



Signature Report

July 17, 2007

Motion 12545

Proposed No. 2007-0374.2

Sponsors Ferguson

1 A MOTION adopting the priorities of King County for the
2 2008 budget.

3
4 WHEREAS, under the King County charter, the county council is the policy
5 determining body and adopts budgets for King County government, and

6 WHEREAS, the executive under the charter carries out policy as set by the
7 council and presents budgets and a budget message setting forth the programs which he
8 proposes for the county during the next fiscal year, and

9 WHEREAS, the council has over the years provided policy direction to the
10 executive to be reflected in the proposed budget, including initiatives such as the office of
11 information resource management, the juvenile and adult justice operational master plans,
12 realignment of the district court system, expansion of drug and mental health courts,
13 development of framework policies for human services, establishment of the nearshore
14 habitat conservation initiative, creation of the cultural development authority, the
15 property expert review task force, the citizens election oversight committee, the county's
16 annexation and children's health initiatives and the public health operational master plan,
17 and

18 WHEREAS, the council has been a leader in promoting performance management
19 in King County and adopted Motion 11561 in 2002 encouraging the executive to broaden
20 the use of performance measurement throughout county government as a way of
21 enhancing management of scarce resources and demonstrating accountability, and

22 WHEREAS, such priorities as efficiency, greater public trust and wise
23 management of scarce resources are valid both for agencies that receive general fund
24 revenues and agencies such as the road services division and the Transit Division that are
25 funded through revenues dedicated for specific purposes, and

26 WHEREAS, in October 2006, the council adopted Motion 12367 setting the
27 Priorities for People for the 2007 budget, and

28 WHEREAS, the Priorities for People included the major categories of earning
29 public trust, enhancing quality of life, and protecting human health and safety, and

30 WHEREAS, for 2007, the council took further steps to improve the efficiency and
31 effectiveness of King County government and to increase public trust by creating the
32 financial policies advisory task force, by appropriating funds in the budget to study the
33 creation of an office of economic and financial analysis, by funding the capital projects
34 oversight pilot project, by creating the office of law enforcement oversight, by initiating a
35 performance audit of the development and management of major capital projects, and by
36 undertaking a pilot biennial budgeting project, and

37 WHEREAS, to further the council's effort to adopt priorities that serve the people
38 of King County, the council initiated the citizen engagement project under which five
39 workshops, two public forums and an online survey were used to help the council
40 determine the priorities of our citizens for 2008 and thereafter, and

41 WHEREAS, the results of the citizen engagement project revealed that citizens
42 ranked courts as a key to the working of the law, safety and justices programs of the
43 county, that public health clinics serve a critical role in providing services to less
44 fortunate and uninsured citizens in the county, that low-income housing and youth and
45 family services are among the highest priorities in community health and human services
46 program areas, and that regional parks and open space are among the most important
47 functions in the natural resources and environment program areas, and

48 WHEREAS, the council has used the citizen input along with their other contacts
49 with the people and their professional and leadership knowledge and abilities to develop
50 priorities for 2008;

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

52 The council intends that the King County 2008 budget support the priorities of

Motion 12545

53 county government as described in the attached King County Budget Priorities for 2008 –
54 Building on 2007 Priorities for People – Setting and Implementing the Council Vision.
55

Motion 12545 was introduced on 7/9/2007 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/16/2007, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Gossett, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Hague and Mr. Constantine
No: 0
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments A. King County Budget Priorities for 2008 - Building on 2007 Priorities for People -
Setting and Implementing the Council Vision

King County Budget Priorities for 2008

--Building on 2007 Priorities for People--

Setting and Implementing the Council Vision

The Metropolitan King County Council provides fiscal integrity and accountability by setting spending priorities based on public expectations, funding programs consistent with those priorities, and measuring results. "Priorities for People" established three top priorities as standards for the County's 2007 budget. After a thorough citizen engagement initiative, the Council now establishes its vision for implementing those citizen priorities in the 2008 King County budget:

1. Earn Public Trust:

- a. Implement sound County financial oversight measures and manage the public's money prudently and wisely.
- b. Increase citizen engagement in oversight of County services.
- c. Closely monitor and report on County spending.
- d. Further citizen involvement in setting budget priorities.
- e. Improve customer service.
- f. Guarantee the right to vote for all eligible King County residents, and ensure that voting systems are secure, reliable, and private.
- g. Establish additional County local and regional government performance measurements and publicly report on them.
- h. Increase accountability and transparency on capital projects.

2. Enhance Quality of Life:

- a. Manage growth wisely.
- b. Provide quality local government services.
- c. Improve transportation options and provide greater mobility for people, vehicles and freight.
- d. Reduce carbon emissions, maintain levees, enhance cleanup of Puget Sound waterways and take other measures for responsible environmental stewardship.
- e. Create and encourage vibrant cultural and recreational opportunities.

3. Protect Public Health and Safety:

- a. Enhance the County's capability and flexibility to meet needs for public health protection, promotion, and provision.
- b. Promote conditions for optimal physical and mental health and reduction in chemical dependency and obesity.
- c. Partner with organizations to ensure access to public health for the uninsured and the underinsured.
- d. Pursue programs to keep young citizens away from the criminal justice system.
- e. Continue to implement crime and gang activity reduction programs.
- f. Reduce the cost of detention while increasing effective and safe alternatives to jail detention.
- g. Prepare our citizens, neighborhoods and County government for natural disasters and public health emergencies.
- h. Implement measures for further oversight of the Sheriff's Office.