KING COUNTY

Signature Report

Ordinance 19115

Proposed No. 2020-0199.1   **Sponsors** Kohl-Welles and Balducci

1   AN ORDINANCE ratifying the executive emergency

2   budget crisis proclamation.

3   BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

4   SECTION 1. **Findings:**

5   A. On February 29, 2020, the Governor of Washington state declared a state of

6   emergency in all counties in Washington state and directed that the plans and procedures

7   of the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan be implemented

8   as a result of coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19") outbreak and confirmation of

9   person-to-person spread in Washington state.

10   B. COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that is classified by the World Health

11 Organization as a pandemic that spreads easily from person to person and may result in

12 serious illness or death.

13   C. On March 1, 2020, the executive issued a proclamation of emergency enabling

14 extraordinary measures to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak. On March 3, 2020, the

15 council passed Motion 15610, affirming the proclamation of emergency.

16   D. As a result of the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19, its significant

17 progression in Washington state and the high risk it poses to our most-vulnerable

18 populations, on March 23, 2020, the Governor issued a "Stay Home - Stay Healthy" order

19 prohibiting, with limited exceptions, all people in Washington state from leaving their

20   homes or participating in social, spiritual and recreational gatherings of any kind

21   regardless of the number of participants, and required all nonessential businesses in

22   Washington state to cease operations except for performing basic minimal operations. In

23   describing COVID-19's impact on public health and the economy, the order noted the

24   pandemic's progression in Washington state that continues to threaten the economy and

25   remains a public disaster affecting life, health, property or the public peace. The order

26   has been extended twice, currently set to expire May 31, 2020.

27   E. The Stay Home - Stay Healthy order and the related public safety preventative

28   measures, including social distancing are causing devastating economic effects in

29   Washington and across the nation.

30   F. The county is experiencing extraordinary and unprecedented economic

31   conditions and severe fiscal challenges across all county funds, which is resulting in a

32   significant shortfall in the amount of funding needed to sustain the current level of

33   general operations through 2020.

34   G. The countywide March taxable sales collections in March 2020 were twenty-

35   four percent less than March 2019.

36   H. With reduced revenues forecasted for the remainder of 2020 and thereafter,

37   the county is working hard to find innovative ways to gain efficiencies in all county

38   functions in order to minimize service reductions to the public.

39   I. The current circumstance is such that projected county revenues are forecasted

40   and determined to be insufficient to fully fund county agency operations and significant

41   costs savings must be achieved through reductions in service and pay.

42   SECTION 2. The executive has proclaimed that an emergency budget crisis

43   exists for the remainder of the 2019-2020 budget biennium. The council hereby ratifies

44   the executive's proclamation.

45

Ordinance 19115 was introduced on 6/9/2020 and passed by the Metropolitan King
County Council on 6/23/2020, by the following vote:

> Yes: 8 - Ms. Balducci, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Kohl-Welles,
> Mr. McDermott, Mr. Upthegrove, Mr. von Reichbauer and Mr.
> Zahilay
> No: 1 - Ms. Lambert

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

DocuSigned by:

Dow Constantine

APPROVED this __8__ day of __July_____ 2020____.

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Dow Constantine

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Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None