



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

August 22, 2007

Ordinance 15887

Proposed No. 2007-0243.2

Sponsors Gossett

1 AN ORDINANCE adopting the revised framework policies
2 for human services, as required by Ordinance 15406; and
3 amending Ordinance 13629, Section 1, as amended, and
4 K.C.C. 2.51.010.

5

6 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

7 **SECTION 1. Findings:**

8 A. Since 1999, King County has conducted several regional policy and planning
9 efforts that have helped to explore and redefine human services priorities and
10 populations.

11 B. Two significant regional efforts, the Juvenile Justice Operational Master Plan
12 and the Adult Justice Operational Master Plan, focused on developing alternatives to
13 detention and incarceration for youth and adults as a means of stabilizing lives and
14 reducing census and costs. These alternatives include programs that create linkages to a
15 variety of human services, including assessment, treatment in jail and upon discharge,
16 housing, employment and job training and other cost-effective prevention and
17 intervention services for individuals and their families.

18 C. In 2005, the council approved the Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness in
19 King County, which prioritizes investments focused on preventing or reducing
20 homelessness, moving people quickly to stable housing, and improving linkages to
21 treatment and other supportive services to create stability and increase self-sufficiency.

22 D. The voters of King County in 2005 approved the veterans and human services
23 levy to create a new funding source for housing and supportive services to help veterans,
24 military personnel and their families, and other individuals and families in need across
25 King County. As a means of providing guidance to the levy implementation, the council
26 approved Ordinance 15406 in April 2006, directing that "the proceeds shall be used
27 primarily to prevent or reduce homelessness and unnecessary involvement in the criminal
28 justice and emergency medical systems for veterans, military personnel and their families
29 and other individuals and families most at risk," and calling for the development of a
30 service improvement plan to describe how these goals would be met. In recognition of
31 the many changes to human services in recent years, Ordinance 15406 also required an
32 update of the original framework policies for human services first approved in 1999, in
33 Ordinance 13629.

34 E. In October 2006, the council approved the service improvement plan, in
35 Ordinance 15632, which identified target populations and investment strategies to serve
36 those most in need throughout the county, with particular focus on enhanced services for
37 veterans, military personnel and their families; ending homelessness through outreach,
38 prevention, permanent supportive housing and employment; increasing access to
39 behavioral health services; and strengthening families at risk. Ordinance 15632 also
40 directed the department of community and human services to develop procurement plans

41 in consultation with other funding agencies and to review those plans with the veterans
42 and regional human services oversight boards before initiating provider selection and
43 contracting processes.

44 F. The 2007 Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 15652, calls upon the county's law
45 and justice agencies to "reduce the costs of secure detention through the use of
46 alternatives to detention, treatment programs, and process improvements" and provides
47 additional funding "to ensure that these programs can grow and the county can continue
48 to reap savings from lower jail population and reduced crime. It also funds adult learning
49 programs that promote life skills and reduce reoffending." The budget ordinance further
50 states that "controlling the costs of the criminal justice system in this and prior years
51 allows the county to sustain support for human services"

52 G. In support of the effort to prevent or reduce emergency medical and criminal
53 justice system involvement and costs, both the criminal justice council and the juvenile
54 justice operational master plan oversight committee moved to support the updated human
55 services framework policies at separate meetings in February 2007.

56 H. In addition to the countywide and unincorporated area services for which it
57 has primary responsibility, King County also has a role in regional human services,
58 working with many partners to help those most in need. King County currently has lead
59 responsibility for several regional human service systems, including mental health,
60 substance abuse and developmental disabilities. The county is a member of countywide
61 partnerships participating in planning for, coordinating and funding other existing
62 regional human service systems, including, but not limited to, aging, domestic violence,
63 sexual assault, youth and family services and information and referral services. Many of

64 the investments called for by the veterans and human services levy, as well as some of
65 the other regional human service plans, will impact each other and will benefit from
66 cooperative efforts to improve services through continued regional partnerships."

67 Renumber the remaining subsections consecutively and correct any internal references
68 accordingly.

69 I. All of the above reference and support service and population priorities
70 consistent with the updated framework policies for human services.

71 J. Section 2 of this ordinance amends K.C.C. 2.51.010.

72 SECTION 2. Ordinance 13629, Section 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.51.010 are
73 each hereby amended to read as follows:

74 A. The ~~((King County F))~~framework ~~((P))~~policies for ~~((H))~~human ~~((S))~~services,
75 dated ~~((August 24, 1999))~~ April 2, 2007, and contained in Attachment A to ~~((Ordinance~~
76 ~~13629, and the Implementation Guidelines for the Framework Policies for Human~~
77 ~~Services, dated August 24, 1999 and contained in Attachment B to Ordinance 13629))~~,
78 this ordinance are adopted to establish priorities and guide the future development of
79 county human service~~((s))~~ programs. These priorities link directly to key policy and
80 practice areas in human services, such as criminal justice system alternatives, ending
81 homelessness, the service improvement plan for the veterans and human services levy
82 and other regional plans and initiatives.

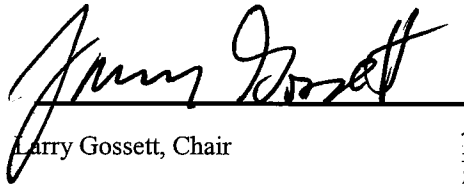
83 B. The department of community and human services shall have lead
84 responsibility for implementing the framework policies for human services ~~((in accord~~
85 ~~with the implementation guidelines))~~. The department shall work in cooperation with
86 ~~((the King County children & family commission and with))~~ other county departments

87 and offices also providing services to the ((same)) priority populations, including, but not
88 limited to, ~~((the departments of))~~ public health, adult and juvenile detention, natural
89 resources and parks, superior court and transportation. The department shall continue to
90 provide opportunities throughout planning processes for participation by other regional
91 funding organizations that also provide services to the county's priority populations, in
92 order to better plan for and coordinate human services across the region.
93


Ordinance 15887 was introduced on 4/9/2007 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 8/20/2007, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Gossett, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Hague and Mr. Constantine
No: 0
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:


Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

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CLERK
KING COUNTY COUNCIL

APPROVED this 30 day of August, 2007.


Ron Sims, County Executive

Attachments A. Framework Policies for Human Services



King County

15887

2007-0243 Attachment A

Framework Policies for Human Services

Purpose

Human services are important social supports that help advance the well-being of King County's residents and communities. The purpose of the Framework Policies for Human Services is to communicate King County government's role in human services, the goals we seek to achieve, and the principles that will underlie our investments. This document supersedes the 1999 Framework Policies for Human Services.

HS-1: King County has a regional role in human services, working with many partners to help those most in need

King County will work as one partner among many to promote healthy families and safe communities. In concert with federal, state, and local governments, service providers, non-profit organizations, foundations, faith communities, businesses, schools, the criminal justice system and others, King County will seek to build and sustain a coordinated regional human services system to provide services, supports, safety and opportunity to those most in need.

In carrying out its role, King County government will:

1. Work with other jurisdictions and organizations to define a regional human services system and strengthen financing, access, and overall effectiveness of services.
2. Collaborate with other funders to assure coordination in how funds are used, and continue to explore improvements to system design, contracting, data collection and analysis.
3. Retain responsibility for the development and implementation of mandated countywide specialty systems for mental health, drug and alcohol abuse and dependency, veterans, public health, and developmental disabilities services.
4. Define its regional role in other human service systems, including aging, domestic violence, sexual assault, and youth and family services.
5. Assess and measure the health and needs of King County's citizens on an ongoing basis and modify strategies to respond to changing needs, outcomes, and new research.
6. Review the effectiveness and appropriateness of this policy framework periodically and revise if needed.

HS-2: King County's priorities for human service investments will be programs and services that help to stabilize and improve people's lives, and prevent or reduce emergency medical and criminal justice system involvement and costs

King County will focus resources and efforts on programs and services that continue to improve individual and community quality of life, counterbalance growth in areas costly to communities

and taxpayers, and preserve the resources necessary to collaborate as a true partner in regional human service systems. The following priority investment areas are consistent with other regional plans and initiatives:

1. Effective intervention and prevention strategies
2. Job readiness and employment to increase self-sufficiency
3. Prevention and elimination of homelessness
4. Services that reduce the growth of emergency medical and criminal justice system involvement and costs

HS-3: King County will apply principles that promote effectiveness, accountability and social justice

King County embraces the following principles in its human service actions and investments:

1. King County will provide information to the community on its human services planning and evaluation activities, funding processes and criteria, and the results of its investments in a transparent and accountable manner.
2. King County will uphold federal, state, and local laws against discrimination; promote culturally competent and relevant service delivery; and work to end disparities in social, health and economic status among people of different racial and ethnic backgrounds.
3. King County will encourage service approaches that promote recovery and support individuals and families to achieve their full potential to live meaningful and productive lives in the community.
4. King County will foster integration of systems of care through increased information sharing across agencies and programs for the purpose of improved service delivery, coordination and outcomes.
5. Together with its partners, King County will assess and respond to changing human service needs and use data, research, innovation, analysis, and evidence-based practices to drive its investments.