



Signature Report

Motion 15630

Proposed No. 2020-0154.1

Sponsors Upthegrove

1 A MOTION acknowledging receipt of COVID-19 plan for
2 isolation, quarantine and recovery sites in compliance with
3 the 2019-2020 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance
4 18835, Section 49, as amended by Ordinance 19066,
5 Section 8, Proviso P1.

6 WHEREAS, the 2019-2020 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 18835,
7 Section 49, as amended by Ordinance 19066, Section 8, Proviso P1, requires the
8 executive to transmit a report a plan related to the isolation, quarantine and recovery sites
9 used by the county in response to the coronavirus disease 2019, known as COVID-19
10 within seven days after the first person occupies any of the isolation, quarantine and
11 recovery sites, and

12 WHEREAS, Ordinance 18835, Section 49, as amended by Ordinance 19066,
13 Section 8, Proviso P1, provides that \$250,000 shall not be expended or encumbered until
14 the executive transmits a plan and a motion that acknowledges receipt of the plan is
15 passed by the council;

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

17 That receipt of the COVID-19 plan for isolation, quarantine and recovery sites,
18 included as Attachment A to this motion, is hereby acknowledged in accordance with the

19 2019-2020 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 18835, Section 49, as amended by
20 Ordinance 19066, Section 8, Proviso P1.
21

Motion 15630 was introduced on 3/24/2020 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 3/24/2020, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski,
Mr. Upthegrove, Ms. Kohl-Welles, Ms. Balducci and Mr. Zahilay
Excused: 1 - Mr. von Reichbauer



KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Claudia Balducci", is written over a horizontal line.

Claudia Balducci, Chair

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melani Pedroza", is written over a horizontal line.

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: A. COVID-19 Plan for Isolation Quarantine and Recovery Sites

COVID-19 Plan for Isolation, Quarantine and Recovery Sites

March 17, 2020



King County

I. Proviso Text

Ordinance 19066¹, Section 8, General Fund Transfer to the Department of Executive Services, P1

Of this appropriation, \$250,000 shall not be expended or encumbered until the executive transmits a plan related to the isolation, quarantine and recovery sites used by the county in response to the coronavirus disease 2019, known as COVID-19, and a motion that should acknowledge receipt of the plan and a motion that acknowledges receipt of the plan is passed by the council. The motion should reference the subject matter, the proviso's ordinance, ordinance section and proviso number in both the title and body of the motion.

The plan shall include, but not be limited to:

- A. Plans for security surrounding the isolation, quarantine and recovery sites;
- B. Communication plans with the communities surrounding the isolation, quarantine and recovery sites; and
- C. Services to the residents that will be served by the isolation, quarantine and recovery sites including, but not limited to, transportation to and from their last location or home.

The executive shall transmit the plan and motion required by this proviso within seven days after the first person occupies any of the isolation, quarantine and recovery sites. The executive shall transmit the plan and motion in the form of an electronic copy with the clerk of the council, who shall provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers, the council chief of staff and the chief policy officer.

¹ [Link to Ordinance 19066](#)

II. Isolation, Quarantine and Recovery Sites

On March 1, the King County Executive declared a Proclamation of Emergency regarding the significant public health emergency caused by novel coronavirus, or COVID-19 in King County.

King County is the national epicenter of an unprecedented global pandemic and public health crisis. This emergency threatens to overwhelm the region's medical and emergency response systems unless science-informed, public health-guided strategies to slow the spread of COVID-19 are implemented. A crucial element of the public health strategy to slow the spread of the disease are the practices of isolation and quarantine. Deployed at scale, these practices will keep hospital beds available for people with acute healthcare needs and help reduce the spread of the virus.

The majority of King County residents have the ability—and the choice—to isolate or quarantine² in their own home without any formal supervision. As the virus spreads throughout the community, it is foreseeable that people will privately isolate or quarantine in nearly every neighborhood and every community in King County.

Some King County residents, however, do not have a home in which they can isolate or quarantine. For some, this is because they do not have a home. Others who have a home will choose not to isolate or quarantine at home because they live with people who are more vulnerable to COVID-19, such as older adults or persons with underlying health conditions. For King County residents who do not have a home in which they can isolate, quarantine, and recover, King County is building a county-wide network of isolation, quarantine, and recovery (IQR) sites that will allow them to do so. This is an essential part of the strategy to promote the region's public health, slow the spread of COVID-19. The County's IQR sites provide a place where individuals can wait out exposure and/or recover while keeping family members and communities safe.

As is the case for persons who isolate or quarantine in their own home, individuals who isolate or quarantine in a county-provided facility will do so voluntarily. As of the date of this report, King County is not legally compelling or directing persons to isolate or quarantine.

When isolating or quarantining in a county facility, a person receives substantial support because successful isolation and quarantine contribute best to the public health goal of slowing the spread of the disease and reserving hospital capacity. Monitoring of IQR sites occurs via a combination of on-site clinical staff and regular telephone contact between those at the sites and other King County staff. Trained medical and, where appropriate, behavioral health professionals, speak regularly with each person in IQR. The health status of each person is monitored for any changes, as well as the need for additional care.

IQR site needs will be determined by Public Health call center staff. Individuals who may need IQR facilities include:

- First responders and health care workers;
- Travelers;

² Isolation: for those who are currently ill from COVID-19 and, thus, able to spread the disease. They need to stay away from others to avoid infecting them. Quarantine: for those who are not *currently* showing symptoms, but who are at increased risk of having been exposed to COVID-19.

- People who cannot safely self-isolate or quarantine at home, e.g., a student living in a shared dorm room or an individual living with older or sick family members; and,
- People experiencing homelessness.

This report responds to and documents the elements identified in the proviso, shown below. Given the compressed timeline for producing this report and the pace at which circumstances are evolving in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this report responds to the isolation, quarantine and recovery actions discussed at the March 10, 2020 King County Council meeting. This proviso response does not detail next steps or other COVID-19 response strategies at this time.

- A. Plans for security surrounding the isolation, quarantine and recovery sites;*
- B. Communication plans with the communities surrounding the isolation, quarantine and recovery sites; and*
- C. Services to the residents that will be served by the isolation, quarantine and recovery sites including, but not limited to, transportation to and from their last location or home.*

A. Plans for security surrounding the isolation, quarantine and recovery sites

The King County Facilities Management Division (FMD), in partnership with the Public Health – Seattle King County (Public Health) and the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) Isolation and Quarantine Team (IQT), has developed security protocols for the county’s IQR sites. Currently, IQR site security includes:

- Privacy/security perimeter fencing;
- 24/7 onsite contract security;
- Strictly limited ingress and egress to the site in coordination with the IQT and site manager; and,
- Security lighting.

FMD has also prepared draft guidelines for contract security at IQRS sites that includes elements such as:

- Providing security presence at the entrance to the site (24/7) seven days a week;
- Maintaining overall security of the property and its occupants;
- Wearing assigned protective equipment; and,
- Ensuring access only to assigned County staff and vendors based on specific guidance; and,
- Never physically engaging or having any physical contact with individuals temporarily residing at the property.

FMD will continuously evaluate the effectiveness of its protocols to ensure the safety of the IQRS site staff, the individuals temporarily residing at IQR sites, and the surrounding community.

B. Communication plans with the communities surrounding the isolation, quarantine and recovery sites

The King County Public Health website provides information in multiple languages on the COVID-19 outbreak, including what to do if an individual is concerned about exposure or may be experiencing

symptoms. King County emergency appropriations Ordinance 19066 includes funding for language access services, community engagement and outreach/education pertaining to the COVID-19 response.

King County is using this funding to develop and implement an Outreach and Communications Tactical Plan which will outline actions to engage communities near the sites and meet unique language access needs of community members. Developed in coordination with the Office of Equity and Social Justice (OESJ), the plan includes strategies and activities such as:

- Direct outreach to business owners in surrounding areas;
- Participation by Public Health, DCHS, FMD, OESJ, and/or Executive Office staff on regular community stakeholder (including local officials) calls;
- Written responses to community stakeholder questions;
- Designated King County outreach team points of contact;
- Grants to community-based organizations serving impacted communities; and,
- Geographic representation on the Pandemic Community Advisory Board (as appropriate).

King County is currently focused on the public health emergency and on creating spaces for people to safely isolate and quarantine. Future use of any emergency of the IQR sites created during the COVID-19 public health emergency will be discussed with local city officials and the King County Council once the emergency has subsided. This work will include proactive outreach with communities near the sites.

Residents may ask questions by using the King County [‘contact us’ website](#) and selecting the dedicated Coronavirus Quarantine and Recovery Facility subcategory on this issue.³

C. Services to the residents that will be served by the isolation, quarantine and recovery sites including, but not limited to, transportation to and from their last location or home.

In addition to the on-site security discussed in Section II. A., King County provides a variety of services to individuals temporarily residing at the IQR sites. King County staff coordinate transportation to one of the locations via medical transport. Once there, services include:

- At least daily contact with the care team assigned to the individual to assess health support needs;
- Hazmat cleaning of IQR rooms when individuals depart;
- On-site 24/7 clinical staff (nurse or social worker);
- On-site 24/7 property management; and,
- Delivery of three meals daily through contract with FareStart;
- A kit of essential personal items and snacks; and,
- Linen replacements during the stay.

Because isolation and quarantine involve staying away from the general public, every person has a phone number to call if anything is needed, or if their condition changes, with phones provided. In addition, the care team checks in with every patient multiple times per day to identify any additional

³ <https://blue.kingcounty.gov/about/contact/>

needs. Supplies are delivered to individuals' doors, so there is no need to go out to get anything. For all temporary residents, medical and behavioral health will be available by phone. Where a person's intake information and case history indicate it will be appropriate, DCHS will implement a full-time behavioral health crisis team.

Care team staff monitor each person's condition and make a determination as to when it is safe for the individual to leave the isolation and quarantine site. When the individual is determined to no longer be contagious, the care team will coordinate transportation to the individual's community of origin via bus ticket or taxi voucher. If an individual is COVID-19 positive or awaiting a test result and needs immediate medical attention, departure from the site will occur via medical transport.

While pets are not allowed at the sites, Regional Animal Services of King County will assist people who need help caring for their pets during their stay in isolation and quarantine.

All the above reflect current operations and plans; however, quickly evolving circumstances may lead to changes. The King County Executive commits to providing additional information to the King County Council as the response to the COVID-19 outbreak evolves and requires additional actions.