

## KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse 516 Third Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

### November 19, 2001

#### Ordinance 14259

**Proposed No.** 2001-0485.3

**Sponsors** Miller and Phillips

1		AN ORDINANCE relating to preserving and protecting
2		equestrian community trails in equestrian communities,
3		implementing code changes recommended by the
4		equestrian trails task force; amending Ordinance 1488,
5		Section 6, as amended, and K.C.C. 16.82.050, Ordinance
6	· ·	9614, Section 103, as amended, and K.C.C. 16.82.150,
7		Ordinance 10511, Section 7, as amended, and K.C.C.
8		20.36.100, Ordinance 10870, Section 364, as amended, and
9		K.C.C. 21A.14.040, Ordinance 14045, Section 37, and
10		K.C.C. 21A.14.360, Ordinance 14045, Section 38, and
11		K.C.C. 21A.14.370, Ordinance 14045, Section 39, and
12		K.C.C. 21A.14.380 and Ordinance 14045, Section 40, and
13		K.C.C. 21A.14.390, adding a new section to K.C.C. chapter
14		7.16, adding a new section to K.C.C. chapter 20.36, adding
15		new sections to K.C.C. chapter 21A.14, adding a new
16	•	section K.C.C. chapter 16.82 and repealing Ordinance

14045, Sections 41, and K.C.C. 21A.14.400 and Ordinance 14045, Section 42.

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#### PREAMBLE:

In 1984, King County in its Comprehensive Plan made a policy choice to designate and protect its Rural and Resource Areas, building on the work of Farmlands Preservation Program which began protecting farmlands as early as 1979. With the adoption of the state Growth Management Act in 1990, protection of these areas was mandated in all high growth counties, and the county reaffirmed its previous policies in adopting its GMA Comprehensive Plan in 1995. King County also has a long tradition of developing incentive programs to support typical Rural Area activities. Existing programs that pursue these objectives include the Public Benefit Rating System, current use taxation of resource and open space lands, and transfers of development credits from rural to urban areas. Extensive programs for the preservation of open space for public use, and the development of a one-hundred-seventy-mile regional trail system have also been pursued. This ordinance furthers the public's interest in being able to safely access the regional system by taking steps to preserve the extensive system of smaller community trails that provide access to the regional trails, particularly those used for walking and riding horses on trails in the Rural and Resource Areas. This

ordinance furthers the county's efforts to preserve these trails.

40	BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:
41 <sup>.</sup>	SECTION 1. Findings.
42	A. The metropolitan King County council finds that under Ordinance 12196, the
43	requirements for environmental analysis, protections and mitigation measures in this code
44	chapter, as amended by this ordinance, provide adequate analysis of and mitigation for the
45	specific adverse environmental impacts to which the requirements apply.
46	B. The 2000 Comprehensive Plan defined a rural equestrian community trail as
47	an existing trail within the Equestrian Community that has historically been used by the
48	public for riding horses, and that may also have historically been used by or is suitable
49	for use by other non-motorized trail users. The Equestrian Community areas are mapped
50	in the King County Comprehensive Plan, and the Plan contains several policies
51	supporting the preservation of existing trails.
52	C. The metropolitan King County council in the 2000 Comprehensive Plan
53	adopted policies and established a task force to promote the preservation of equestrian
54	communities in King County as a valuable element of rural character and lifestyle. The
55	task force has completed its work and reported back to the Council with
56	recommendations to refine the trail preservation incentive program and King County
57	Code provisions to provide further support for these trails, as provided for in this
58	ordinance.
59	NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. A new section is added to K.C.C. chapter 7.16 to
60	read as follows:
61	It is the policy of King County to accept the voluntary grant of trail easements for
62	preservation or replacement of much community agreetien to ile that most the

63	specifications for such trails set out in K.C.C. chapter 21A.14. Such grants may be
54	accepted in conjunction with a development proposal or as a separate transaction when
55	offered by the property owner. The offerings of such grants shall be strictly voluntary.
66	No county employee shall ever state or suggest to an applicant or his or her representative
67	that the development proposal is or may be contingent on the voluntary offering of the
68	grant.
69	SECTION 3. Ordinance 1488, Section 6, as amended, and K.C.C. 16.82.050 are
70	each hereby amended to read as follows:
71	Clearing and grading permit required – ((E))exceptions. ((A.)) No person shall
72	do any clearing or grading without first having obtained a clearing and grading permit from
73	the director except for the following:
74	((1.)) A. An on site excavation or fill for basements and footings of a building,
75	retaining wall, parking lot, or other structure authorized by a valid building permit. This
76	shall not exempt any fill made with the material from such excavation nor exempt any
77	excavation having an unsupported height greater than five feet after the completion of such
78	structure;
79	((2.)) B. The depositing or covering of any garbage, rubbish or other material at
80	any solid waste facility operated by King County;
81	((3-)) C. Maintenance of existing driveways or private access roads within their
82	existing road prisms, provided that the performance and restoration requirements of this
83	chapter are met and best management practices are utilized to protect water quality.

((4.)) D. Any grading within a publicly owned road right-of-way;

85	((5.)) <u>E</u> . Clearing or grading by a public agency for the following routine
86	maintenance activities:
87	((a.)) 1. Roadside ditch cleaning provided the ditch does not contain salmonids;
88	((b.)) 2. Pavement maintenance;
89	((e.)) 3. Normal grading of gravel shoulders;
90	(( <del>d.</del> )) <u>4.</u> Maintenance of culverts;
91	((e.)) 5. Maintenance of flood control or other approved surface water
92	management facilities;
93	((f. Routine clearing within trail or road rights of way or easements.)) 6.
94	Routine clearing within road right-of-way;
95	((6:)) F. Any clearing or grading for roads within a preliminary or finally
96	approved residential plat which has been approved by the director and for which a financial
97	guarantee has been posted;
98	((7-)) G. Maintenance or reconstruction of the facilities of a common carrier by a
99	rail in interstate commerce within its existing right-of-way; provided restoration is
100	consistent with ((the requirements of Section)) K.C.C. 16.82.110; provided that this
101	exception does not apply if the clearing or grading is within a sensitive area as regulated in
102	K.C.C. (( <del>C</del> ))chapter 21A.24((-));
103	((8:)) H. Cemetery graves; provided that this exception does not apply except for
104	routine maintenance if the clearing or grading is within a sensitive area as regulated in
105	K.C.C. (( <del>C</del> )) <u>c</u> hapter 21A.24;
106	((9-)) <u>I.</u> Clearing or grading within a preliminarily or finally approved residential
107	plat not involving any excavation exceeding five feet in vertical depth or any fill exceeding

three feet in vertical depth, regardless of the amount of material to be removed; provided
that this exception does not apply if the clearing or grading is within a sensitive area as
regulated in K.C.C. ((C))chapter 21A.24 or an area placed into tracts or easements pursuant
to K.C.C. 21A.12.030. This exception does not apply within an area placed into tracts or
easements for a wildlife habitat corridor pursuant to K.C.C. chapter 21A.14 unless the
proposed activity is otherwise exempt under K.C.C. chapter 21A.24;
((10.)) J. Excavation less than five feet in vertical depth not involving more than

one hundred cubic yards of earth or other material on a single site; provided that the exception does not apply if the clearing or grading is within a sensitive area as regulated in K.C.C. ((C))chapter 21A.24 or an area placed into tracts or easements pursuant to K.C.C. 21A.12.030. This exception does not apply within an area placed into tracts or easements for a wildlife habitat corridor pursuant to K.C.C. chapter 21A.14 unless the proposed activity is otherwise exempt under K.C.C. chapter 21A.24;

((11.)) <u>K.</u> Fill less than three feet in vertical depth not involving more than one hundred cubic yards of earth or other material on a single site; provided that the exception does not apply if the clearing or grading is within a sensitive area as regulated in K.C.C. ((C))chapter 21A.24 or an area placed into tracts or easements pursuant to <u>K.C.C.</u> 21A.12.030. This exception does not apply within an area placed into tracts or easements for a wildlife habitat corridor pursuant to K.C.C. <u>chapter</u> 21A.14 unless the proposed activity is otherwise exempt under K.C.C. <u>chapter</u> 21A.24;

((12-)) <u>L.</u> Minor stream restoration projects for fish habitat enhancement by a public agency, utility or tribe as set out in K.C.C. chapter 21A.24((-));

130	((13.)) <u>M</u> . Clearing or grading for construction of livestock manure storage
131	facilities or associated nonpoint source pollution facilities designed to the standards of and
132	approved in a conservation plan by the King County conservation district, and constructed
133	and maintained to those standards or livestock flood sanctuaries constructed and
134	maintained to the standards approved by the Soil Conservation Service and conservation
135	district and the best management practices approved by King County((-));
136	((14.)) N. Clearing and grading, performed as Class I, II, III or IV Special forest
137	practice in the F (Forestry) zone, that is conducted in accordance with ((RCW)) chapter
138	76.09 <u>RCW</u> and (( <del>WAC</del> )) <u>chapter</u> 222 <u>WAC</u> ((-));
139	((15.)) O. Any clearing or grading which has been approved by the director as
140	part of a Commercial Site Development permit and for which a financial guarantee has
141	been posted((-));
142	((16.)) P. Clearing outside of sensitive areas and buffers as regulated in K.C.C.
143	((C))chapter 21A.24 unless the development proposal site is within an area subject to
144	clearing restrictions contained in: K.C.C. 16.82.150, wildlife habitat corridors pursuant to
145	K.C.C. chapter 21A.14, critical drainage areas established by administrative rule or
146	property-specific development standards pursuant to K.C.C. chapter 21A.38((-));
147	((17.)) Q. Within sensitive areas, as regulated in K.C.C. ((€))chapter 21A.24, the
148	following activities are exempt from the clearing requirements of this chapter and no
149	permit shall be required((;)):
150	((a-)) 1. Normal and routine maintenance of existing lawns and landscaping
151	subject to the limitations on the use of pesticides in sensitive areas as set out in K.C.C.
152	$((\mathbf{C}))$ chapter 21A.24.

153	((b.)) 2. Permitted agricultural uses; provided the clearing is consistent with the
154	agricultural exemptions in sensitive areas as regulated in K.C.C. ((€))chapter 21A.24.
155	((e-)) 3. Emergency tree removal to prevent imminent danger of hazard to
156	persons or property.
157	((d.)) 4. Normal and routine horticultural activities associated with commercial
158	orchards, nurseries, or Christmas tree farms in existence on ((the effective date of
159	Ordinance 9614 (November 27, 1990))) November 27, 1990, subject to the limitations on
160	the use of pesticides in sensitive areas as set out in K.C.C. ((C))chapter 21A.24. This does
161	not include clearing or grading in order to develop or expand such activities.
162	((e.)) 5. Normal and routine maintenance of existing public parks trail easements
163	dedicated in accordance with K.C.C. 21A.14.360 through 21A.14.390, and private and
164	public golf courses. This does not include clearing or grading in order to develop or
165	expand such activities in sensitive areas. For the purpose of this subsection, a park is
166	defined as: any real property managed for public use which has been previously
167	maintained as a park or has been developed as a park pursuant to a properly issued permit.
168	((f.)) 6. Removal of noxious weeds from steep slope hazard areas and the buffers
169	of streams and wetlands subject to the limitations on the use of pesticides in sensitive areas
170	as set out in K.C.C. ((C))chapter 21A.24.
171	((g.)) 7. Pruning and limbing of vegetation for maintenance of above ground
172	electrical and telecommunication facilities; provided that the clearing is consistent with the
173	electric, natural gas, cable communication and telephone utility exemption in sensitive
174	areas as regulated in K.C.C. Chapter 21A.24.

175	((h.)) 8. Class II, III and IV Special forest practices outside of areas zoned F
176	provided they occur on parcels that meet all of the following criteria for long term forestry:
177	(((1))) <u>a.</u> The parcel is enrolled under the current use taxation program as
178	timber land pursuant to ((RCW)) chapter 84.34 RCW or as forest land pursuant to
179	((RCW)) chapter 84.33 RCW;
180	(((2))) <u>b.</u> A long term management plan is approved for the parcel by the
181	Washington Department of Natural Resources;
182	$((\frac{3}{3}))$ c. The parcel is located within areas designated rural or agricultural by
183	the King County Comprehensive Plan or applicable community plan;
184	((4))) <u>d</u> . The parcel is located outside of expansion areas for incorporated
185	rural cities or rural towns and neighborhoods as designated in King County
186	Comprehensive Plan or applicable community plans,
187	(((5))) <u>e.</u> The parcel equals or exceeds 5 acres in size; $((and))$
188	((18.)) R. Clearing within seismic hazard area, except on slopes greater than
189	((15)) fifteen percent and subject to clearing restrictions contained in: K.C.C. 16.82.150,
190	wildlife habitat corridors pursuant to K.C.C. chapter 21A.14, critical drainage areas
191	established by administrative rule or property-specific development standards pursuant to
192	K.C.C. chapter 21A.38; and provided the site contains no other sensitive area
193	features( $(\frac{1}{2})$ ); and
94	((19.)) S. Clearing within coal mine hazard area, subject to clearing restrictions
95	contained in: K.C.C. 16.82.150, wildlife habitat corridors pursuant to K.C.C. chapter
.96	21A.14, critical drainage areas established by administrative rule or property-specific

development standards pursuant to K.C.C. <u>chapter</u> 21A.38; and provided the site contains no other sensitive areas features.

temporary permits for excavations, processing, quarrying and mining, and removal of sand, gravel, rock and other natural deposits, together with the necessary buildings, apparatus or appurtenances incident thereto for specific jobs on application for highway, road, street, airport construction, flood control and other public works projects. In conjunction with such operations, allied uses such as, but not limited to, rock crushers, concrete batching plants and asphalt batching plants may be authorized by this temporary permit. The director shall also have the authority to issue temporary permits for the removal of existing stockpiles of previously mined material for the reclamation of land to its best use, consistent with the underlying zoning.

The department of development and environmental services shall consider the effect of the proposed operation on the county road system and any effect it may have on surface or groundwater drainage and flood control, and shall make such recommendations as are necessary to protect the public interest in this regard.

The department of development and environmental services shall also consider the effect of the proposed operation on the current and future land use in the area affected by the proposed operation and shall condition permits as necessary to protect the public interest in this regard. Temporary permits are good for the life of the contract of the specific job but must be reviewed annually. Each temporary permit site shall be fully restored during the term of the temporary permit, unless the site is subsequently designated with a M zone classification, or included in an unclassified use permit.

Development proposals will be subject to two levels of review standards based
on occupancy types - critical facilities and standard structures. The review standards for
critical facilities will be based on larger earthquake reoccurrence intervals than the
earthquakes considered for standard occupancy structures. The review standards will be
set forth in the administrative rules.)) T. Normal and routine maintenance of trail
easements dedicated in accordance with K.C.C. 21A.14.360 through 21A.14.390.

<u>NEW SECTION. SECTION 4.</u> There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 16.82 a new section to read as follows:

Temporary permits. The director shall have the authority to issue temporary permits for excavations, processing, quarrying and mining, and removal of sand, gravel, rock and other natural deposits, together with the necessary buildings, apparatus or appurtenances incident thereto for specific jobs on application for highway, road, street, airport construction, flood control and other public works projects. In conjunction with such operations, allied uses such as, but not limited to, rock crushers, concrete-batching plants and asphalt-batching plants may be authorized by this temporary permit. The director shall also have the authority to issue temporary permits for the removal of existing stockpiles of previously mined material for the reclamation of land to its best use, consistent with the underlying zoning.

A. The department of development and environmental services shall consider the effect of the proposed operation on the county road system and any effect it may have on surface or groundwater drainage and flood control, and shall make such recommendations as are necessary to protect the public interest in this regard.

242	B. The department of development and environmental services shall also
243	consider the effect of the proposed operation on the current and future land use in the area
244	affected by the proposed operation and shall condition permits as necessary to protect the
245	public interest in this regard. Temporary permits are good for the life of the contract of
246	the specific job but must be reviewed annually. Each temporary permit site shall be fully
247	restored during the term of the temporary permit, unless the site is subsequently
248	designated with an M zone classification, or included in an unclassified use permit.
249	C. Development proposals will be subject to two levels of review standards based
250	on occupancy types, critical facilities and standard structures. The review standards for
251	critical facilities will be based on larger earthquake reoccurrence intervals than the
252	earthquakes considered for standard occupancy structures. The review standards will be
253	set forth in the administrative rules.
254	SECTION 5. Ordinance 9614, Section 103, as amended, and K.C.C. 16.82.150
255	are each hereby amended to read as follows:
256	Clearing standards. A. For clearing and grading permits issued under this
257	chapter, the current clearing standards contained in this section and in the following
258	regulations shall apply:
259	1. The Sensitive Areas Code, K.C.C. chapter 21A.24, and its adopted
260	administrative rules;
261	2. Property-specific development standards pursuant to K.C.C. chapter 21A.38;
262	3. Critical drainage area designations identified by adopted administrative rule;
263	and
264	4 Wildlife habitat corridors pursuant to K.C.C. chapter 21 A 14

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- B. Within sensitive areas designated pursuant to K.C.C. chapter 21A.24, uses shall be limited to those specified in that chapter. Within any other areas subject to clearing restrictions referenced or contained in this section, the following uses are allowed under a clearing permit:
- 1. Timber harvest in accordance with a timber harvest management plan and clearing permit approved by the department of development and environmental services or a successor agency. That department shall promulgate administrative rules specifying the contents of, and the submittal requirements and approval criteria for, timber harvest management plans in consultation with the department of natural resources prior to any permit approvals for timber harvest within these tracts or easements;
- 2. Passive recreation uses and related facilities, including pedestrian, equestrian community and bicycle trails, nature viewing areas, fishing and camping areas, and other similar uses that do not require permanent structures, if either cleared areas or areas of compacted soils, or both, associated with these uses and facilities do not exceed eight percent of the area of the tract or easement. Within wildlife habitat corridors, trail widths shall be the minimum allowed under adopted trail standards and no other recreation uses shall be permitted in the one hundred fifty foot minimum width of the corridor;
- 3. Utilities and utility easements, including surface water facilities, if the uses are within or adjacent to existing road or utility easements whenever possible. Within wildlife habitat corridors, existing or multiple utility uses within established easements shall be allowed within the one hundred fifty foot minimum width of the corridor. Development of new utility corridors shall be allowed within wildlife habitat corridors only when multiple uses of existing easements are not feasible and the utility corridors

288	are sited and developed using county-approved best management practices to minimize
289	disturbance; and
290	4. Removal of either dangerous trees or damaged trees, or both.

- C. For the RA (Rural Area) zoned areas in either the Bear Creek basin, the Issaquah Creek basin, the Soos Creek basin, the May Creek basin, the East Sammamish Community Planning Area or the Bear Creek Community Planning Area:
- 1. Clearing shall be limited to a maximum of thirty-five percent of the lot or plat area or the amount legally cleared prior to the effective date of any clearing regulations in effect at the time of the clearing, whichever is greater, except under conditions specified in a. through ((e)) <u>f</u>. of this subsection C.1:
- a. clearing shall be limited to a maximum of sixty percent of the lot or plat area if the approved permit requires flow control and water quality facilities in accordance with standards set forth in the applicable adopted basin plan and the King County Surface Water Design Manual;
- b. in the Soos Creek basin, clearing shall be limited to a maximum of eighty percent of the lot or plat area, except in designated Regionally Significant Resource Areas where clearing shall be limited to a maximum of sixty-five percent of the lot or plat area. Buffers for all sensitive areas designated under K.C.C. Title 21A and sensitive areas except for submerged lands may be counted towards meeting the requirement. Building permits for single-family residential building on individual lots shall be exempt from the clearing limit in the Soos Creek basin;

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309	c. clearing required for the construction of access, utilities and septic systems
310	to serve any lots ((1.25)) one and one-quarter acres or smaller in size shall not be counted
311	towards the thirty-five percent maximum clearing standard;
312	d. on individual lots smaller than twenty thousand square feet, up to seven
313	thousand square feet may be cleared; ((and))
314	e. clearing standards for Urban Planned Developments and Mineral zoned properties
315	will be determined through their own designated review processes; and
316	f. clearing to provide for the relocation of equestrian community trails.
317	2. For subdivisions and short subdivisions, portions of the plat that are required
318	to remain uncleared shall be retained in one or more open space tracts, with all
319	developable lots sited on the portions of the plat approved to be cleared. Sensitive areas
320	designated under K.C.C. Title 21A shall be recorded separately from tracts mandated by
321	this regulation, but may be counted towards meeting these requirements. Tracts
322	mandated by this regulation may be retained by the subdivider, conveyed to residents of
323	the subdivision, or conveyed to a third party. Open space tracts shall be shown on all
324	property maps and shall be protected by covenants, approved by the county, that restrict
325	their uses to those listed in subsection B of this section. All open space tracts established
326	pursuant to this regulation shall be clearly marked with at least one sign per buildable lot
327	adjoining the tract indicating that the tract is permanent, dedicated open space.
328	3. For individual lots, the clearing limits shall be applied at the time of building
329	permit application unless the lot is within a subdivision that has been approved with other

conditions to meet the standard established in subsection C.2 of this section. In cases

where conditions are applied to the subdivision, individual lots shall be exempt from the

clearing restrictions in subsection C.1 of this section. The uses and restrictions on the	
uncleared portions of individual lots shall be those specified in subsection B of this	
section. Sensitive areas designated under K.C.C. Title 21A may be counted towards	
meeting requirements on individual lots.	

- 4. The subdivision or permitting of building on parcels that are cleared in violation of the regulations in effect at the time of the clearing shall be subject to conditions requiring the restoration of trees and understory vegetation on at least sixty-five percent of the plat or lot, or, where applicable, on the percentage of the site that was to remain uncleared under subsection C.1 of this section. A restoration plan shall be required of permit applicants, and shall be subject to the approval of the department of development and environmental services. That department shall prepare administrative rules regarding the review and approval of restoration plans in consultation with the department of natural resources before approving subdivision or building permits for parcels cleared in violation of applicable clearing regulations. The administrative rules shall also specify when a restoration plan will be deemed sufficient to forego the six-year moratorium on permitting authorized in K.C.C. 16.82.140.
- 5. In the Bear Creek basin, the Bear Creek community planning area and the May Creek basin, the requirements of subsection C.1 through 4 of this section shall be modified or waived by the director for proposed projects that meet the following conditions:
  - a. the project shall consist of one or more of the following uses:
  - (1) government services listed in K.C.C. 21A.08.060,
  - (2) educational services listed in K.C.C. 21A.08.050,

355	(3) parks as listed in K.C.C. 21A.08.040 when located adjacent to an existing
356	or proposed school,
357	(4) libraries listed in K.C.C. 21A.08.040, and
358	(5) road projects;
359	b. the project site shall not be located in a designated regionally significant
360	resource area except for utility corridors that can demonstrate no feasible alternative;
361	c. the project shall clear the minimum necessary to accommodate the proposed
362	use which includes all the allowed ballfields, playfields, other facilities, and spaces
363	proposed by the public agency to carry out its public function; and
364	d. the project shall meet the on-site flow control and water quality standards
365	set forth in the applicable adopted basin plan and the Surface Water Design Manual.
366	The modification or waiver shall not exempt the project from any other code
367	provisions which may apply. The director's decision may be appealed to the zoning and
368	subdivision examiner pursuant to K.C.C. chapter 20.24, but any such an appeal must be
369	consolidated with an appeal, if any, heard by the examiner on the merits of the proposed
370	project.
371	6. In the Issaquah Creek basin, the Soos Creek basin and the East Sammamish
372	Community Planning Area, the following standards shall apply:
373	a. in the regionally significant resource areas, except for utility corridors that
374	can demonstrate no feasible alternative, [subsection] C.1 through 4 of this section apply;
375	and

376	b. in areas outside of the regionally significant resources areas, projects that
377	consist of one or more of the uses identified in subsection C.5a.(1) to (4) of this section
378	shall be exempt from subsection C.1 through 4 of this section.
379	D. Construction projects can be a significant contributor of pollution to streams
380	and wetlands. Therefore, from October 1 through March 31, in the Bear Creek
381	Community Planning Area, the Northshore Community Planning Area, the East
382	Sammamish Community Planning Area and the Soos Creek, Hylebos Creek and May
383	Creek basins:
384	1. Clearing and grading shall only be permitted if shown to the satisfaction of
385	the director that silt-laden runoff exceeding standards in the King County Surface Water
386	Design Manual will be prevented from leaving the construction site through a
387	combination of the following:
388	a. site conditions including vegetative coverage, slope, soil type and proximity
389	to receiving waters;
390	b. limitations on activities and the extent of disturbed areas; and
391	c. proposed erosion and sedimentation control measures.
392	2. The director shall set forth in writing the basis for approval or denial of
393	clearing or grading during this period.
394	3. Clearing and grading will be allowed only if there is installation and
395	maintenance of an erosion and sedimentation control plan approved by the department
396	which shall define any limits on clearing and grading or specific erosion and sediment
397	control measures required during this period. Alternate best management practices may
398	be approved or required on-site by the inspector.

399	4. If, during the course of construction, silt-laden runoff exceeding standards in
400	the King County Surface Water Design Manual leaves the construction site or if clearing
401	and grading limits or erosion and sediment control measures shown in the approved plan
402	are not maintained, a notice of violation shall be issued.
403	5. If the erosion and sediment control problem defined in the violation is not
404	adequately repaired within twenty-four hours of the notice of violation, then a notice and
405	order may be issued by the inspector to install adequate erosion and sediment control
406	measures to stop silt-laden runoff from leaving the site. The notice and order may also
407	require the contractor to discontinue any further clearing or grading, except for erosion
408	and sediment control maintenance and repair, until the following March 31.
409	6. The following activities are exempt from the seasonal clearing and grading
410	requirements of this subsection:
411	a. routine maintenance and necessary repair of erosion and sediment control
412	facilities;
413	b. routine maintenance of public facilities or existing utility structures as
414	provided by K.C.C. 21A.24.050B;
415	c. activities where there is one hundred percent infiltration of surface water
416	runoff within the site in approved and installed erosion and sedimentation control
417	facilities;
418	d. typical landscaping activities of existing single family residences that do no
419	require a permit;
420	e. class I, II III and IV Special forest practices;
421	f. mineral extraction activities on sites with approved permits; and

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g.	public agency response to emergencies that threaten the public health, s	safety
and welfare.		

SECTION 6. Ordinance 10511, Section 7, as amended, and K.C.C. 20.36.100 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

# Criteria for approval - public benefit rating system for open space land <u>-</u> rating system - bonus system - super bonus system.

A. ((Rating system.)) To be eligible for open space classification under the public benefit rating system, property must contain one or more priority open space resources. These resources are ranked as high priority, medium priority and low priority resources and are based on the adopted King County Open Space Plan referenced in K.C.C. 20.12.380. High priority resources receive five points each, medium priority resources receive three points each and low priority resources receive one point each. Property can receive a maximum of thirty points from no more than six open space priority resources. In addition, bonus points and super bonus points may be awarded pursuant to K.C.C. 20.36.100B and ((K.C.C. 20.36.100))C and a property can achieve a maximum of fifty-two points through the rating system and the bonus system. Portions of property may also qualify for open space designation. Complete definitions of each resource, sources and eligibility standards are fully described in the summary report adopted by reference by K.C.C. 20.36.150. The department of natural resources shall have administrative authority to interpret issues relating to the priority resource definitions and eligibility standards outlined in the summary report.

- 1. High priority resources five points each.
- a. Active or passive recreation area.

445	b. Property under option for purchase as park, recreation, open space land or
446	CIP mitigation site.
447	c. Aquifer protection area.
448	d. Shoreline: "Conservancy" environment.
449	e. Scenic resource, viewpoint or view corridor.
450	f. Surface water quality buffer area.
451	g. Open space close to urban or growth area.
452	h. Significant plant, wildlife or salmonid habitat area.
453	i. Significant aquatic ecosystem.
454	j. Historic landmark/archaeological site: designated site.
455	k. Trail linkage.
456	1. Urban or growth area open space.
457	m. Farm and agricultural conservation land.
458	n. Forest stewardship land.
459	o. Equestrian-pedestrian trail linkage.
460	2. Medium priority resources - three points each.
461	a. Public land or right-of-way buffer.
462	b. Special native plant site.
463	c. Natural shoreline environment.
464	d. Geological feature.
465	e. Eligible historic landmark or archaeological site.
466	f. Buffer to designated historic landmark/archaeological site.
467	g. Special animal site.

468	3. Low priority resource - one point.
469	a. Buffer to eligible historic/archaeological site.
470	B. ((Bonus System.)) Property qualifying in the specific high, medium or low
471	priority categories may receive up to twenty-two bonus points if the following additional
472	qualifications are met:
473	1. Resource restoration - five points.
474	2. Bonus surface water quality buffer - three or five points.
475	3. Contiguous parcels under separate ownership - two points.
476	4. Conservation or Historic Preservation Easement in perpetuity - five points.
477	5. Bonus public access points.
478	a. Unlimited public access - five points.
479	b. Limited public access - sensitive area - five points.
480	c. Limited public access - three points.
481	C. ((Super bonus system.)) Property with at least one high priority resource and
482	which allows unlimited public access, or limited public access if due to resource
483	sensitivity, and which conveys a conservation, historic preservation, or trail easement in
484	perpetuity, in a form approved by the county, shall be automatically eligible for current
485	use value at ((10%)) ten percent of market value.
486	NEW SECTION. SECTION 7. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 20.36 a
487	new section to read as follows:
488	Equestrian trail linkage. Equestrian trail linkages and uses are eligible for
489	participation in the public benefit rating system if the land meets the criteria in this
490	section.

A. For the purposes of this section, "equestrian trail linkage" means land either
used as a public or rural off road trail linkage for equestrian, pedestrian or other
nonmotorized uses or providing a link from a public right of way to a trail system, or
both.

B. The owner shall provide a trail easement to an appropriate public or private entity, acceptable to King County as to form. Such an easement must be recorded with the county records and elections division. A person may not use a motorized vehicle on trails receiving tax reductions as an equestrian trail linkage except in the case of medical or police emergencies.

C. To be eligible as equestrian trail linkage, property must be used as a public trail linkage which remains in private ownership. The amount of land used for the trail linkage may be less than minimum size prescribed in any other category. In addition to the area covered by the easement, adjacent pasture land, the land occupied by a barn or stables, and any corral or paddock may be included as well as land necessary to provide a buffer from the trail to other non-equestrian uses or land which contributes to the aesthetics of the trail, such as forest. Land set aside and marked for off road parking for trail users may also be included. Private roads or driveways that are open to the public for this purpose may also qualify, but sidewalks do not qualify under this category. Fencing and gates are not allowed in the trail easement area except those that are parallel to the trail or linkage.

D. Public access is required only on those portions of the property that contain the trail. Time of use restrictions may be imposed and other reasonable restrictions may be permissible.

514	E. Properties enrolling under this category are entitled to a ninety percent
515	reduction as public access will be provided and protected through granting of an
516	easement. The reduction shall apply to all portions of the property qualifying, not just the
517	area described in the easement.
518	SECTION 8. Ordinance 10870, Section 364, as amended, and K.C.C.
519	21A.14.040 are each hereby amended to read as follows:
520	Lot segregations - clustered development. If residential lot clustering is
521	proposed, the following provisions shall be met:
522	A. In the R zones, any designated open space tract resulting from lot clustering
523	shall not be altered or disturbed except as specified on recorded documents creating the
524	open space. Open spaces may be retained under ownership by the subdivider, conveyed
525	to residents of the development, or conveyed to a third party. If access to the open space
526	is provided, the access shall be located in a separate tract;
527	B. In the RA zone:
528	1. No more than eight lots of less than two and one-half acres shall be allowed
529	in a cluster;
530	2. No more than eight lots of less than two and one-half acres shall be served by
531	a single cul-de-sac street;
532	3. Clusters containing two or more lots of less than two and one-half acres,
533	whether in the same or adjacent developments, shall be separated from similar clusters by
534	at least one hundred twenty feet;

535	4. The overall amount, and the individual degree of clustering shall be limited to
536	a level that can be adequately served by rural facilities and services, including, but not
537	limited to, on-site sewage disposal systems and rural roadways;
538	5. A fifty-foot Type II landscaping screen, as defined in K.C.C. 21A.16.040,
539	shall be provided along the frontage of all public roads. The planting materials shall
540	consist of species that are native to the Puget Sound region. Preservation of existing
541	healthy vegetation is encouraged and may be used to augment new plantings to meet the
542	requirements of this section;
543	6. Except as provided in subsection B.7 of this section, open space tracts created
544	by clustering in the RA zone shall be designated as permanent open space. Acceptable
545	uses within open space tracts are passive recreation, with no development of active
546	recreational facilities, ((and)) natural-surface pedestrian and equestrian foot trails and
547	passive recreational facilities; ((and))
548	7. In the RA zone a resource land tract may be created through a cluster
549	development in lieu of an open space tract. The resource land tract may be used as a
550	working forest or farm if the following provisions are met:
551	a. Appropriateness of the tract for forestry or agriculture has been determined
552	by the King County department of natural resources;
553	b. The subdivider shall prepare a forest management plan, which must be
554	reviewed and approved by the King County department of natural resources, or a farm
555	management (conservation) plan, if such is required pursuant to K.C.C. chapter 21A.30,
556	which must be developed by the King Conservation District. The criteria for
557	management of a resource land tract established through a cluster development in the RA

management of a resource land tract established through a cluster development in the RA

zone shall be set forth in a ((P))public ((R))rule. The criteria must assure that forestry or farming will remain as a sustainable use of the resource land tract and that structures supportive of forestry and agriculture may be allowed in the resource land tract. The criteria must also set impervious surface limitations and identify the type of buildings or structures that will be allowed within the resource land tract;

- c. The recorded plat or short plat shall designate the resource land tract as a working forest or farm;
- d. Resource land tracts that are conveyed to residents of the development shall be retained in undivided interest by the residents of the subdivision or short subdivision;
- e. A homeowners association shall be established to assure implementation of the forest management plan or farm management (conservation) plan if the resource land tract is retained in undivided interest by the residents of the subdivision or short subdivision;
- f. The subdivider shall file a notice with the King County records and elections division. The required contents and form of the notice shall be set forth in a ((P))public ((R))rule. The notice shall inform the property owner or owners that the resource land tract is designated as a working forest or farm, which must be managed in accordance with the provisions established in the approved forest management plan or farm management (conservation) plan;
- g. The subdivider shall provide to the department proof of the approval of the forest management plan or farm management (conservation) plan and the filing of the notice required in subsection B.7.f of this section before recording of the final plat or short plat; ((and))

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h. The notice shall run with the land; and

583 <u>p</u>

i. Natural-surface pedestrian and equestrian foot trails, passive recreation, and passive recreational facilities, with no development of active recreational facilities, are allowed uses in resource tracts; and

8. For purposes of this section, passive recreational facilities include trail access points, small-scale parking areas and restroom facilities.

SECTION 9. Ordinance 14045, Section 37, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.14.360 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

#### Rural equestrian community trails – general applicability.

A. The county may accept the voluntary ((dedication)) grant of an easement((s or other form of protection of)) for a rural equestrian community trails consistent with ((the provisions of)) K.C.C. 21A.14.350 through ((K.C.C.)) 21A.14.390 from any development when such development contains any existing historically established rural equestrian community trail, and when located in the RA, A or F zones and within an equestrian community designated by the King County Comprehensive Plan. The residents or tenants of the development shall be provided access to any such trail provided hereunder for use consistent with the function of the trail. The area of any such trail provided hereunder shall be counted as part of the site for purposes of density and floor area calculations ((and any existing trail protected pursuant to this ordinance shall not be subject to the clearing limitations of the grading code so long as it is retained in its current location)). The application of this section shall not reduce the allowed density within a residential subdivision or short subdivision. The county may also accept the voluntary grant of an easement for a rural equestrian community trail consistent with

604	K.C.C. 21A.14.350 through 21A.14.390 when there is no development proposed for the
605	property.
606	B. The rural equestrian community trails provisions apply to ((the following
607	development proposals)) any property ((when)) located in the RA, A or F zones and
508	within an equestrian community designated by the King County Comprehensive Plan((÷
509	1. Residential development including subdivisions and short subdivisions.
510	2. Development proposals for park/recreation, amusement/entertainment and
511	cultural uses denoted in the permitted use table in K.C.C. 21A.08.040.
512	3. Development proposals for general services uses denoted in the permitted use
613	table in K.C.C. 21A.08.050 except those conducted as home occupations or otherwise
614	accessory to residential uses)).
615	NEW SECTION 10. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 21A.14 a new
616	section to read as follows:
617	Rural equestrian community trails – notification. A. The department shall
618	notify every applicant for a plat, short plat, boundary line adjustment, clearing and
619	grading permit, conditional use permit, building permit for new construction or additions
620	to existing structures, or zone reclassification in the RA, A or F zones and within an
621	equestrian community designated by the King County Comprehensive Plan of the
622	opportunity to voluntarily grant an easement for a rural equestrian community trail in
623	accordance with this ordinance.
624	B. The department shall notify the department of natural resources and parks of
625	every application for a plat, short plat, boundary line adjustment, clearing and grading
626	permit conditional use permit building permit for new construction or additions to

627	existing structures, or zone reclassification in the RA, A or F zones and within an
628	equestrian community designated by the King County Comprehensive Plan.
629	SECTION 11. Ordinance 14045, Section 38, and K.C.C. 21A.14.370 are each
630	hereby amended to read as follows:
631	Rural equestrian community trails – authority.
632	((A.)) The county shall accept a voluntary ((dedication,)) grant of easement ((or
633	other form of protection)) for the preservation or relocation of a rural equestrian
634	community trail in the RA, A or F zone within the Equestrian Community area
635	designated in the King County Comprehensive Plan whenever:
636	$\underline{A}$ . $((t))\underline{T}$ he department of natural resources and parks makes a $((project specific))$
637	determination in writing that:
638	1. The equestrian community trail is listed or mapped on an inventory of
639	equestrian community trails maintained by the King County parks and recreation
640	department. The department shall field verify the presence of a trail where an inventory
641	indicates the general location of a trail that has not yet been field verified;
642	2. The equestrian community trail connects to ((trails on other properties or to))
643	a state, county or other ((publicly maintained)) trail open to the public;
644	3. The equestrian community trail, following a site inspection by the department
645	of natural resources and parks, is reasonably fit for use as a rural equestrian community
646	trail;
647	4. If the equestrian community trail traverses or impacts an environmentally
648	sensitive area, it can be modified to meet code requirements for trails in sensitive areas;
649	<u>and</u>

650	((4.)) 5. Permanent protection or relocation of an equestrian community trail can
651	be accomplished without interference with ((the proposed use)) allowed uses and
652	development of the subject property, and the site can be developed without interference
653	with the trail and allows for future owners of the property to access historically existing
654	or public trails in the vicinity of the site.
655	B. ((The form of protection shall address limitations on uses of the trail based on
656	the historically established uses.
657	C. Any determination by the department regarding the acceptance or non-
658	acceptance of dedication or other protection of a rural equestrian community trail under
659	this chapter may be appealed to the hearing examiner consistent with the appeal process
660	for the underlying permit, in accordance with K.C.C. 20.20.020.)) If the trail is proposed
661	to be granted as part of a mitigation package for a development proposal, the department
662	of development and environmental services determines and reports to the department of
663	natural resources that permanent protection or relocation of an equestrian community trail
664	can be accomplished without interference with the proposed use and development of the
665	subject property, and the site can be developed without interference with the trail and in a
666	manner that allows future owners of the property to access historically existing or public
667	trails in the vicinity that are linked to the subject site. The department of development
668	and environmental services shall report its findings in writing.
669	SECTION 12. Ordinance 14045, Section 39, as amended, and K.C.C.
670	21A.14.380 are each hereby amended to read as follows:
671	Rural equestrian community trails – location and design standards. The
672	following design standards apply to rural equestrian community trails provided pursuant

to this chapter located within the RA, A or F zones and within the equestrian community designated by the King County Comprehensive Plan.

A. An on-site rural equestrian community trail should be retained at its existing location unless that location impairs the use of the property as intended by the applicant. A rural equestrian trail being retained in the existing location pursuant to an easement shall not be required to be improved as a condition of accepting the easement. The trail may be relocated to another location within the street right-of-way or to another corridor separate from a street right-of-way, provided that whatever alternative is used preserves the same connections as the original trail to an existing public park or trail in the vicinity of the subject property. The preferred place for a relocated trail is out of the right-of-way or separated from the paved surface and road shoulder by a berm, ditch or other separation. Trails may only be relocated to a street right-of-way when meeting the standards in subsection E of this section. The trail location shall be preserved by appropriate easements or dedications.

B. Corridors for trails located outside a street right-of-way shall be ten feet wide, or six feet wide if the trail will be located along a property line and additional corridor space can reasonably be expected to be preserved on the abutting property and the corridor is not encumbered by any structures adjacent to the corridor.

C. If permitted by K.C.C. chapter 21A.24, an easement protecting an existing or relocated rural equestrian community trail may be located in a designated sensitive area buffer. ((If the rural equestrian community trail is located in a delineated sensitive area tract no separate trail corridor is required provided the trail itself is maintained in a safe condition and kept free of obstructions.))

696	D. Rural equestrian community trails that are not located within street rights-of-
697	way, should be natural, visually and functionally unobtrusive, and as low-impact as
698	possible.
699	E. Relocated or new rural equestrian community trails within public or private
700	road rights-of-way shall be designed consistent with adopted King County Road
701	Standards (KCRS, Section 3.11), as supplemented by the following standards:
702	1. The trail shall be located to provide access to a local equestrian travel
703	corridor through the project site and adjacent properties, as determined by the King
704	County department of transportation in cooperation with the local equestrian community.
705	2. The preferred design is a trail separated from the paved roadway by a berm,
706	ditch, tree cover or other natural obstacle; the center of the trail tread shall be at least
707	eight feet of horizontal distance from the paved roadway edge.
708	3. When a separated trail cannot be provided, a soft-surfaced ninety-six inch-
709	wide roadway shoulder path shall be installed on all roads other than local access streets,
710	where a forty-eight inches shoulder path shall be sufficient.
711	4. All trails shall have an all-weather tread of thirty-six to forty-eight inches.
712	5. The roadway shall include appropriate surface treatment to reduce slippage at
713	roadway/trail crossings.
714	6. Appropriate signs shall be provided to indicate the location of street crossings
715	for trails, with emphasis on arterials and subcollector street.
716	F. Relocated or new rural equestrian community trails not located in a right-of-
717	way shall be designed to the King County Road Standards, KCRS, Section 3.11.A.2.

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SECTION 13. Ordinance 14045, Section 40, and K.C.C. 21A.14.390 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

Rural equestrian community trails – maintenance and operation. A. Once a trail <u>easement</u> has been ((<del>dedicated or otherwise protected as provided by</del>)) granted to the county as provided by this chapter, it shall remain free from structural obstructions or other permanent or temporary obstacles. A rural equestrian community trails shall be open to the public for recreational use by equestrians ((trail users. If a permitted activity such as clearing, grading or construction will block an established trail for more than five consecutive days, a temporary, well-marked detour route shall be provided, if feasible.

- B. When the trail is created by a form of protection other than public dedication or location within public street right of way, trail ownership shall be held by the owner of the property being developed, or in an undivided interest by each owner of a lot within the development, or by an incorporated homeowner's association, or other legal entity which assures the ownership, maintenance and protection of the trail.
- C.)) and pedestrians. Equestrian and pedestrian use does not include use by motor vehicles, bicycles, roller skates, skateboards or other mechanized modes of transportation. However, the department of natural resources and parks may authorize use by motor vehicles in limited circumstances, such as for maintenance, emergencies or trail crossings.
- B. The trail easement shall set forth the ((R))responsibility for trail maintenance ((shall be determined by the department and provided for in the deed, easement or other protection instrument entered into by the property owner. This subsection is not intended to create a responsibility to maintain the trail beyond what is required by this title)).

Trails within dedicated street rights-of-way shall be maintained by the department of
transportation or its successor agency. Trails within easements granted to King County
((or on land that has been transferred in fee simple ownership to King County)) shall be
maintained by the department of <u>natural resources and</u> parks ((and recreation)). ((Any
owner or county agency)) The county may contract with a local user group or parks
district for maintenance of the trail.

((D.)) <u>C.</u> ((If the trail is established by a form of protection other than dedication, the time and manner of use of the trail shall be subject to such conditions as the county and the subject property owner may agree. The tail corridor and the conditions related to it shall be recorded on all documents of title of record for all affected lots.)) <u>Trails</u> established under this section are subject to the rules and enforcement measures for use of facilities for King County parks in K.C.C. chapter 7.12.

D. An easement governing the use and operation of a rural equestrian community trail being granted under this ordinance shall be granted by the property owner to the county. In preparing the easement, the department of natural resources and parks is authorized to negotiate the terms of the easement on matters such as the allowed use of the easement, whether the easement includes indemnification requirements, the maintenance of the easement, the relocation of the easement, and whether the easement is permanent or for a term of years, depending on the value of the property as a rural equestrian community trail. The easement shall be consistent with this ordinance.

<u>NEW SECTION. SECTION 14.</u> There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 21A.14 a new section to read as follows:

763	Rural equestrian community trails - annual report. The executive shall report
764	to the council annually by July 31 on the implementation of the rural equestrian
765	community trail incentives and regulations adopted by this ordinance. The report shall
766	include the following information:
767	A. Miles of community trail and acreage accepted in the equestrian-pedestrian
768	trail linkage category of the public benefit rating system program;
769	B. Status of field verification and mapping of community trails;
770	C. Regulatory issues and proposed amendments;
771	D. Implementation issues;
772	E. Response from equestrian user groups/landowners and citizens;
773	F. Status of agreements with other jurisdictions or private individuals/groups
774	concerning operations and maintenance;
775	G. Map of verified trails and non-verified trails;
776	H. Costs associated with trail maintenance and improvements; and
777	I. Other relevant information pertaining to the incentive and regulatory program.
778	SECTION 15. Ordinance 14045, Section 41, and K.C.C. 21A.14.400 are each
779	hereby repealed.

SECTION 16. Ordinance 14045, Section 42 is hereby repealed.

Ordinance 14259 was introduced on 10/1/01 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/19/01, by the following vote:

Yes: 11 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Miller, Ms. Fimia, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Pelz, Mr. McKenna, Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Nickels, Mr. Pullen, Mr. Gossett and Ms. Hague

No: 2 - Mr. Thomas and Mr. Irons

Excused: 0

LING COUNTY COUNTY WASHING ON

Pete von Reichbauer, Chair

ATTEST:

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 30 day of Willenber 2007

Ron Sims, County Executive

Attachments

A. Equestrian Communities 2000 - Dated February 2001

