



Signature Report

July 21, 2003

Motion 11756

Proposed No. 2003-0327.1

Sponsors Lambert

1 A MOTION relating to growth management, supporting
2 efforts by the city of North Bend to comply with the state
3 Growth Management Act, the Countywide Planning
4 Policies and the King County Comprehensive Plan by
5 accommodating growth within the city's adopted Urban
6 Growth Area and providing that growth with appropriate
7 water service.

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9
10 WHEREAS, in anticipation of the need for additional water sources to
11 accommodate future growth, the city of North Bend submitted a water rights application
12 (G1-26617) in 1992, based on the service boundaries of the Coordinated Water System
13 Plan, that was then in effect, and

14 WHEREAS, subsequent to the submittal of the water rights application, the state
15 passed the Growth Management Act in 1994, and

16 WHEREAS, one of the guiding tenets of the state Growth Management Act is to
17 foster growth within the newly identified Urban Growth Areas delineated by local

18 counties and cities in their respective county planning policies and comprehensive plans,
19 and

20 WHEREAS, that growth is to occur in an orderly manner, wherein jurisdictions
21 work cooperatively to efficiently provide urban services, such as public water systems,
22 and

23 WHEREAS, public water systems should where possible share resources and
24 coordinate planning efforts to reduce redundant infrastructure improvements and avoid
25 gaps in urban-level services, and

26 WHEREAS, the general goal of several key policies of the Countywide Planning
27 Policies and King County Comprehensive Plan, shown on Attachment A to this motion,
28 is to:

29 1. Ensure that cities are the primary service providers for development within the
30 Urban Growth Areas;

31 2. Prevent the proliferation of small public (Group B) water systems and private
32 exempt wells within the Urban Growth Area, due to reliance on shallower aquifers and
33 impacts to groundwater providing flows to streams, often used by salmonids; and

34 3. Promote efficient use and sharing of resources between service providers
35 within the Urban Growth Area, and

36 WHEREAS, the Countywide Planning Policies, the King County Comprehensive
37 Plan and the city of North Bend comprehensive plan are consistent in their delineation of
38 the Urban Growth Area for the city of North Bend, that includes a significant area to the
39 east of the current city boundaries, and

40 WHEREAS, lacking the additional water resources that would be available
41 through the approval of the water rights application, the City of North Bend enacted an
42 ordinance in 1999 establishing a moratorium on all new building and development, and

43 WHEREAS, the city moratorium has resulted in the shifting of growth pressures
44 to the portion of the North Bend Urban Growth Area located outside of the current city
45 boundary, in which water service is provided by the Sallal Water Association, and

46 WHEREAS, the Sallal Water Association anticipates that their current available
47 water resources can accommodate only several more years of additional development
48 before having to deny service to new customers, and

49 WHEREAS, denial of service by the Sallal Water Association will cause a
50 proliferation of smaller Class B water systems or exempt private wells within the North
51 Bend Urban Growth Area served by the Sallal Water Association, and

52 WHEREAS, this proliferation of smaller Class B water systems or exempt private
53 wells within the Urban Growth Area is not consistent with the Countywide Planning
54 Policies and the King County Comprehensive Plan, and may impact stream flows without
55 mitigation, and

56 WHEREAS, an application for a water right by the Sallal Water Association, in
57 order to avoid the proliferation of smaller water system and private wells and meet the
58 demands for growth within the Urban Growth Area would not be approved for many
59 years due to the limited resources of the state to process water rights applications, and

60 WHEREAS, the state legislature recently passed House Bill 1338, which would
61 allow future updates or amendments to the North Bend Water System Plan to identify a
62 larger service area within the North Bend Urban Growth Area, effectively changing the

63 place of use of any North Bend municipal water rights to include such portions of the
64 North Bend Urban Growth Area, and

65 WHEREAS, the designation the entire North Bend Urban Growth Area as the
66 place of use of North Bend's water right application would facilitate the ability of the
67 Sallal Water Association to provide water to that portion of the North Bend Urban
68 Growth Area which they currently serve, without resorting to a new water rights
69 application, and would allow for an efficient sharing of water resources between service
70 providers, consistent with the Countywide Planning Policies and the King County
71 Comprehensive Plan, and

72 WHEREAS, limiting the place of use of the North Bend application to its current
73 water service area boundary would not recognize the boundaries of the Urban Growth
74 Area for the city of North Bend and would be inconsistent with a basic tenet of the state
75 Growth Management Act, was well as the Countywide Planning Policies, King County
76 Comprehensive Plan and North Bend comprehensive plan, and

77 WHEREAS, King County has a responsibility to ensure that all land use related
78 decisions made at the local, as well as, state level are consistent with the law and is
79 obligated to act when there is a potential for actions inconsistent with the law;

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

81 A. The council supports the city of North Bend in its goal of accommodating
82 growth within the adopted Urban Growth Area delineated in the Countywide Planning
83 Policies, King County Comprehensive Plan and city of North Bend comprehensive plan;
84 and

85 B. The council calls upon the state Department of Ecology to expedite approval
86 of the city's current water rights application, and

87 C. The council calls upon the state Department of Ecology to designate the city
88 of North Bend Urban Growth Area as the place of use for water right application G1-
89 26617 and to grant approval of the application to permit water service for all areas within
90 the current North Bend Urban Growth Area.

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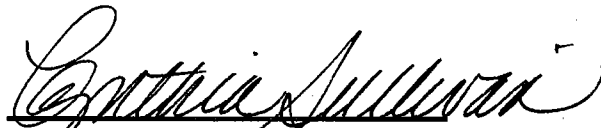
Motion 11756 was introduced on 7/14/2003 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/21/2003, by the following vote:

Yes: 10 - Ms. Sullivan, Ms. Edmonds, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Pelz,
Mr. Constantine, Mr. Hammond, Mr. Gossett, Mr. Irons and Ms. Patterson

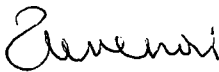
No: 0

Excused: 3 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. McKenna and Ms. Hague

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Cynthia Sullivan, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments A. Countywide Planning Policies, King County Comprehensive Plan Policies

COUNTYWIDE PLANNING POLICIES

Urban Development

Urban development standards do not include private wells and the smaller Group B water systems are discouraged.

LU- 26 The lands within Urban Growth Areas shall be characterized by urban development....

FW- 13 Cities are the appropriate provider of local urban services to Urban Areas either directly or by contract. Counties are the appropriate provider of most Countywide services. Urban services shall not be extended through the use of special purpose districts without the approval of the city in whose potential annexation area the extension is proposed. Within the Urban Area, as time and conditions warrant, cities should assume local urban services provided by special purpose districts.

KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN POLICIES

Coordination of Services

King County is not a water utility and does not provide potable water to citizens in the region. However, it plays an important role in the coordination or linking of water supply and growth.

F- 102 King County shall work with cities, special purpose districts, other local service providers and citizens to identify and distinguish local and countywide services. Over time, cities will assume primary responsibility for coordinating the provision of local services delivery. The County will assume primary responsibility for coordinating the provision of countywide services, including countywide services that must be delivered within city boundaries. The County will also work with cities, special purpose districts, and other counties to identify regional service and facility needs and develop strategies to provide them.

Potable Water Systems

Potable water is provided by Group A public water systems having 15 or more connections, Group B public water systems having 2 to 14 connections, and private wells serving one connection. The type of water system required will depend upon whether a proposed development is or is not located within the Urban Growth Area.

F- 225 In the Urban Growth Area all new construction and all new subdivisions shall be served by Group A public water systems except in the circumstance when no Group A public water system can provide service in a timely and reasonable manner per RCW 70.116.060...

Utility System Interties

Water utilities obtain water supplies from many varying sources. Some water utilities receive the vast majority of their water supply from wells. Yet others receive substantial portions from municipal watersheds and reservoirs. The varying water supply sources can differ substantially in terms of dependability of output, so that while one water utility may have excess capacity, a neighboring water utility could be experiencing severe shortages and be unable to adequately serve their customers.

F- 231 King County supports interties that allow the transfer of water resources among water utilities in urban areas to meet the projected demands for growth. The transfer of water must be consistent with locally adopted growth management plans and approved Coordinated Water System Plans and implement approved Endangered Species Act response requirements and Clean Water Act requirements.