



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**October 1, 2013**

**Motion 13982**

**Proposed No. 2013-0346.2**

**Sponsors Phillips**

1           A MOTION providing for review of the county's light duty  
2           vehicle utilization policy with regards to electric vehicles in  
3           the county fleet.

4           WHEREAS, vehicles that are powered solely by electricity that is drawn from on-  
5 board batteries may offer the potential for efficient transportation in a way that  
6 significantly reduces the amount of transportation-derived generation of greenhouse  
7 gasses; and

8           WHEREAS, the county has shown leadership both in installing electric vehicle  
9 charging stations at strategic locations, and in acquiring significant numbers of electric  
10 vehicles in the county fleet for use by county employees, and

11           WHEREAS, the technology associated with those vehicles is a significant  
12 departure from the standard internal combustion engine technology, which results in a  
13 vehicle that presents a somewhat different operator control experience to drivers of such  
14 vehicles, and

15           WHEREAS, because the range of those vehicles between recharges is less than  
16 the typical range of internal combustion engine-powered vehicles, and because the  
17 availability of recharging station infrastructure is early in the developmental stage,  
18 without proper information and training some prospective drivers may be concerned  
19 about having sufficient battery charge to complete their trips, and

20 WHEREAS, the innovative nature of electric vehicles, and the potential concern  
21 of new electric vehicle drivers regarding the range of the vehicles between charges, may  
22 result in more limited utilization of those vehicles until users become more familiar with  
23 those vehicles, and until drivers are fully familiar with charging options, and

24 WHEREAS, the maintenance and repair experience of electric vehicles may also  
25 differ from conventional vehicles, potentially resulting in a differing useful vehicle life  
26 cycle, and

27 WHEREAS, county fleet operations with a significant proportion of the total  
28 numbers of vehicle trips associated with county business being provided by electric  
29 vehicles can represent an important contribution to reducing the total of county-  
30 operations-generated greenhouse gas emissions, consistent with the county's Strategic  
31 Climate Action Plan;

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

33 A. The executive is requested to implement efforts to increase utilization and  
34 County acceptance of alternative fuel technology vehicles through:

- 35 1. Implementing strategies and actions to increase drivers' use and  
36 understanding of alternative fuel technology vehicles ,which may include outreach,  
37 training, website information, vehicle deployment strategies or other elements; and
- 38 2. Developing an update to the 2009 Light Duty Vehicle Utilization Policy that  
39 includes an evaluation period for categories of vehicles with alternative fuel technologies.  
40 This evaluation period is intended to address the range of considerations that may be  
41 encountered as alternative fuel technologies are introduced into the county fleet. The

42 elements that may be addressed solely for this evaluation period include but are not  
43 limited to the following:

- 44 a. the level of acceptance and use of alternative fuel technologies by fleet  
45 vehicle users;
- 46 b. The maintenance and repair experience of vehicles utilizing alternative fuel  
47 technologies;
- 48 c. alternative standards regarding utilization of such vehicles during and after  
49 an introductory period;
- 50 d. alternative standards regarding the life cycle of vehicles utilizing alternative  
51 fuel technologies;
- 52 e. cost implications of increased utilization of electric vehicles, including early  
53 differentials in maintenance and repair costs for alternative fuel technology vehicles  
54 compared to conventional vehicles, as well as projected battery replacement costs;
- 55 f. estimates of differentials in fueling costs;
- 56 g. estimated utilization levels of alternative fuel technology vehicles; and  
57 h. other appropriate cost parameters

58 B.1. By March 31, 2014, the executive is requested to transmit a motion  
59 providing for acknowledgement of the transmittal of a report that includes:

- 60 a. the description of the strategies and actions implemented and their results  
61 through January 2014 in response to subsection A.1. of this motion; and
- 62 b. the proposed update to the 2009 Light Duty Vehicle Utilization Policy and  
63 any supporting materials, including data.

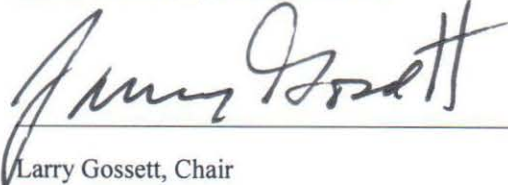


64           2. The report, together with the motion providing for acknowledgement of the  
65 transmittal of the report, should be filed with the clerk of the council by March 31, 2014,  
66 who shall retain the original and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers and  
67 the lead staff of the transportation, economy and environment committee or its successor.  
68

Motion 13982 was introduced on 7/29/2013 and passed by the Metropolitan King  
County Council on 9/30/2013, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague,  
Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Mr. McDermott and Mr. Dembowski  
No: 0  
Excused: 1 - Ms. Patterson

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



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Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:



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Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** None