



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance 19958

Proposed No. 2025-0169.1

Sponsors Zahilay and Dembowski

1 AN ORDINANCE imposing an additional sales and use tax
2 of one-tenth of one percent, as authorized in Section 201,
3 Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025 for criminal justice
4 purposes; providing for the use of the sales and use tax
5 proceeds for eligible expenditures; and adding a new
6 section to K.C.C. chapter 4A.500.

7 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

8 **SECTION 1. Findings:**

9 A. An adequately funded public safety system is necessary to maintain safe and
10 livable communities.

11 B. Under Washington state law, counties provide many regional and local
12 services advancing community health and public safety through the criminal justice
13 system.

14 C. The projected budget deficit within the county's current expense fund
15 threatens the county's ability to provide these services.

16 D. The county's current expense fund currently anticipates reductions of up to
17 one hundred and fifty million dollars in the 2026-2027 biennium, with further reductions
18 in future biennial budgets, absent new revenues.

19 E. Through Section 201, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025, the
20 Washington state legislature has allowed a qualified city or county to authorize, by

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resolution or ordinance, a new sales and use tax of one-tenth of a percent for criminal justice purposes.

F. Under Section 201, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025, the ordinance authorizing the sales and use tax must include a finding that the county has met the requirements to receive a grant from the Local Law Enforcement Grant Program created through Section 101, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025.

G. The county, through its law enforcement agency, the King County sheriff's office, meets the requirements to receive a grant from the Local Law Enforcement Grant Program created through Section 101, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025, having:

1. Issued and implemented policies and practices consistent with RCW 43.17.425 and 10.93.160, and the office of the attorney general's keep Washington working act guide, model policies, and training recommendations for state and local law enforcement agencies;

2. Participated in commission training as required by RCW 43.101.455 and 36.28A.445;

3. Issued and implemented policies and practices regarding use of force and de-escalation tactics consistent with RCW 10.120.030 and the office of the attorney general's model policies, and all other commission and attorney general model policies regarding use of force for law enforcement including, but not limited to, duty to intervene and training and use of canine teams;

4. Implemented use of force data collection and reporting consistent with chapters 10.118 and 10.120 RCW when the program is operational, as confirmed by a notice from the attorney general's office to all police chiefs and sheriffs;

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- 44 5. Issued and implemented policies and practices consistent with chapters 7.105
45 and 9.41 RCW and the commission model policies and training addressing firearm
46 relinquishment pursuant to court orders;
- 47 6. A twenty-five percent officer completion rate with the commission's forty-
48 hour crisis intervention team training;
- 49 7. One hundred percent officer compliance rate for those officers required to
50 complete trauma-informed, gender-based violence interviewing, investigation, response,
51 and case review training developed or approved by the commission pursuant to RCW
52 43.101.272 and 43.101.276, and if requested by the commission, participated in agency
53 case reviews;
- 54 8. Received funding from a sales and use tax authorized pursuant to RCW
55 82.14.340;
- 56 9. A sheriff who is certified by the criminal justice training commission, and
57 who has not been convicted of a felony anywhere in the United States or under foreign
58 law, or been convicted of a gross misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, dishonesty,
59 fraud, or corruption; and
- 60 10. Issued and implemented policies and practices that prohibit volunteers who
61 assist with agency work from enforcing criminal laws, other than for assistance with
62 special event traffic and parking, including engaging in pursuits, detention, arrests, the
63 use of force, or the use of deadly force, carrying or the use of firearms or other weapons,
64 or the use of dogs to track people or animals other than for purposes of search and rescue;
65 and that set forth the required supervision of volunteers, including that they must be

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clearly identifiable by the public as distinguishable from peace officers and any identifying insignia must be officially issued by the agency and used only when on duty.

H. The county, through its law enforcement agency, the King County sheriff's office, has provided the criminal justice training commission with a detailed staffing plan specifying:

1. The total number of commissioned officers currently employed by the agency;
2. The total number of specially commissioned officers currently employed by the agency;
3. The total number of co-response teams established within the county and what staffing are included in each co-response team;
4. The total number of administrative staff currently employed by the agency;
5. The number of officers on flexible work schedules;
6. The average 911 response rate of the county over the twelve-month period immediately preceding the month in which the county is submitting documentation to the criminal justice training commission; and
7. The average case closure rate of the county over the twelve-month period immediately preceding the month in which the county is submitting documentation to the criminal justice training commission.

NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 4A.500 a new section to read as follows:

A. To provide funding for criminal justice purposes as authorized by Section 201, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025, an additional one-tenth of one percent sales and

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89 use tax is hereby levied, fixed, and imposed on all taxable events within the county as
90 defined in chapter 82.08, 82.12, or 82.14 RCW beginning on January 1, 2026, except as
91 provided in subsection B. of this section. The tax shall be imposed upon and collected
92 from those persons from whom sales tax or use tax is collected in accordance with
93 chapter 82.08 or 82.12 RCW, and shall be collected at the rate of one-tenth of one percent
94 of the selling price, in the case of a sales tax, or value of the article used, in the case of a
95 use tax. The additional sales and use tax shall be in addition to all other existing sales and
96 use taxes currently imposed by the county.

97 B. The tax imposed in subsection A of this section shall not apply to sales of
98 lodging to the extent that the total sales tax rate imposed on such sales of lodging would
99 exceed the greater of:

- 100 1. Twelve percent; or
101 2. The total sales tax rate that would have applied to the sale of lodging if the
102 sale were made on December 1, 2000, to the extent required by RCW 82.14.410.

103 C. For the purposes of this section, the definitions in this subsection apply unless
104 the context clearly requires otherwise:

105 1. "Criminal justice purposes" means activities that substantially assist the
106 criminal justice system, which may include circumstances where ancillary benefit to the
107 civil justice system and behavioral health system occurs, and which includes:

108 a. domestic violence services such as those provided by domestic violence
109 programs, community advocates, and legal advocates, as defined by RCW 70.123.020;

110 b. staffing adequate public defenders to provide appropriate defense for
111 individuals;

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112 c. diversion programs;
 113 d. reentry work for inmates;
 114 e. local government programs that have a reasonable relationship to reducing
 115 the numbers of people interacting with the criminal justice system including, but not
 116 limited to, reducing homelessness or improving behavioral health;
 117 f. community placements for juvenile offenders; and
 118 g. community outreach and assistance programs, alternative response
 119 programs, and mental health crisis response including, but not limited to, the recovery
 120 navigator program.

121 2. "Proceeds" means the principal amount of moneys raised by the sales and use
 122 tax authorized by this section and any interest earnings on the principal.

123 D. The proceeds from the tax imposed in subsection A. of this section shall be
 124 distributed to the King County current expense fund, and shall be used in a manner
 125 consistent with Section 201, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025 to support criminal
 126 justice purposes.

127 E. To the extent required by Section 201, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington
 128 2025, the county executive shall, within one calendar year of imposition of the tax and
 129 annually thereafter, make a report to the Washington state association of counties on how
 130 the moneys received have been expended.

131 **SECTION 3. Effective date.** This ordinance takes effect on October 1, 2025,
 132 except section 2 of this ordinance, which takes effect on January 1, 2026.

133 **SECTION 4. Authority supplemental.** The authority granted in this ordinance
 134 is supplemental to all other powers of the county, and nothing in this ordinance shall be

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135 construed as limiting or restricting any powers or authority conferred upon the county by
136 law.

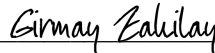
137 **SECTION 5. Severability.** If any provision of this ordinance or its application to
138 any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the
139 application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Ordinance 19958 was introduced on 6/10/2025 and passed by the Metropolitan King
County Council on 7/22/2025, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Mosqueda, Perry, Quinn,
von Reichbauer and Zahilay
No: 1 - Dunn

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Signed by:



1AEA3C5077F8485...

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:



8DE1BB375AD3422...

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of 8/4/2025, ____.

Signed by:



AAA4841FD7644BE...

Shannon Braddock, County Executive

Attachments: None

Certificate Of Completion

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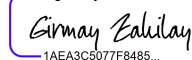
Girmay Zahilay

girmay.zahilay@kingcounty.gov

Council Chair

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

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Melani Hay

melani.hay@kingcounty.gov

Clerk of the Council

King County Council

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

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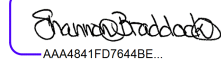
Shannon Braddock

Shannon.Braddock@kingcounty.gov

Deputy Executive

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

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Editor Delivery Events

Status

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Agent Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Intermediary Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
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Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp
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Ames Kessler
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Executive Legislative Coordinator & Public Records
Officer
King County
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Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
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Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
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