



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**August 4, 2008**

**Motion 12837**

**Proposed No.** 2008-0352.2

**Sponsors** Phillips and Lambert

1                   A MOTION encouraging the formation of, training for and  
2                   investment in green collar jobs.

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4                   WHEREAS, there is an increasing awareness among individuals, businesses,  
5                   labor unions, nonprofit agencies and governments that it is good public policy and good  
6                   economic policy to promote the use of environmentally preferable goods and services,  
7                   and

8                   WHEREAS, new industries are emerging to meet the demand for environmentally  
9                   preferable goods and services, and

10                  WHEREAS, traditional industries are changing their practices to meet the demand  
11                  for environmentally preferable goods and services, and

12                  WHEREAS, the participants in the Prosperity Partnership have identified the  
13                  Clean Technology Cluster as an economic development strategy that will promote what  
14                  are becoming known as "green-collar jobs," and

15                  WHEREAS, vocational schools, state-approved joint apprenticeship programs,  
16                  community colleges and universities are developing new curricula to train the workforce

17 that is needed to meet the labor force demand for green-collar jobs in new and traditional  
18 industries, and

19 WHEREAS, in the process of training workers for these green-collar jobs it is  
20 also possible and desirable to pursue equity and social justice goals by recruiting low-  
21 income and historically disadvantaged groups and individuals for training, and

22 WHEREAS, promoting green collar jobs is a specialized form of economic  
23 development, and as such requires collaboration with business representatives from  
24 industry sectors related to clean technology, labor unions representing workers in those  
25 industries or labor affiliates administering state-approved joint apprenticeship programs  
26 or labor-management partnership programs that train workers for these industries,,  
27 educational institutions, nonprofit agencies and various levels of governments;

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

29 A. King County commits to continuing and expanding its efforts to create and  
30 support green-collar jobs by:

- 31 1. Constructing buildings that meet LEED standards;
- 32 2. Purchasing environmentally preferable products;
- 33 3. Prohibiting the expenditure of county funds, with very limited exceptions, to  
34 purchase individual-serving bottles of water; and
- 35 4. Using alternatives to fossil fuels when the use of such fuels does not create  
36 unintended negative consequences.

37 B. The council encourages the executive to engage the King County Jobs  
38 Initiative in the Clean Technology Cluster by:

39           1. Dedicating a portion of its funding to train low-income individuals for high-  
40 wage occupations or occupations that are part of career pathways to high-wage jobs,  
41 within relevant clean technology sectors;

42           2. Collaborating with enterpriseSeattle, the Joint Apprenticeship training  
43 Council, pre-apprenticeship programs, and private employers to identify the current skill  
44 requirements for entry-level green jobs that are high-wage occupations, or are part of  
45 career pathways to high-wage occupations;

46           3. Working with the Workforce Development Council to identify additional  
47 resources for entry-level green collar jobs with pathways to high-wage jobs, within  
48 relevant industry sectors;

49           4. Collaborating with vocational schools, community colleges and other training  
50 providers to develop short-term, pilot curriculum for entry-level jobs;

51           5. Including incumbents and graduates of green-job training programs as  
52 workers on King County-funded projects, where appropriate, through the use of  
53 apprenticeship utilization standards, on-the-job training, and other tools that connect  
54 training to work and demonstrate King County's commitment to expanding high-wage  
55 career opportunities in the an technology industries, and

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57           6. Evaluating the effectiveness and appropriateness of pilot training programs for  
58 green-collar jobs that may be undertaken.

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Motion 12837 was introduced on 6/30/2008 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 8/4/2008, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Ms. Patterson, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Constantine, Ms. Lambert, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Gossett, Mr. Phillips and Ms. Hague

No: 0

Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Julia Patterson, Chair

ATTEST:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments      None