



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

### Ordinance 19099

**Proposed No.** 2020-0175.1

**Sponsors** Balducci

1 AN ORDINANCE amending the King County council  
 2 rules in response to an emergency declaration issued by the  
 3 King County executive; amending Ordinance 19088,  
 4 Section 6; and declaring an emergency.

5 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

6 **SECTION 1. Findings:**

7 A. On February 29, 2020, public health - Seattle & King County confirmed the  
 8 first cases of the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19"), including one death, in the county.

9 B. COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death  
 10 and can easily spread from person to person.

11 C. On March 1, 2020, King County executive Dow Constantine signed a  
 12 proclamation of emergency in response to COVID-19, enabling "extraordinary measures"  
 13 to fight the outbreak.

14 D. On March 16, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee issued Proclamation 20-14  
 15 prohibiting gatherings of fewer than fifty people unless organizers comply with social  
 16 distancing and sanitation measures established by the United States Centers for Disease  
 17 Control and Prevention or the Washington State Department of Health guidelines.

18 E. On March 16, 2020, Dr. Jeff Duchin, local health officer for public health -  
 19 Seattle & King County, issued a parallel order for King County prohibiting gatherings of

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20 fewer than fifty people unless social distancing and sanitation measures can be  
21 maintained.

22 F. On March 24, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee issued Proclamation 20-28 regarding  
23 the Open Public Meetings Act and Public Records Act, which prohibited public agencies  
24 subject to chapter 42.30 RCW from conducting any meeting unless the meeting is not  
25 conducted in person and instead provides an option or options for the public to attend the  
26 proceedings through, at minimum, telephonic access, and provides the ability for all  
27 persons attending the meeting to hear each other at the same time.

28 G. The King County council has temporarily suspended most standing and regional  
29 committee meetings, is scheduling meetings only to address routine and necessary matters  
30 and to address matters related to the COVID-19 response and recovery efforts, consistent  
31 with the Updated Open Public Meetings Act General Guidance from the Office of the  
32 Attorney General Regarding the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Event dated March 26,  
33 2020.

34 H. As the duration and impact of the emergency cannot be foreseen, the council  
35 desires to make formal provisions for how to effectively proceed with conducting the  
36 people's business, while complying with the governor's proclamations and local health  
37 officer's orders.

38 SECTION 2. Ordinance 19088, Section 6, is hereby amended to read as follows:  
39 Ordinance 19088, Sections 3 and 4 (~~and 5 of this ordinance~~) expire June 11,  
40 2020.

41 SECTION 3. The council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency exists  
42 and that the enactment of this ordinance as an emergency ordinance is necessary for the

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- 43 immediate preservation of public peace, health or safety or for the support of county
- 44 government and its existing public institutions.
- 45

Ordinance 19099 was introduced on 4/28/2020 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 4/28/2020, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Ms. Balducci, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Kohl-Welles, Ms. Lambert, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Upthegrove, Mr. von Reichbauer and Mr. Zahilay

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:  
*Claudia Balducci*  
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Claudia Balducci, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:  
*Melani Pedroza*  
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Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** None