

7/29/91
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Introduced by: North

Proposed No.: 91-598

10037

ORDINANCE NO.

1 AN ORDINANCE specifying King County's
2 process for assisting unincorporated area
3 citizens to develop methods for improving
4 local government for unincorporated areas.

5 PREAMBLE:

6 King County has participated with the suburban cities
7 and Seattle in a Regional Governance Summit (Summit),
8 which has recommended an expanded King County Council,
9 merger of King County and the Municipality of
10 Metropolitan Seattle (Metro), and significant changes
11 in the relationships between the county and cities.
12 This change will create an opportunity to review and
13 improve local government for unincorporated areas.

14 The King County Council believes that any change in
15 local government must respect the right of
16 unincorporated areas to self-determination and
17 recognizes that new options may be developed to improve
18 local government in addition to incorporation or
19 annexation to existing cities. The Council also
20 acknowledges that citizens may identify measures to
21 make the existing form of unincorporated area
22 government more accessible and responsive to
23 unincorporated communities.

24 The Council further recognizes that this process of
25 identifying and implementing governmental improvements
26 will require substantial staff resources and can be
27 expected to take more than one year.

28 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

29 SECTION 1. In December, 1991, the King County Council will
30 initiate a process by which unincorporated area residents may
31 recommend strategies to improve governance in their
32 communities. The process will consist of appointing a citizen
33 advisory committee in each designated area, who will identify
34 governance alternatives which can be presented to the voters
35 and/or the King County council for implementation.

36 SECTION 2. Beginning December 1, 1991, council staff will
37 contact civic groups and other known interested parties to
38 begin identifying those who could be appointed to the citizens
39 committees. By January 15, 1992, council staff will present
40 for council consideration a list of names of citizens in each
41 designated area who are interested in serving on the citizen
42 advisory committees. By January 30, 1992, the council will
43 appoint members of each committee. Each committee shall
44 include 12 to 17 members and shall be composed of

1 citizens living within the unincorporated areas of the
2 respective areas and shall include representatives from at
3 least the following categories: local jurisdictions, such as
4 school, water, fire, sewer, and hospital districts; community
5 groups active in previous annexation or incorporation efforts,
6 where applicable; and members of civic groups.

7 SECTION 3. Each citizens committee will be convened no
8 later than February 28, 1992. The first order of business for
9 each group will be to elect its chair. The committees will
10 meet monthly. Each committee will be assigned to a specific
11 council staff member, who will be responsible for providing
12 meeting notices and background information to the committee and
13 for arranging meeting facilities.

14 SECTION 4. Each committee will make a preliminary report
15 to the council by October 15, 1992, providing information about
16 the issues addressed by the committee, conclusions reached to
17 date, estimated date of completion of work, and issues which
18 will require state legislative attention during the 1993
19 legislative session. It is expected that each committee will
20 finalize its report and recommendations to the council no later
21 than June 30, 1993. The committee's final report will define
22 communities of common interest within which specific governance
23 improvements should be made and recommend ways in which
24 government may be made more accessible and responsive to those
25 local communities, including specific steps for implementing
26 those improvements. The committee recommendations should
27 consider available revenues and costs of services as well as
28 other issues. Each committee shall hold at least one public
29 hearing before presenting its preliminary report and at least
30 one public hearing before presenting its final report to the
31 council.

32 King County council staff support to the citizens
33 committees will report regularly to the council on the progress
34 of the committees throughout the process.

35 SECTION 5. The Metropolitan King County Council will

1 review the citizens committee recommendations and will work
2 with the citizens to take the necessary steps to implement
3 those recommendations whenever possible. The council will
4 address the recommendations of the citizens committees within
5 90 days of their receipt.

6 SECTION 6. By July 1, 1992, the council will appoint a
7 countywide committee of interested state legislators, county
8 officials and representatives from the citizen advisory
9 committees, which shall serve as a joint study committee. The
10 joint study committee will review progress reports of the
11 citizens committees and options considered by the citizens
12 committees. In particular, the joint study committee will
13 develop appropriate enabling legislation, if any is needed, for
14 consideration by the state legislature in its 1993 session.

15 INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 22nd day of _____
16 July, 1991.

17 PASSED this 29th day of July, 1991.
18 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
19 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

20 Lois North
21 Chair

22 ATTEST:

23 Gerald A. Peterson
24 Clerk of the Council

25 APPROVED this 12th day of August, 1991.

26 David Hill
27 King County Executive