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Introduced By:

Rob McKenna Maggi Fimia

Proposed No.:

98-623

ORDINANCE NO. 13441

AN ORDINANCE relating to public transportation, modifying the paratransit service program for seniors and persons with disabilities, establishing an ADA paratransit program to meet federal requirements, establishing a King County metro community transportation program offering additional services to eligible individuals, adopting new transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities and other individuals with special transportation needs; adding new sections to K.C.C. chapter 28.94, and repealing Ordinance 12643, Section 2, and K.C.C. 28.94.050.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Ordinance 12643, Section 2, and K.C.C. 28.94.050 are hereby repealed.

NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 28.94 a new section to read as follows:

ADA paratransit program. A. As required in 49 C.F.R. pt. 37, subpart F, the county shall provide paratransit or other special services, referred to in this section, Section 3 of this ordinance and K.C.C. 28.94.245 as "ADA paratransit services," to individuals eligible under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, referred to in this section, Section 3 of this ordinance and K.C.C. 28.94.245 as "ADA". The county may supplement the ADA paratransit services with other service described in Section 3 of this ordinance.

- B. ADA paratransit services shall be provided during the same hours and days as regular, fixed, non-commuter bus service, within corridors that extend three-fourths of a mile on either side of the regular, fixed, non-commuter bus routes, as the routes may be amended from time to time.
 - C. ADA paratransit services shall be provided on a curb-to-curb basis.

- D. ADA paratransit services shall be provided on an advance reservations basis, on the day before the occurrence of the ride requested.
- E. ADA paratransit services may include requiring riders to transfer from one paratransit vehicle to another as part of the trip requested by the rider.
 - F. Subscription service shall not be provided as part of the ADA paratransit services.
 - G. ADA paratransit services may include feeder service to and from an accessible bus zone for individuals who are able to use the fixed route system.
 - H. In furtherance of the ADA paratransit program, the director may:
- 1. Organize and manage the provision of ADA paratransit services, including but not limited to call-taking, scheduling, dispatching, operations and vehicle maintenance, and, subject to applicable contracting and procurement requirements, enter into agreements with public and private agencies and entities for the provision of one or more of the services;
- 2. Develop and implement procedures in accordance with 49 C.F.R. pt. 37, subpart F, for the certification of ADA paratransit eligibility and the suspension of ADA paratransit service to eligible individuals with a documented pattern or practice of missing scheduled rides. The suspensions shall not be processed according to the procedures dealing with suspensions related to violations of rules of conduct on transit property and facilities as set forth elsewhere in K.C.C. chapter 28.96;
- 3. Develop and implement procedures for ADA paratransit service, and establish eligibility, administrative and operations procedures and referral services for the services;
- 4. Encourage the participation of, and enter into agreements with, public and private agencies and entities to coordinate their transportation resources as provided in this section;
- 5. Enter into agreements with other transit agencies to establish procedures for allocating paratransit trips and the cost of paratransit services to ADA-eligible riders seeking to transfer between transportation systems or cross jurisdictional boundaries and allocate the costs of

providing paratransit services where the paratransit services of the other agencies overlap the county's ADA paratransit services; and

6. Submit plans, reports and information to the Federal Transit Administration as may be required under applicable federal regulations.

<u>NEW SECTION. SECTION 3</u>. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 28.94 a new section to read as follows:

King County metro community transportation program and services. A. The King County metro community transportation program is hereby established to supplement available public and private transportation services operating in King County that are targeted to individuals with special transportation needs. Individuals with special transportation needs shall include those individuals who, because of physical or mental disability, income status, or age are unable to transport themselves or to purchase appropriate transportation. Services provided under this section may be implemented and updated by the director as provided in this chapter and within annual appropriations.

- B. King County metro community transportation program paratransit services may be provided daily between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. unless otherwise specified in this section, and may include:
- 1. For individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for ADA paratransit services, services provided in the area of the county within corridors that extend three-quarter (.75) miles on either side of regular, fixed, non-commuter bus routes, as the routes may be amended from time to time. The area shall expand and contract during the same days and hours as the regular, fixed, non-commuter bus routes; provided further that the easternmost paratransit service corridor shall extend one and one-half (1.5) miles to the east of the easternmost regular, fixed, non-commuter bus route; and provided further that when such paratransit service corridors as specified herein result in areas within the King County Urban Growth Boundary being surrounded on all sides by paratransit

service corridors, such areas shall be included in the service area for King County metro community transportation program paratransit services.

- 2. For individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for ADA paratransit services, services provided with door-to-door driver assistance when such assistance is determined to be essential, using criteria established by the director. The director or designee shall determine the days and hours and the conditions under which these services can be provided safely and when they will be provided outside the established King County metro community transportation service hours and service area in response to the special transportation needs of individual riders:
- 3. For individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for ADA paratransit services, services provided with hand-to-hand driver assistance when such assistance is determined to be essential, using criteria established by the director, and when such individuals are sponsored by an agency or other organization that enters into a contract with the county for the assistance. The director or designee shall determine the days and hours and conditions under which these services can be provided safely and when they will be provided outside the established King County metro community transportation service hours and service area in response to the special transportation needs of individual riders;
- 4. For individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for ADA paratransit services, an advance reservation period that may be extended up to seven days in advance of the occurrence of the ride requested. However, any extension of the reservation period shall not adversely affect the system capacity for scheduling ADA paratransit program rides requested;
- 5. For individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for ADA paratransit services, subscription service arranged for individuals who establish a recurrent pattern of travel that, under criteria established by the director, provides for the efficient operation of the services. However, the arrangements shall not adversely affect the system capacity for scheduling ADA paratransit program rides requested; and

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6. For individuals who have a valid regional reduced fare permit, are at least eighteen years of age and have an annual income at or below seventy percent of the median income for the state of Washington, as determined from time to time by the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services and adjusted for family size, and who live too far from regular, fixed, non-commuter bus routes or general public dial-a-ride service, transportation services to and from the bus routes or dial-a-ride service may be provided. The director or designee shall determine the days and hours and conditions under which these services can be provided safely and when they will be provided outside the established King County metro community transportation service hours and service area in response to the special transportation needs of individual riders. The services shall not be provided if the individual can make other public or private transportation arrangements.

C. King County metro community transportation program paratransit services may be provided to public and private agencies who share in the cost of service delivery and whose participants: (1) meet the eligibility criteria for ADA paratransit services; (2) have a valid regional reduced fare permit, are at least eighteen years of age and have an annual income at or below seventy percent of the median income for the state of Washington, as determined from time to time by the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services and adjusted for family size; (3) are deemed eligible as participants to attend programs at or with agencies that participate in the county's community partnership services under Section 3D of this ordinance; or (4) have special transportation needs and are participants, customers or clients at programs, agencies or other entities that enter into contracts with the county to coordinate or share their transportation resources with the county and its service providers for the purpose of maximizing the provision of transportation services and the use of all available county and non-county resources. The director or designee shall determine when such paratransit services may be provided outside the established King County metro community transportation program service area in response to the special

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transportation needs of individual riders. Insofar as practicable, the county shall secure commitments from the public and private agencies so that by the year 2004 their share of the costs of providing the services is not less than twenty-five percent (25%). Cost participation by agencies may include direct or in-kind cost contributions.

D. Community partnership services, including but not limited to operating, capital and technical support and resources, to support volunteer and other transportation services may be provided and updated by the director as provided in this chapter. The individuals identified in Section 3C of this ordinance are eligible for the services. The services shall be allocated, subject to applicable contracting and procurement requirements, to public or private non-profit entities and municipalities within King County that provide or sponsor social services to eligible individuals and to other entities whose participation enhances the county's transportation and transportationrelated human and community services goals and objectives. Planning for community partnership services shall include those agencies in King County are responsible for establishing service goals for eligible populations. This may include, but is not limited to, the King County Department of Human Services, the Area Agency on Aging and the Seattle-King County Public Health Department.

E. Services to assist individuals in using the most cost-effective, appropriate and available transportation resource or resources may be made available to individuals eligible under Section 3C of this ordinance, and may include:

- 1. Bus travel training and orientation services; and
- 2. Information and referral services.
- F. The executive shall initiate an effort to increase the availability of accessible vehicles in the local taxicab industry that do not charge rates greater than for nonaccessible vehicles. The goal of such an effort must be to achieve at least ten percent accessibility in the taxicabs licensed by the county by the year 2001.

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G. In furtherance of the King County metro community transportation program, the director may:

- 1. Organize and manage the provision of King County metro community transportation program paratransit services, including but not limited to call-taking, scheduling, dispatching, operations and vehicle maintenance, and, subject to applicable contracting and procurement requirements, enter into agreements with public and private agencies and entities for the provision of one or more of the services;
- 2. Develop and implement procedures, and establish eligibility, administrative and operations procedures and referral services, for the King County metro community transportation program;
- 3. Encourage the participation and enter into agreements with public and private agencies and entities to coordinate their transportation resources as provided in this section; and
- 4. Enter into agreements with other transit agencies to establish procedures for allocating King County metro community transportation program paratransit trips and the cost of King County metro community transportation program paratransit services for riders seeking to transfer between transportation systems or cross jurisdictional boundaries and to allocate the costs of providing paratransit services where the paratransit services of the other agencies overlap the county's paratransit services.

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SECTION 4. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or its application to any 2 person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the application of the 3 provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. 4 5 INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 12th day of October, 1998. PASSED by a vote of 13 to 0 this 29 day of March, 1999 6 7 KING COUNTY COUNCIL KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON Duise Miller 10 ATTEST: 11 12 13 APPROVED this Sh day of Wh 14 15 16 17 Attachments:

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None