misdemeanor offenders that are "problematic" and need more facilities and jails.
15	Justice	Funding for technology and juvenile detention facilities.
16	Workforce Development	Seek changes to Interim Regulations for the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 "Youth Activities" (Chapter 5). Dislocated Worker Employment and Training Activities" (Chapter 5).
17	Welfare to Work	Continue to seek changes regarding the eligibility requirements for DOL Welfare-to-Work "hardest to serve" population through reauthorization process or through technical amendments..

* Placeholder needing clarification from the Executive Branch.

LEGISLATIVE INTERESTS

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
18	Support increases in the private activity bond cap and low income housing tax credit program in the budget.
19	Advocate for increases or at least maintain HUD appropriations for Community Development Block Grant Partnerships (HOME) programs, homeless assistance (McKinney programs), and public housing operation certificates/vouchers, and Section 8 contract renewals.
20	Oppose efforts to weaken Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act that would allow local governments to effect but support provisions that allow cities and counties to encourage dispersal of such facilities in neighborhoods and the county in a fair and equitable manner.
21	Support federal participation in the establishment of as SEP for the State of Washington, which will encourage the barriers to greater participation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Conservation Reserve Program largest conservation program administered by the federal government. In addition, establishment of a State tailor the CRP so that it will more effectively address the State's unique conservation challenges, particularly salmon habitat protection and restoration.
22	Support adoption of an amendment to Superfund that would exempt Publicly Owned Treatment Works
23	Advocate for the release of backlogged funding under the LWCF. Congress has released \$191 million in previous allocations for land acquisition and maintenance in the Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service.
24	Advocate for passage and enactment of the forestry bond legislation, such as H.R. 4301 introduced in 1991.
25	Advocate for full funding of PILT.
26	Support authorization and expansion of federal assistance for local water reuse programs. Funding has been extremely limited. Additional authority is needed in order to make funds available for King County water reuse programs.
27	Support opportunities for EPA funds to assist local estuary and watershed protection activities.
28	Reinstatement of flow control by Congress for at least the period that will pay off the bonded indebtedness of as many other counties in the state, has based the financing of its solid waste management services on a flow control authority. Capital improvements for the system are paid for through general obligation bonds. Amount of bonded indebtedness remains.

29	Empowerment Zones	Support Seattle/King County Empowerment Zone designation and funding.
30	FEMA	Seek modifications to FEMA's interim policy barring reimbursement of the cost of replanting trees and made to river facilities, detention/retention areas, water quality sites and stream and river bank stabilization.
31	FEMA	Seek variance for Pacific Northwest to Corps of Engineers and FEMA disaster assistance eligibility criteria. Other flood works that contain vegetation are ineligible for assistance from the Corps under P.L. 84-99 and repairs under the Stafford Act.
32	FEMA	Seek federal funds from FEMA and other agencies with flood hazard mitigation programs to support the within the flood plain and the restoration of important habitat.
33	Seismic Infrastructure	Federal funding to improve the seismic reliability of public facilities in most threatened regions of King County.
34	Justice	Support that a percentage of Local Law Enforcement Block Grant funds are made available to local courts for additional training to correction's staff, and to provide education, job training, and other skill development for juveniles detained in local correctional facilities.
35	Medicaid	Support allowing Washington State to use Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) funds for child Medicaid.
36	Vaccinations	Support preventive health care measures for families, such as vaccinations, etc.
37	Mental Health	Assist in modifying 42 CFR, Part 2 - data sharing between systems (mental health and substance abuse) and improvements in the law to allow information sharing between the two disciplines. Support opportunities to create demonstration projects to apply confidentiality standards differently, and request one-time funds for implementation of the pilot model.
38	HIV/AIDS	Support program on a pilot basis that involves mental health, substance abuse and HIV/AIDS.
39	Housing	Support revisions to the tax code to support homeownership for households earning 120 percent of median income.
40	Housing	Seek appropriations and tax code revisions to support a King County House Land Trust to purchase land for occupied housing for moderate- and median-income households.
41	Homeless	Support "hold harmless" provision in legislation to block grant federal homeless assistance funding for areas to maintain current funding levels and support maximum flexibility for local jurisdictions in the use of funds.

** Pending clarification by tax committees whether 1998 omnibus bill provided permanent or temporary corrections.

MONITOR AND REPORT

The federal contract lobbyist will monitor federal legislation and regulations continuously and report to King County the status of the significant. The federal lobbyist also notifies the county when participation in the process is beneficial to the county. The federal lobbyist will coordinate efforts on these issues with national associations. King County has expressed a particular interest in the following issues:

- Affirmative Action
- Child Care
- Clean Water Act
- Education
- Forestry Bond legislation
- Housing/Funding for First Time Buyers
- Individuals with Disabilities and Education Act (IDEA)
- Workforce Training
- Medicaid funding
- Mental Health Block Grant
- Pediatric Cancer Research funding
- Property Rights and "Takings" legislation
- Public Housing Reform
- Telecommunications and Cell Towers
- Welfare Reform

GRANTS

The federal lobbyist will meet with King County departments to assess level of need and thereafter research federal grant opportunities on a regular basis. Prospects will be searched for in the Federal Register, on the Internet and in various grant publications. As grants are identified and reviewed they will be distributed to the county electronically when possible, or by overnight courier.

When the county is interested in applying for a grant it will notify the federal lobbyist so that specific grant information, such as grant materials and a previously successful application (if applicable) may be forwarded. The federal lobbyist will make subsequent phone calls to discuss the grant with the appropriate federal agency. The county will be given information gathered from these activities.

After the county has applied for the grant, the federal lobbyist will work with the county, congressional delegation, and agencies to coordinate application. Active participation in the process will continue to determine the approximate time of grant announcement and the status of the grant.

application, as well as to ensure the county's application receives the best possible consideration.

If the county's application is successful, the federal lobbyist will work with the federal agency to expedite allocation of the grant award. If the application is unsuccessful, the federal lobbyist will follow-up with the federal agency's grant reviewers to determine the strengths and weaknesses of the application and then work with the county to prepare for the next funding opportunity.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS AND COALITIONS

The federal lobbyist will build partnerships and coalitions with national associations in which King County is an active member. These include, but are not limited to, the National Association of Counties, and its subgroup the Large Urban County Caucus, the American Association of Urban County Caucuses, the American Association of Urban County Caucuses, the American Association of Urban County Caucuses, the American Association of Urban County Caucuses, and other groups in which the Legislative Steering Committee deems of particular interest.

WASHINGTON VISITS

It is expected that representatives of the King County Council and County Executive will travel to Washington, D.C. multiple times to reinforce lobbying efforts for the FY 2000 Federal Agenda and Action Plan. The first trip will occur the week of January 4th to present federal priorities to the Washington State Congressional Delegation. Subsequent trips will be planned after the legislative schedule is released by the congressional leadership, and at times the lobbyist in conjunction with the county determine to be most effective.