



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

May 3, 2005

Motion 12115

Proposed No. 2005-0209.2

Sponsors Dunn, Hague, Patterson, Lambert,
Hammond and von Reichbauer

1 A MOTION declaring a one-year moratorium on the use of
2 county-owned land for emergency temporary homeless
3 encampments; directing the executive to review and make
4 recommendations regarding the availability, suitability and
5 appropriateness of the use of county-owned land for such
6 encampments; and further directing the executive to submit
7 the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness and a related
8 county action plan for council review and approval.

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11 WHEREAS, homelessness is widely recognized as a growing problem in King
12 County and elsewhere in the nation, and

13 WHEREAS, some estimates conclude that eight thousand King County residents
14 are homeless on any given night, and

15 WHEREAS, Seattle Housing and Resource Effort ("SHARE") and the Women's
16 Housing, Equality and Enhancement League ("WHEEL") are nonprofit organizations that
17 advocate and provide services for homeless persons and that have established Tent City 4

18 in King County to provide a safe community for up to one hundred homeless persons
19 every night, and

20 WHEREAS, since its initiation, Tent City 4 has sought and successfully obtained
21 sites, support services and other assistance from local churches and other community
22 groups and has been able to move, as planned, every ninety days, and

23 WHEREAS, SHARE/WHEEL is also seeking sites for Tent City 4 on land owned
24 by the county as well as land under county land use jurisdiction, and

25 WHEREAS, county properties have been acquired for specific public purposes,
26 and in many cases legal and policy restrictions on use of the property may not allow the
27 use of the property for residential occupancy, and

28 WHEREAS, the citizens' advisory commission on homeless encampments
29 ("CACHE") was established by the metropolitan King County council in June 2004 to
30 study the issues of temporary emergency encampments, including whether there is a need
31 for homeless encampments, whether these encampments shall be sited on public or
32 private land, or both, and identifying procedural guidelines for siting and permitting
33 future temporary homeless encampments, and

34 WHEREAS, the final report of the CACHE found that homeless encampments are
35 currently necessary due to the lack of attention to longer-term housing and service
36 solutions, and

37 WHEREAS, the Committee to End Homelessness, made up of representatives
38 from United Way, King County, the city of Seattle, other cities, the Church Council,
39 service providers and advocates, completed the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness in
40 King County and released it to the public on March 11, 2005, and

41 WHEREAS, as recommended by the Committee to End Homelessness in King
42 County, the county has created two positions, one with funding support from the city of
43 Seattle and United Way, to facilitate implementation of the Ten Year Plan;

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

45 A. A one-year moratorium commencing upon the date of adoption of this motion
46 is declared on the use of county-owned land for emergency temporary homeless
47 encampments. During this period no county-owned real property shall be used for any
48 emergency temporary homeless encampment, and no county officer or employee shall
49 authorize or permit the use of such property for such purposes.

50 B. By February 15, 2006, the executive shall review the availability, suitability
51 and appropriateness of the use of county-owned land for emergency temporary homeless
52 encampments and submit a report to the council with recommendations regarding the use
53 of county-owned property following the end of the moratorium period.

54 C. By June 15, 2005, the county executive shall submit the Ten Year Plan to End
55 Homelessness in King County and a related county action plan to the council for review
56 and approval. The county action plan shall:

57 1. Set out goals to significantly increase the placement and success of homeless
58 persons in transitional and permanent housing options within three years;

59 2. Focus county mental health, chemical abuse and dependency, public health,
60 housing, veterans, other human services and community corrections programs on the
61 mission of preventing and eliminating chronic homelessness due to disabling conditions;

62 3. Describe how the county programs listed above will collaborate with cities
63 and community and faith-based organizations to develop coordinated, regional housing

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64 and service systems that minimize homelessness by providing outreach, coordinated case
65 management and integrated services and housing; and

66 4. Describe the steps to be taken together with the city of Seattle, other cities
67 and providers to fully implement the Safe Harbors Homeless Services Information
68 System as quickly as possible.

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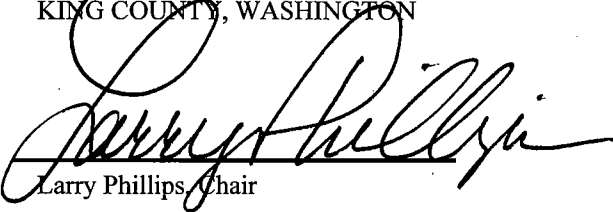
Motion 12115 was introduced on 5/2/2005 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 5/2/2005, by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Hammond, Ms. Hague and Ms. Patterson

No: 4 - Ms. Edmonds, Mr. Pelz, Mr. Gossett and Mr. Constantine

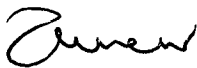
Excused: 2 - Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Irons

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments None