



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance 19884

Proposed No. 2024-0402.2

Sponsors Zahilay and von Reichbauer

1 AN ORDINANCE providing for the submission to the
2 qualified electors of King County at a special election to be
3 held in King County on April 22, 2025, of a proposition to
4 reauthorize an expired regular property tax levy in excess
5 of the levy limitation contained in chapter 84.55 RCW, for
6 a consecutive seven year period beginning in 2026 at the
7 rate of not more than \$0.0275 per one thousand dollars of
8 assessed valuation, with the 2026 levy amount being the
9 base for computing maximum allowable levy amounts
10 under chapter 84.55 RCW for years two through seven
11 (2027–2032), for the purpose of funding the continued
12 operation of the regional automated fingerprint
13 identification system, also known as AFIS, which
14 maintains expanded crime scene and arrest identification
15 technology and services for all local criminal justice
16 agencies in King County.

17 **STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

18 1. To expand and enhance upon the limited identification services
19 provided by individual city and county law enforcement agencies or at the
20 state level, in 1986 the voters of King County approved funding for the

Ordinance 19884

21 purchase of a shared regional automated fingerprint identification system
22 ("AFIS") computer, which matches unknown fingerprints to known
23 fingerprints. King County's AFIS database holds over two million
24 fingerprint records, over one million palmprint records, and approximately
25 sixty-three thousand crime scene prints from unsolved cases. The King
26 County AFIS is a regional system with program services available to
27 every city and unincorporated area in King County.

28 2. The AFIS computer is used for two primary purposes:

29 a. To quickly identify arrested individuals, and prevent the wrongful
30 release of those who use false names to evade arrest warrants or hide
31 criminal records; and

32 b. To search fingerprints and palmprints collected from crime scenes to
33 identify unknown suspects and aid in convictions.

34 3. The county first purchased the shared AFIS computer after the voters
35 of King County approved a property tax levy for that purpose in
36 November 1986. The ballot measure was authorized by Ordinance 7747.

37 Since 1986, the voters of King County have continued to endorse the
38 service by approving renewal property tax levies ranging from \$0.0200 to
39 \$0.0665 per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation as needed to
40 support, expand, and enhance AFIS services. The levy history for the
41 AFIS program is:

42 a. Five-year renewal levy approved in November 1990. The ballot
43 measure was authorized by Ordinance 9603;

Ordinance 19884

- 44 b. Five-year renewal levy approved in November 1995. The ballot
45 measure was authorized by Ordinance 11948;
- 46 c. Five-year renewal levy approved in September 2000. The ballot
47 measure was authorized by Ordinance 13894. Funding sustained AFIS
48 program operations through 2006 without a concurrent property tax levy;
- 49 d. Six-year reauthorization levy approved in September 2006. The
50 ballot measure was authorized by Ordinance 15537. Below budget
51 program spending allowed the county to reduce levy rates in 2011 and
52 2012;
- 53 e. Six-year renewal levy approved in November 2012. The ballot
54 measure was authorized by Ordinance 17381; and
- 55 f. Six-year renewal levy approved in August 2018. The ballot measure
56 was authorized by Ordinance 18674. Through conservative spending, the
57 county accumulated a fund balance, which will sustain AFIS program
58 operations through 2025 without a concurrent property tax levy.
- 59 4. The AFIS computer was first installed in 1988. That initial system was
60 updated in 1999, and then replaced with a new system in 2011. The new
61 system introduced palmprint searching for the first time in King County.
62 The system was upgraded in 2018 to a cloud-based system which is
63 continually updated to ensure the county is using the latest fingerprint
64 matching technology.
- 65 5. The 2018 AFIS levy, which was adopted at a rate of \$0.03501 per one
66 thousand dollars of assessed valuation, expired on December 31, 2024.

Ordinance 19884

67 Through prudent fiscal management, a balance has accumulated in the
68 AFIS fund over the past six years. The balance will be used to sustain
69 appropriations in 2025 and continue AFIS program operations without a
70 concurrent property tax levy. This ordinance proposes a renewed AFIS
71 levy at a rate of \$0.0275 per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation
72 with collections beginning in 2026. Without renewed revenue, fund
73 balances will be depleted after 2025 and funding for the program will end.

74 6. Large cities and metropolitan areas around the country have realized
75 great benefit from having their own AFIS technology and supporting staff,
76 but it is often not affordable for local independent police agencies. King
77 County is the only county in the state of Washington with its own AFIS
78 computer, and it is the only Washington county with a shared, regional
79 model that provides services to all local law enforcement agencies. By
80 centralizing services, technology, and resources, the regional approach
81 supports crime-solving at a lower overall cost, through economy of scale.
82 Other benefits of a regional approach include a larger, higher quality
83 database that results in more identifications, and more information sharing
84 between agencies.

85 7. In 2023, the AFIS program searched almost fifty-one thousand
86 electronically submitted fingerprint records and identified over two
87 hundred individuals who had given false names when arrested. The
88 program responded to over three thousand requests for crime scene
89 assistance, processed over fifteen thousand pieces of evidence and

Ordinance 19884

90 identified well over five thousand crime scene prints. The AFIS computer
91 was also used to search almost six thousand fingerprint records submitted
92 by officers in the field using mobile identification devices.

93 8. King County criminal justice agencies consider the AFIS program to be
94 essential to law enforcement, and the AFIS program has been recognized
95 for its exceptional standards and service. The program's regional model
96 has provided effective crime-solving support to all criminal justice
97 agencies in King County since its inception in 1988. The current AFIS
98 program provides for many shared services, including:

99 a. The purchase, maintenance, and staff operation of the AFIS computer
100 which stores, searches and provides potential matches for fingerprints and
101 palmprints;

102 b. The purchase, maintenance, training and support for fifty-five
103 Livescans, which are fingerprinting devices installed throughout King
104 County for the purpose of collecting high-quality prints from arrestees and
105 applicants and transmitting them electronically for a faster and more
106 efficient comparison and response;

107 c. The purchase, maintenance, training and support for three-hundred
108 handheld mobile identification devices, which enable officers to quickly
109 search fingerprints in the field, aiding the officers in determining whether
110 to detain or release an unknown subject;

Ordinance 19884

111 d. The recording of high-quality fingerprints in county jail facilities, and
112 fingerprint examiners available twenty-four hours a day and seven days a
113 week, for the quick identification of arrested individuals;

114 e. Examiners and technicians who collect prints from crime scenes,
115 process items of evidence chemically, preserve those prints
116 photographically, and search them in AFIS to identify unknown potential
117 suspects or store the unidentified prints for continual search as new
118 records are added to the system; and

119 f. Training on fingerprint collection and crime scene processing, and
120 customer support for all law enforcement agencies.

121 9. During the last six years, the AFIS program has maintained effective
122 operations, achieved efficiencies to reduce staffing, updated the AFIS
123 computer, replaced end-of-life MobileID devices, and replaced the
124 outdated and undersized processing laboratory and AFIS offices.

125 10. The AFIS program has developed a seven-year budget overview with
126 associated revenue projections for 2026-2032. The proposed levy would
127 maintain current services with a first-year levy rate that is lower than the
128 first-year levy rate approved by voters in 2018.

129 11. The AFIS program produces publicly available annual reports that
130 provide status updates on program initiatives and accomplishments. The
131 success of the regional AFIS program has been a result of regular
132 collaboration with law enforcement agencies across King County.

133 12. The proposed levy will be authorized for seven years.

Ordinance 19884

134 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

135 SECTION 1. Definitions. The definitions in this section apply throughout this
136 ordinance unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

137 A. "AFIS" means automated fingerprint identification system.

138 B. "AFIS computer" means the automated fingerprint identification system,
139 which is the computer system that utilizes AFIS as its foundation, and through modular
140 design incorporates other databases of criminal identification records, and related
141 equipment, technology, networks and interfaces employed by trained staff for capturing,
142 storing and comparing criminal identification records based on friction ridge analysis, or
143 successor technology.

144 C. "AFIS program" means the acquisition, implementation, maintenance and
145 operation of the regional AFIS computer. "AFIS program" also means the countywide
146 effort of trained personnel who, through fingerprints, palmprints and other identification
147 methods: identify detained persons; identify suspects of crimes from fingerprints and
148 palmprints left on evidence at crime scenes and other locations; assist in the conviction of
149 criminals through these identifications; train law enforcement on crime scene evidence
150 collection and identification methods; support accurate and complete criminal history
151 records; conduct field research aimed at improving and enhancing program services; and
152 otherwise enhance public safety as consistent with this ordinance and permitted by law.

153 D. "Levy" means the levy of regular property taxes, for the specific purpose and
154 term provided in this ordinance and authorized by the electorate in accordance with state
155 law.

Ordinance 19884

156 E. "Levy proceeds" means the principal amount of moneys raised by the levy,
157 any interest earnings on the moneys, and the proceeds of any interim financing following
158 authorization of the levy.

159 **SECTION 2. Levy submittal to voters.** To provide necessary moneys for the
160 AFIS program, the King County council shall submit to the qualified electors of the
161 county a proposition to reauthorize an expired regular property tax levy in excess of the
162 levy limitation contained in chapter 84.55 RCW for seven consecutive years, with
163 collections beginning in 2026, at a rate not to exceed \$0.0275 per one thousand dollars of
164 assessed value in the first year of the levy period. The dollar amount of the levy in the
165 first year shall be the base upon which the maximum allowable levy amounts in years
166 two through seven (2027-2032) shall be calculated using the limit factor in chapter 84.55
167 RCW, as amended.

168 **SECTION 3. Deposit of levy proceeds.** All levy proceeds collected as
169 authorized in this ordinance shall be deposited into a subfund in the automated fingerprint
170 identification system fund and used only for the eligible expenditures described in section
171 4 of this ordinance.

172 **SECTION 4. Eligible expenditures.** If approved by the qualified electors of the
173 county, all proceeds of the levy authorized in this ordinance shall be used to pay the costs
174 of the AFIS program, together with the necessary software and hardware operations and
175 maintenance expenses and such sums as are necessary to provide for the costs incurred by
176 the county that are attributable to AFIS levy elections. Eligible expenditures include the
177 salaries, benefits, training, office and laboratory supplies and equipment, workspace,
178 contracted goods and services, related studies and research, administration, and other

Ordinance 19884

179 costs incidental to the operation and enhancement of the regional AFIS program.

180 Workspace expenditures may include the lease, rental, or purchase of land or building

181 space to house AFIS program technology, staff, or laboratory functions.

182 Eligible expenditures shall also include nonbonded debt and finance costs and the

183 reimbursement of extraordinary expenditures incurred by the county after the effective

184 date of this ordinance with regard to the AFIS program. The AFIS levy is intended as

185 supplemental funding to maintain the current expanded crime scene and arrest

186 identification technology and services on a shared regional basis, which lowers the cost

187 of technology and staff through economy of scale and makes the benefit accessible to all

188 agencies. The levy shall not at any time provide general criminal justice funding or fund

189 programs or purposes not otherwise consistent with this ordinance.

190 **SECTION 5. Call for special election.** In accordance with RCW 29A.04.321,

191 the King County council hereby calls for a special election to be held on April 22, 2025.

192 The King County director of elections shall cause notice to be given of this ordinance in

193 accordance with the state constitution and general law and to submit to the qualified

194 electors of the county, at the said special county election, the proposition hereinafter set

195 forth. The clerk of the council shall certify that proposition to the King County director

196 of elections in substantially the following form, with such modifications as may be

197 required by the prosecuting attorney:

198 King County

199 Proposition No. 1

200 Regional Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) Levy

201 The King County council has passed Ordinance ____ concerning this

Ordinance 19884

202 proposition for the regional automated fingerprint identification system
203 (AFIS) levy. This proposition would fund the continued operation of the
204 AFIS program to provide enhanced forensic fingerprint and palmprint
205 technology and services to aid in the administration of justice. It would
206 authorize an additional property tax for seven years beginning in 2026 at
207 \$0.0275 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, use the 2026 levy amount to
208 compute limitations under Chapter 84.55 RCW for subsequent levies in
209 2027-2032, and exempt eligible seniors, veterans, and disabled persons
210 under RCW 84.36.381. Should this proposition be:

211 Approved []

212 Rejected []

213 **SECTION 6. AFIS advisory committee extension.** If the levy is approved by
214 the voters in accordance with section 5 of this ordinance, the AFIS advisory committee
215 previously authorized by the voters shall be retained to review AFIS operations and
216 expenditures and make recommendations concerning the AFIS program.

217 **SECTION 7. Ratification.** Certification of the proposition by the clerk of the
218 King County council to the director of elections in accordance with law before the
219 election on April 22, 2025, and any other act consistent with the authority and before the
220 effective date of this ordinance are hereby ratified and confirmed.

221 **SECTION 8. Severability.** If any provision of this ordinance or its application to

Ordinance 19884

- 222 any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the
223 application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Ordinance 19884 was introduced on 12/10/2024 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 1/21/2025, by the following vote:

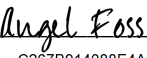
Yes: 8 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Mosqueda, Perry, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Signed by:

1AEA3C5077F8485...
Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

C267B914088E4A0...
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this _____ day of 1/27/2025, _____.

Signed by:

4FBCAB8196AE4C6...
Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None

Certificate Of Completion

Envelope Id: 67A8B2D1-0D33-4A5E-9AE6-AC4EA72227FA
 Subject: Complete with Docusign: Ordinance 19884.docx
 Source Envelope:
 Document Pages: 11
 Certificate Pages: 5
 AutoNav: Enabled
 Envelopeld Stamping: Enabled
 Time Zone: (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

Status: Completed
 Envelope Originator:
 Cherie Camp
 401 5TH AVE
 SEATTLE, WA 98104
 Cherie.Camp@kingcounty.gov
 IP Address: 198.49.222.20

Record Tracking

| | | |
|--|---|--------------------|
| Status: Original 1/22/2025 3:32:19 PM | Holder: Cherie Camp Cherie.Camp@kingcounty.gov | Location: DocuSign |
| Security Appliance Status: Connected | Pool: FedRamp | |
| Storage Appliance Status: Connected | Pool: King County-Council | Location: DocuSign |

Signer Events

Girmay Zahilay
 girmay.zahilay@kingcounty.gov
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
 (None)

Signature

Signed by:

 1AEA3C5077F8485...
 Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style
 Using IP Address: 71.227.166.164

Timestamp

Sent: 1/22/2025 3:36:25 PM
 Viewed: 1/22/2025 3:57:55 PM
 Signed: 1/22/2025 3:58:09 PM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Accepted: 1/22/2025 3:57:55 PM
 ID: e22d2c25-0c30-4063-8bc9-c54393983749

Angel Foss
 Angel.Foss@kingcounty.gov
 Deputy Clerk of the Council
 King County Council
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
 (None)

DocuSigned by:

 C267B914088E4A0...
 Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style
 Using IP Address: 198.49.222.20

Sent: 1/22/2025 3:58:10 PM
 Viewed: 1/22/2025 4:47:01 PM
 Signed: 1/22/2025 4:47:10 PM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Accepted: 9/30/2022 11:28:30 AM
 ID: 020c9a0a-c529-4443-8490-bad8ecc7fb95

Dow Constantine
 Dow.Constantine@kingcounty.gov
 King County Executive
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
 (None)

Signed by:

 4FBCAB8196AE4C6...
 Signature Adoption: Uploaded Signature Image
 Using IP Address: 198.49.222.20

Sent: 1/22/2025 4:47:11 PM
 Viewed: 1/27/2025 12:30:06 PM
 Signed: 1/27/2025 12:30:38 PM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Accepted: 1/27/2025 12:30:06 PM
 ID: 8e467fa5-e5fe-4b84-ab68-f2ccbdaedaad

| In Person Signer Events | Signature | Timestamp |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Editor Delivery Events | Status | Timestamp |
| Agent Delivery Events | Status | Timestamp |
| Intermediary Delivery Events | Status | Timestamp |

| Certified Delivery Events | Status | Timestamp |
|---------------------------|--------|-----------|
|---------------------------|--------|-----------|

| Carbon Copy Events | Status | Timestamp |
|--------------------|--------|-----------|
|--------------------|--------|-----------|

| | | |
|--|---------------|--|
| Ames Kessler akessler@kingcounty.gov Executive Legislative Coordinator & Public Records Officer King County Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None) Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure: Not Offered via DocuSign | COPIED | Sent: 1/22/2025 4:47:11 PM Viewed: 1/23/2025 1:32:40 PM |
|--|---------------|--|

| Witness Events | Signature | Timestamp |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
|----------------|-----------|-----------|

| Notary Events | Signature | Timestamp |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|
|---------------|-----------|-----------|

| Envelope Summary Events | Status | Timestamps |
|-------------------------|--------|------------|
|-------------------------|--------|------------|

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Envelope Sent | Hashed/Encrypted | 1/22/2025 3:36:25 PM |
| Certified Delivered | Security Checked | 1/27/2025 12:30:06 PM |
| Signing Complete | Security Checked | 1/27/2025 12:30:38 PM |
| Completed | Security Checked | 1/27/2025 12:30:38 PM |

| Payment Events | Status | Timestamps |
|----------------|--------|------------|
|----------------|--------|------------|

| Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure |
|--|
|--|

ELECTRONIC RECORD AND SIGNATURE DISCLOSURE

From time to time, King County-Department of 02 (we, us or Company) may be required by law to provide to you certain written notices or disclosures. Described below are the terms and conditions for providing to you such notices and disclosures electronically through the DocuSign system. Please read the information below carefully and thoroughly, and if you can access this information electronically to your satisfaction and agree to this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure (ERSD), please confirm your agreement by selecting the check-box next to 'I agree to use electronic records and signatures' before clicking 'CONTINUE' within the DocuSign system.

Getting paper copies

At any time, you may request from us a paper copy of any record provided or made available electronically to you by us. You will have the ability to download and print documents we send to you through the DocuSign system during and immediately after the signing session and, if you elect to create a DocuSign account, you may access the documents for a limited period of time (usually 30 days) after such documents are first sent to you. After such time, if you wish for us to send you paper copies of any such documents from our office to you, you will be charged a \$0.00 per-page fee. You may request delivery of such paper copies from us by following the procedure described below.

Withdrawing your consent

If you decide to receive notices and disclosures from us electronically, you may at any time change your mind and tell us that thereafter you want to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format. How you must inform us of your decision to receive future notices and disclosure in paper format and withdraw your consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically is described below.

Consequences of changing your mind

If you elect to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format, it will slow the speed at which we can complete certain steps in transactions with you and delivering services to you because we will need first to send the required notices or disclosures to you in paper format, and then wait until we receive back from you your acknowledgment of your receipt of such paper notices or disclosures. Further, you will no longer be able to use the DocuSign system to receive required notices and consents electronically from us or to sign electronically documents from us.

All notices and disclosures will be sent to you electronically

Unless you tell us otherwise in accordance with the procedures described herein, we will provide electronically to you through the DocuSign system all required notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you during the course of our relationship with you. To reduce the chance of you inadvertently not receiving any notice or disclosure, we prefer to provide all of the required notices and disclosures to you by the same method and to the same address that you have given us. Thus, you can receive all the disclosures and notices electronically or in paper format through the paper mail delivery system. If you do not agree with this process, please let us know as described below. Please also see the paragraph immediately above that describes the consequences of your electing not to receive delivery of the notices and disclosures electronically from us.

How to contact King County-Department of 02:

You may contact us to let us know of your changes as to how we may contact you electronically, to request paper copies of certain information from us, and to withdraw your prior consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically as follows:

To contact us by email send messages to: cipriano.dacanay@kingcounty.gov

To advise King County-Department of 02 of your new email address

To let us know of a change in your email address where we should send notices and disclosures electronically to you, you must send an email message to us at cipriano.dacanay@kingcounty.gov and in the body of such request you must state: your previous email address, your new email address. We do not require any other information from you to change your email address.

If you created a DocuSign account, you may update it with your new email address through your account preferences.

To request paper copies from King County-Department of 02

To request delivery from us of paper copies of the notices and disclosures previously provided by us to you electronically, you must send us an email to cipriano.dacanay@kingcounty.gov and in the body of such request you must state your email address, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We will bill you for any fees at that time, if any.

To withdraw your consent with King County-Department of 02

To inform us that you no longer wish to receive future notices and disclosures in electronic format you may:

- i. decline to sign a document from within your signing session, and on the subsequent page, select the check-box indicating you wish to withdraw your consent, or you may;
- ii. send us an email to cipriano.dacanay@kingcounty.gov and in the body of such request you must state your email, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We do not need any other information from you to withdraw consent.. The consequences of your withdrawing consent for online documents will be that transactions may take a longer time to process..

Required hardware and software

The minimum system requirements for using the DocuSign system may change over time. The current system requirements are found here: <https://support.docusign.com/guides/signer-guide-signing-system-requirements>.

Acknowledging your access and consent to receive and sign documents electronically

To confirm to us that you can access this information electronically, which will be similar to other electronic notices and disclosures that we will provide to you, please confirm that you have read this ERSD, and (i) that you are able to print on paper or electronically save this ERSD for your future reference and access; or (ii) that you are able to email this ERSD to an email address where you will be able to print on paper or save it for your future reference and access. Further, if you consent to receiving notices and disclosures exclusively in electronic format as described herein, then select the check-box next to ‘I agree to use electronic records and signatures’ before clicking ‘CONTINUE’ within the DocuSign system.

By selecting the check-box next to ‘I agree to use electronic records and signatures’, you confirm that:

- You can access and read this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure; and
- You can print on paper this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure, or save or send this Electronic Record and Disclosure to a location where you can print it, for future reference and access; and
- Until or unless you notify King County-Department of 02 as described above, you consent to receive exclusively through electronic means all notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you by King County-Department of 02 during the course of your relationship with King County-Department of 02.