



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

July 14, 2008

Ordinance 16205

Proposed No. 2008-0359.1

Sponsors Phillips, Hague and Lambert

1 AN ORDINANCE proposing an amendment to Section
2 230.10 of the King County Charter, Section 270.20 of the
3 King County Charter and Section 270.30 of the King County
4 Charter, to reduce the number of county council members
5 on regional committees, establish a vice chair position on
6 regional committees, authorize the regional policy
7 committee to adopt its own work program and add
8 authority for regional committees to initiate legislation; and
9 submitting the same to the voters of the county for their
10 ratification or rejection at the November 2008 general
11 election.

12
13 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

14 SECTION 1. There shall be submitted to the voters of King County for their
15 approval and ratification or rejection, at the next general election to be held in this county
16 occurring more than forty-five days after the enactment of this ordinance, an amendment
17 to Sections 230.10, 270.20 and 270.30 of the King County Charter as set forth herein:

18 **Section 230.10. Introduction and Adoption.**

19 Proposed ordinances shall be limited to one subject and may be introduced by any
20 councilmember, by initiative petition, by proposal of a regional committee in accordance
21 with Section 270.30 of this charter or by institutional initiative. At least seven days after
22 the introduction of a proposed ordinance, except an emergency ordinance, and prior to its
23 adoption or enactment, the county council shall hold a public hearing after due notice to
24 consider the proposed ordinance. Except as otherwise provided in this charter, a
25 minimum of five affirmative votes shall be required to adopt an ordinance.

26 **Section 270.20. Composition of Regional Committees.**

27 Each regional committee shall consist of ~~((twelve))~~ nine voting members. ~~((Six))~~
28 Three members shall be metropolitan county councilmembers appointed by the chair of
29 the council, and shall include councilmembers from districts with unincorporated
30 residents. Each county councilmember vote shall be weighted as two votes. The
31 remaining six members of each committee except the water quality committee shall be
32 local elected city officials appointed from and in proportion to the relative populations of:
33 (i) the city with the largest population in the county and (ii) the other cities and towns in
34 the county. Committee members from the city with the largest population in the county
35 shall be appointed by the legislative authority of that city. Committee members from the
36 other cities and towns in the county shall be appointed in a manner agreed to by and
37 among those cities and towns representing a majority of the populations of such cities and
38 towns, provided, however, that such cities and towns may appoint two representatives for
39 each allocated committee membership, each with fractional (1/2) voting rights.

40 The special purpose districts providing sewer service in the county shall appoint

41 two members to serve on the water quality committee in a manner agreed to by districts
42 representing a majority of the population within the county served by such districts. The
43 remaining four local government members of the water quality committee shall be
44 appointed in the manner set forth above for other regional committees. The council may
45 by ordinance authorize the appointment to the water quality committee of additional,
46 nonvoting members representing entities outside of the county that receive sewerage
47 treatment services from the county. Allocation of membership of each committee's
48 members who are city and town representatives shall be adjusted January 1 of each even-
49 numbered year beginning in 1996 based upon current census information or, if more
50 recent, official state office of financial management population statistics.

51 In the event any areas are annexed pursuant to powers granted to metropolitan
52 municipal corporations under state law, the populations of any cities and towns in such
53 annexed areas shall be considered as if they were within the county for purposes in this
54 section with regard to regional committee participation on policies and plans which
55 would be effective in such annexed areas.

56 Members representing six and one-half votes constitute a quorum of a regional
57 committee. In the absence of a quorum, the committee may perform all committee
58 functions except for voting on legislation or a work program. Each committee shall have
59 a chair and a vice-chair with authority as specified by ordinance. The chair shall be a
60 county councilmember appointed by the chair of the county council. The vice-chair shall
61 be appointed by majority vote of those committee members who are not county
62 councilmembers, in accordance with voting rights that are apportioned as provided in this
63 section.

64 **270.30. Powers and Duties.**

65 Each regional committee shall develop, propose, review and recommend action
66 on ordinances and motions adopting, repealing, or amending (~~county-wide~~) transit,
67 water quality or other regional countywide policies and plans (~~relating to~~) within the
68 subject matter area (~~for which a regional~~) of the committee (~~has been established~~).
69 The subject matter area of the regional policies committee (~~may, by majority vote,~~
70 ~~request that the county council assign to the committee proposed policies and plans~~
71 ~~concerning other regional issues including but not limited to public health, human~~
72 ~~services, regional services financial policies, criminal justice and jails, and regional~~
73 ~~facilities siting~~) shall consist of those countywide plans and policies included in the
74 committee's work program by a majority of the members present and voting, with no
75 fewer than three and one-half affirmative votes.

76 The(~~metropolitan~~) county council shall (~~assign~~) refer each such proposed
77 ordinance or motion, except those developed and proposed by a regional committee, to a
78 regional committee for review. (~~When a proposed policy or plan is referred to a~~)The
79 regional committee (~~for~~) shall complete review(~~, a time limit for such review shall be~~)
80 and recommend action within one hundred twenty days or such other time as is jointly
81 established by the (~~metropolitan~~) county council and the committee, which shall be
82 confirmed in the form of a motion by the (~~metropolitan~~) county council. If the
83 committee fails to act upon the proposed (~~policy or plan~~) ordinance or motion within
84 the established time limit, the (~~metropolitan~~) county council may adopt the proposed
85 (~~policy or plan~~) ordinance or motion upon six affirmative votes. The committee may
86 request, by motion to the county council, additional time for review.

87 A proposed ~~((policy or plan recommended))~~ ordinance or motion that has been
88 reviewed and recommended or developed and proposed by a regional committee may be
89 adopted, without amendment, by the ~~((metropolitan))~~ county council by five affirmative
90 votes. If the ~~((metropolitan))~~ county council votes prior to final passage thereof to amend
91 a proposed ~~((policy or plan))~~ ordinance or motion that has been reviewed or
92 recommended or proposed by a regional committee, the proposed ~~((policy or plan))~~
93 ordinance or motion, as amended, shall be referred back to the appropriate committee for
94 further review and recommendation. The committee may concur in, dissent from, or
95 recommend additional amendments to the ~~((policy or plan))~~ ordinance or motion. After
96 the regional committee has had the opportunity to review all ~~((metropolitan))~~ county
97 council amendments, final action to adopt any proposed ~~((policy or plan))~~ ordinance or
98 motion that differs from the committee recommendation shall require six affirmative
99 votes of the ~~((metropolitan))~~ county council.

100 Each regional committee may develop and propose directly to the council an
101 ordinance or motion adopting, amending or repealing a countywide policy or plan within
102 the subject matter area of the committee. Such proposals must be approved by a majority
103 of the members present and voting, with no fewer than three and one-half affirmative
104 votes. Within one hundred twenty days of introduction or such other time as is jointly
105 established by the county council and the committee, which shall be confirmed in the
106 form of a motion by the county council, the council shall consider the proposed
107 legislation and take such action thereon as it deems appropriate, as provided by
108 ordinance.

109 The council shall not call a special election to authorize the performance of an

110 additional metropolitan municipal function under state law unless such additional
111 function is recommended by a regional policy committee, notwithstanding the provisions
112 of Section 230.50.10 of this charter. Such recommendation shall require an affirmative
113 vote of at least two-thirds of the membership of each of: (1) metropolitan
114 councilmembers of the committee; (2) members from the city with the largest population
115 in the county; and (3) other city or town members of the committee. Nothing in this
116 section prohibits the metropolitan county council from calling a special election on the
117 authorization of the performance of one or more additional metropolitan functions after
118 receiving a valid resolution adopted by city councils as permitted by RCW
119 35.58.100(1)(a) and RCW 35.58.100(1)(b), or a duly certified petition as permitted by
120 RCW 35.58.100(2).

121 SECTION 2. The clerk of the council shall certify the proposition to the manager
122 of the elections division, in substantially the following form, with such additions,
123 deletions or modifications as may be required by the prosecuting attorney:


124 Shall Sections 230.10, 270.20 and 270.30 of the King County Charter be
125 amended to reduce the number of county council members on regional
126 committees, establish a vice chair position on regional committees,

127 authorize the regional policy committee to adopt its own work program
128 and add authority for regional committees to initiate legislation?
129

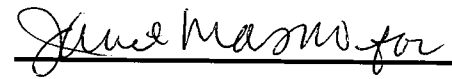
Ordinance 16205 was introduced on 6/30/2008 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/14/2008, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Ms. Patterson, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Constantine, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Gossett, Mr. Phillips and Ms. Hague
No: 0
Excused: 1 - Ms. Lambert


KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Julia Patterson, Chair

ATTEST:


Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 25 day of July, 2008.


Ron Sims, County Executive

Attachments None

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KING COUNTY COUNCIL