



King County

Meeting Agenda

1200 King County
Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Committee of the Whole

Jorge Barón, Chair
Claudia Balducci, Vice Chair;
Rod Dembowski, Reagan Dunn, Steffanie Fain, Rhonda Lewis, Teresa Mosqueda, Sarah Perry, Pete von Reichbauer

Lead Staff: Brandi Paribello (206-263-3129)
Committee Clerk: Blake Wells (206-263-1617)

9:30 AM

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Hybrid Meeting

Hybrid Meetings: Attend the King County Council committee meetings in person in Council Chambers (Room 1001), 516 3rd Avenue in Seattle, or through remote access. Details on how to attend and/or to provide comment remotely are listed below.

Pursuant to K.C.C. 1.24.035 A. and F., this meeting is also noticed as a meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council, whose agenda is limited to the committee business. In this meeting only the rules and procedures applicable to committees apply and not those applicable to full council meetings.

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT: The Committee of the Whole values community input and looks forward to hearing from you on agenda items.

There are three ways to provide public comment:

1. In person: You may attend the meeting and provide comment in the Council Chambers.
2. By email: You may comment in writing on current agenda items by submitting your email comments to committees@kingcounty.gov. If your email is received before 8:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting, your email comments will be distributed to the committee members and appropriate staff prior to the meeting.
3. Remote attendance at the meeting by phone or computer: You may provide oral comment on current agenda items during the meeting's public comment period by connecting to the meeting via phone or computer using the ZOOM application at <https://zoom.us/join>, and entering the webinar ID number below.



Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355).
TTY Number - TTY 711.
Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing loop, which provides a wireless signal that is picked up by a hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil) setting.



You are not required to sign up in advance. Comments are limited to current agenda items.

You have the right to language access services at no cost to you. To request these services, please contact Language Access Coordinator, Tera Chea, at 206 477 9259 or email Tera.chea2@kingcounty.gov by 8:00 a.m. three business days prior to the meeting.

CONNECTING TO THE WEBINAR:

Webinar Meeting ID: 872 3341 5187

If you do not have access to the ZOOM application, you can connect to the meeting by calling 1 253 215 8782 and using the Webinar ID. Connecting in this manner, however, may impact your ability to be unmuted to speak.

HOW TO WATCH/LISTEN TO THE MEETING REMOTELY: There are several ways to watch or listen in to the meeting:

- 1) Stream online via this link: www.kingcounty.gov/kctv, or input the link web address into your web browser.
- 2) Watch King County TV Comcast Channel 22 and 322(HD), Astound Broadband Channels 22 and 711(HD).
- 3) Listen to the meeting by telephone – See “Connecting to the Webinar” above.

To help us manage the meeting, if you do not wish to be called upon for public comment please use the Livestream or King County TV options listed above, if possible, to watch or listen to the meeting.

1. **Call to Order**

2. **Roll Call**

To show a PDF of the written materials for an agenda item, click on the agenda item below.

3. **Approval of Minutes** **p. 5**

August 25, 2026 meeting minutes

4. **Public Comment**



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Discussion and Possible Action

5. [Proposed Motion No. 2026-0240](#) p. 8

A MOTION confirming the appointment of Matthew Smith as director of the King County department of human resources.

Sponsors: Barón

Erica Newman, Council staff

Megan Pedersen, Chief People Officer, King County Executive's Office

Matt Smith, Director, Department of Human Resources

Briefing

6. [Briefing No. 2026-B0111](#) p. 17

King County Library System Annual Report

Heidi Daniel, Executive Director King County Library System

Laura Valenziao, President, King County Library System Board of Trustees

John Sheller, Government Relations Manager, King County Library System

Discussion and Possible Action

7. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2026-0133](#) p. 28

AN ORDINANCE relating to organization and functions of the department of information technology; amending, Ordinance 14199, Section 11, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.16.035, Ordinance 14005, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 2A.380.010, Ordinance 20012, Section 1, and K.C.C. 2A.380.025, Ordinance 18432, Section 5, as amended, and K.C.C. 2A.380.050, Ordinance 18432, Section 6, and K.C.C. 2A.380.060, Ordinance 18432, Section 7, as amended, and K.C.C. 2A.380.070, Ordinance 5868, Sections 1-2, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.200.280, Ordinance 18386, Section 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.200.2805, Ordinance 6875, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.510.220, Ordinance 10159, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.27A.010, and Ordinance 10159, Section 16, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.27A.140, recodifying K.C.C. 4A.200.280 and K.C.C. 4A.200.2805, adding new sections to K.C.C. chapter 4A.200, and adding a new section to K.C.C. chapter 2A.380.

Sponsors: von Reichbauer

Brandi Paribello, Council staff



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Discussion Only

8. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2026-0242](#) p. 70

AN ORDINANCE assuming governance of the King County transportation district; amending Ordinance 11955, Section 5, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.16.055 and adding a new chapter to K.C.C. Title 2.

Sponsors: Dembowski, Lewis, Mosqueda, Dunn and von Reichbauer

Mary Bourguignon, Council staff

Discussion and Possible Action

9. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2026-0241](#) p. 101

AN ORDINANCE declaring King County's intent to conduct a public hearing regarding whether to assume rights, powers, immunities, functions, and obligations of the King County transportation district.

Sponsors: Dembowski

Mary Bourguignon, Council staff

10. [Proposed Motion No. 2026-0194](#) p. 111

A MOTION acknowledging receipt of a letter from the Harborview board of trustees pertaining to the county hospital tax operating spending plan, as required by the 2026-2027 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 20023, Section 102, Proviso P1.

Sponsors: Barón

Sam Porter, Council staff

Other Business

Adjournment



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King County

1200 King County
Courthouse
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Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Minutes Committee of the Whole

Jorge Barón, Chair
Claudia Balducci, Vice Chair;
Rod Dembowski, Reagan Dunn, Steffanie Fain, Rhonda Lewis,
Teresa Mosqueda, Sarah Perry, Pete von Reichbauer

Lead Staff: Brandi Paribello (206-263-3129)
Committee Clerk: Blake Wells (206-263-1617)

9:30 AM

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

Hybrid Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Barón called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Present: 7 - Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Fain, Lewis, Mosqueda and von Reichbauer

Excused: 2 - Balducci and Perry

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Councilmember Dunn moved approval of the June 23, 2026 meeting minutes. There being no objections, the minutes were approved.

4. **Public Comment**

The following people provided public comment:

Kevin Altheimer
Nicole Fillmore-Meshesha
Hali Willis
Ryan Talen
Surya Aguilar
Ben Mathewson

Discussion and Possible Action

5. [Proposed Motion No. 2026-0185](#)

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Colin Carter, who resides in council district one, to the King County landmarks commission.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dembowski that this motion be recommended do pass consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Fain, Lewis, Mosqueda and von Reichbauer

Excused: 2 - Balducci and Perry

Brandi Paribello, Council staff; Sarah Steen, Landmarks Coordinator, King County Historic Preservation Program; and Colin Carter, appointee; briefed the committee.

6. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2026-0147](#)

AN ORDINANCE adopting the King County 2026-2029 Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Plan.

This matter was deferred.

Erica Newman, Council staff, briefed the committee. Gloria Ngezaho, Senior Manager, Department of Human Resources, answered questions from the members.

Briefing

7. [Briefing No. 2026-B0099](#)

Briefing on the KCRHA Contract Transition Plan and Corrective Action Plan

This matter was presented.

Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Executive Office; Aaron Rubardt, Chief Budget Officer, Executive Office; and Jelani Jackson, Acting Director, Housing and Community Development Division, Department of Community and Human Services; briefed the committee via PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members.

William Towey, Associate Deputy for Strategy, King County Regional Homelessness Authority; and Dr. Kelly Kinnison, Chief Executive Officer, King County Regional Homelessness Authority; briefed the committee via PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members.

Discussion and Possible Action

8. [Proposed Motion No. 2026-0207](#)

A MOTION accepting a King County Regional Homelessness Authority contract transition plan and report providing responses to Motion 16970.

This matter was deferred.

Other Business

There was no other business to come before the committee.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____

Clerk's Signature



Metropolitan King County Council Staff Report

Committee:	Committee of the Whole		
Agenda Item:	5	Analyst(s):	Erica Newman
Proposed No.:	2026-0240	Meeting Date:	September 22, 2026

OVERVIEW

TOPIC: Proposed Motion 2026-0240 would confirm the appointment of Matthew Smith as Director of the King County Department of Human Resources.

LEGISLATION SUMMARY

Proposed Motion 2026-0240 would confirm the Executive's appointment of Matthew Smith to be the Director of the King County Department of Human Resources (DHR). The King County Charter provides for the Council to confirm or reject appointments made by the County Executive.¹

Under King County Code, in considering the confirmation of Executive appointments to offices of management level responsibility, the Council shall base its review on the ability of the appointee to meet the following criteria:²

1. Demonstrated reputation for integrity and professionalism;
2. Commitment to and knowledge of the responsibilities of the office;
3. History of demonstrated leadership, experience and administrative ability;
4. Ability to work effectively with the Executive, the Council, other management, public agencies, private organizations and citizens; and
5. Demonstrated sensitivity to and knowledge of the particular needs and problems of minorities and women.

Additionally, before review of the appointment by the Council, the appointee shall submit to the chair of the Council:

¹ King County Charter Section 340.40

² K.C.C. 2.16.110 (E) (1) (d)

- Full and complete resume of the appointee's employment history, to include references attesting to the stated employment experiences; and
- Signed statement acknowledging that the Council's confirmation process may require the submittal of additional information relating to the background and expertise of the appointee.

King County Code also allows for the chair of the Council and councilmembers the following:

- Upon receipt of an Executive appointment, the chair or the chair's delegate, subject to the Council's rules of procedure, shall notify council members of the appointment and attempt to allow a minimum of one work week for individual members to submit written questions to the reviewing committee.
- It is understood that written inquiries submitted to the reviewing committee, by individual council members, may require a written response from the appointee or the Executive, in matters pertaining to the process of appointment and other pertinent employment policies of King County.

According to the transmittal letter, the Executive appointed Mr. Smith on July 7, 2026, with an effective date of August 17, 2026.

Mr. Smith recently served as Assistant Director of Human Resources for the City of Bellevue where he was responsible for enterprise human resources strategy and delivery in compensation, benefits, employee and labor relations, policy, investigations, and workforce analytics.

BACKGROUND & TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

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Department of Human Resources (DHR). The DHR was created in September 2018, and its mission is to provide strategic human resources leadership, modernize systems, and deliver customer-focused services designed to support the management, growth, and development of the King County workforce. DHR consists of the four divisions listed below.

- Director's Office Division
- Career and Culture Division
- Central Employee Services Division
- Human Resources Service Delivery Division

Additionally, DHR supports King County departments which include Human Resources (HR) Managers and HR subject matter experts. DHR services and programs assist leaders and HR professionals throughout the County in their work in accomplishing their organizational goals.

DHR Director Responsibilities. According to the April 2026 recruitment posting, the Director's responsibilities are as follows:

- Implement a forward-looking strategic workforce vision that supports the total employee experience in King County, including people policies and systems, talent acquisition, classification and compensation, health care and wellness programs, employee engagement, workplace culture, and learning and development.
- Embrace and commit to equity and transparency for all King County employees and embed equity in policies and processes.
- Promote an environment focused on a strong partnership with departments and enabling departments to achieve operational goals.
- Foster a culture within DHR of service excellence, innovation, continuous improvement, and ease in piloting new products and services in sync with the Executive's vision and priorities.
- Partner with the Labor Relations Team in the Executive Office on total compensation methodology and implementation of collective bargaining agreements and help translate concepts agreed upon in bargaining to enterprise policy.
- Advise executive and separately elected leaders on complex and/or sensitive personnel matters.
- Leverage the County's people information and business intelligence systems to drive operational improvements, identify opportunities to advance equity, and anticipate operational and workforce needs.
- Lead the development and implementation of new approaches to tracking data and using data dashboards.
- Champion modernization of technology supporting people, systems, and processes, and set innovation goals based on emerging HR systems technology, centering on customer needs.
- Administer the King County Civil Service Rules for the Sheriff's Office in recruitment, development of selection/examination processes, and appeals in compliance with RCW 41.14.065.
- Other duties as assigned.

In addition, the King County Code lists some additional responsibilities of the Department Director, pursuant to the oversight of Safety and Claims:³

- Investigate or supervise the investigation of all accidents involving either county employees or property, or both, resulting from department operations;
- Establish and supervise procedures designed to discover and control hazardous conditions and unsafe work practices;
- Inspect all properties and work areas and require reasonable correction to safety deficiencies;
- Select and approve purchase of all safety equipment and establish safety specifications prior to purchase of other equipment of machines;
- Establish safety requirements in addition to minimum state and local rules and regulations where deemed necessary;
- Review all employee suggestions relating to safety to ensure compatibility with federal, state and local codes, rules, and regulations;
- Review the safety criteria on all proposed construction projects to be accomplished by private contractors;
- Coordinate or provide training to employees in first aid, driving, and other safety related specialty fields;
- Demand immediate cessation of work around any operation or piece of equipment in which the director believes a hazard exists creating imminent danger to the employees involved;
- Act as liaison between the county, the state Department of Labor and Industries and the Washington Traffic Safety Commission and coordinate activities toward compliance under the Washington State Industrial Safety and Health Act and the Highway Safety Act of 1966;
- Coordinate the requirements of the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission within the county; and
- Coordinate the county preemployment physical examination program.

³ K.C.C. 2.92.030

ANALYSIS

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Proposed Motion 2026-0240 would confirm the Executive's appointment of Matthew Smith to be the Director of the King County Department of Human Resources (DHR).

According to the transmittal letter, the Executive appointed Mr. Smith on July 7, 2026, with an effective date of August 17, 2026.

Mr. Smith began his career in human resources as a compensation analyst and consultant in the private sector. He recently served as Assistant Director of Human Resources for the City of Bellevue where he was responsible for enterprise human resources strategy and delivery in compensation, benefits, employee and labor relations, policy, investigations, and workforce analytics.

Prior to his service at the City of Bellevue, Mr. Smith practiced labor and employment law for eight years, representing and advising employers across a variety of industries on labor and employment matters, risk and legal compliance, and workplace investigations.

Mr. Smith earned his Juris Doctor from Seattle University School of Law and holds three Bachelor's degrees in Human Resources Management, Marketing, and Psychology.

Staff have not identified any issues with his appointment and it appears to be consistent King County Code requirements.

INVITED

- Megan Pederson, Chief People Officer, King County Executive
- Matthew Smith, Director, Department of Human Resources

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2026-0240 (and its attachment)
2. Transmittal Letter



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2026-0240.1

Sponsors Barón

- 1 A MOTION confirming the appointment of Matthew Smith
- 2 as director of the King County department of human
- 3 resources.
- 4 BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
- 5 The appointment of Matthew Smith as director of the King County department of

6 human resources is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, ____.

Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

Attachments: None

**Executive Girmay Zahilay**

Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800
 401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
 Seattle, WA 98104-2391

August 20, 2026

The Honorable Sarah Perry
 Chair, King County Council
 Room 1200
 COURTHOUSE

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits a proposed Motion that, if enacted, would confirm the appointment of Matthew Smith as director of the King County Department of Human Resources (DHR), consistent with King County Code 2.16.110(E)(1)(b). The enclosed materials comprise the full set of confirmation documents as established by code and practice.

On July 7, 2026, I appointed Mr. Smith as director of the Department of Human Resources, effective August 17, 2026. Mr. Smith most recently served as assistant director of Human Resources at the City of Bellevue. As assistant director, Mr. Smith was responsible for enterprise human resources strategy and delivery in compensation, benefits, employee and labor relations, policy, investigations, and workforce analytics.

Before serving at the City of Bellevue, Mr. Smith practiced labor and employment law for eight years, representing and advising employers across a variety of industries on labor and employment matters, risk and legal compliance, and workplace investigations. Mr. Smith began his career in human resources as a compensation analyst and consultant in the private sector and earned his Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, from Seattle University School of Law and holds bachelor's degrees in Human Resources Management, Marketing, and Psychology.

It is my pleasure to request your confirmation of Matthew Smith as DHR Director. If your staff have questions, please contact Megan Pedersen, Chief People Officer, Office of the Executive, at 206-263-2898.

The Honorable Sarah Perry
August 20, 2026
Page 2

Sincerely,



Girmay Zahilay
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
 ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council
 Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council
Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive
Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive
Sierra Howlett Browne, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Executive
Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive
Megan Pedersen, Chief People Officer, Office of the Executive
Matthew Smith, Director Designee, Department of Human Resources



**KING COUNTY
LIBRARY SYSTEM**

**20
25**

Annual Report



CURIOSITY ISN'T QUIET



Executive Director's Letter

King County Library System's 50 libraries exist because of a belief that our community has held for generations: access to knowledge, to stories, to connection should not depend on what you can afford.

In 2025, you showed us how much that belief still matters, with more than 23 million items checked out. That's nearly a 17 percent increase over last year. Digital and print checkouts are now almost equal, reflecting how our community of readers engage today. That readership made us the second-highest digital lending library in the nation, and fourth in the world. These achievements are not ours. They are yours.

Here's what else we did to keep up with you:

- We broke ground on a new Central Sorter, coming online in 2026, to move books, music, movies and other materials across the system faster and more efficiently.
- We brought in a nationally recognized architecture firm to help reimagine our library spaces, making them more accessible, more welcoming, and better suited to the way our communities actually use them.
- We expanded programs to be offered in more world languages, co-creating them with the communities they serve.
- We improved energy efficiency and sustainability across our facilities to demonstrate our commitment to the natural environment we share.
- We deepened relationships with elected officials to protect intellectual freedom and make the case for libraries as essential public infrastructure.

Across the board, our engagement numbers across King County grew: library open hours, active cardholders, program attendance, citizenship class participation, and patrons reached by our Mobile Services team. Each number is a person who found something they needed at their library here in King County.

We also take seriously the public trust behind all of this. Since 2000, KCLS has received a clean state audit every year. That's not by chance: it's our commitment to transparent service to our community that invests in us.

The pages ahead tell the full story of 2025. We hope you find yourself in these pages and know that your library will be here whenever you need it.

With gratitude,

Heidi M. Daniel

Heidi Daniel, KCLS Director





414,251 Program Participants

21,006 Programs

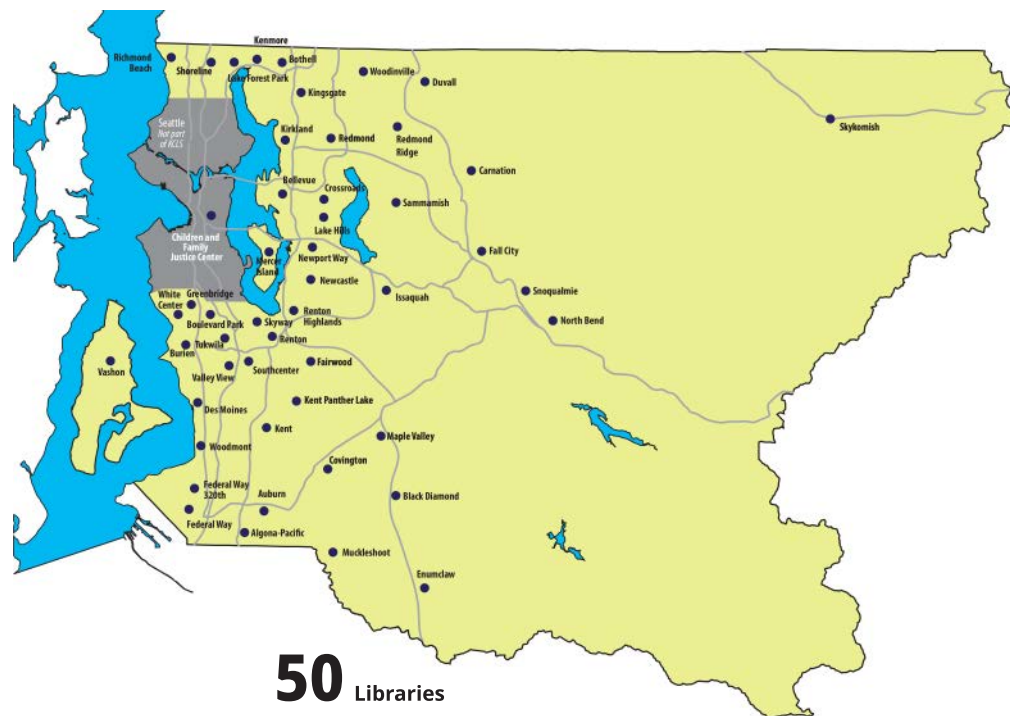
12,078,381 Digital Checkouts
Overdrive and other vendors

#2 in U.S. #4 in world Overdrive

+11,192,112 Physical Checkouts

23,270,493 Total Items

\$145,955,330 Savings to Residents
This is the approximate production budget of the Barbie movie.



50 Libraries

2,130 Square-mile Service Area

1.6M People Served

The population of KCLS' service area is larger than 11 U.S. states!

707,475 Active Cardholders



Supporting Literacy and Lifelong Learning

Supporting literacy and education is one of KCLS' core values. Grade-school partnerships, infant and toddler Story Times, Summer Reading and Study Zone homework assistance build academic success and a lifelong love of learning. Makerspaces, tech help, entrepreneurship classes, author talks, and other enriching programs offer educational opportunities for all ages. Library programs encourage patrons to indulge curiosity, learn something new, share interests and make friends.



Makerspaces at the Federal Way and Bellevue Libraries inspire people of all ages to rediscover hands-on creativity and to learn STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) skills. Increased demand in 2025 led to more programs at both Makerspaces, allowing more people to explore 3D printers, sewing machines, music recording, laser-cutting machines and other tools.

In a KCLS survey of 7,830 patrons, more than 97% rated KCLS positively and 99% said they would recommend KCLS to their friends.



Patrons also ranked facilities maintenance as a top investment priority, and 95% agreed that libraries are places where people can go to get trustworthy information.

CURIOSITY
EXPLORES POSSIBILITIES

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Curious Creatures: KCLS' Summer Reading Program offers students a chance to have fun through activities that keep them socially and academically engaged while school is out. The program encourages reading, literacy and continued learning, while helping to prepare students for the coming school year.

2025 was a record-breaking year for our Summer Reading program as we revamped the program to be more inclusive and fun.



35,578
Registered Participants

15,194
Completed the Challenge

21%
Increase from 2024

638
In-person Summer
Reading Programs

24,850
Attendees of All Ages

4,606
Story Times

127,399
Attendees

4%
Increase
from 2024

STUDY ZONE



Tutoring

13,328

Student Visits

4%

Growth from 2024

533

Volunteers

12,378

Tutoring Hours



Reading Buddies

1,443

In-person Visits

3,583

Online Visits

5,026

Total Visits



Math Club

2,404

Online Visits

CURIOSITY
IS A LEARNING EXPERIENCE

MOBILE SERVICES & HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES



Reading materials delivered to shelters, encampments, transitional housing and recovery locations.

24,264

People Served

5,760

Books Distributed

Bridging Cultures, Building Communities of Belonging



Specially trained KCLS Ambassadors at six Welcoming Centers connected refugees, immigrants and new arrivals with information and resources, helping them to transition to new lives in King County.

11 Ambassadors **14 Languages Spoken**

1,032 Personalized Connections

ELL/ESL Talk Time

1,364 Participants

Nearly double the number in 2024.

Citizenship Preparation Classes

Classes for adults and teens offered a chance to practice English with other English learners in a supportive environment.

9,304 Attendees Online and In-person

A heightened emphasis on community connection and co-creation with local partners enhanced programs, services, events and language services. KCLS' Equity and Social Impact (ESI) team expanded cultural and heritage events that brought together people of all ages and backgrounds to socialize, learn and celebrate.

For the 15th year, KCLS hosted Día, also known as El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day). The celebration included speeches from community leaders, bilingual Story Times and a local dance performance, and brought together patrons from different cultures, backgrounds, and languages to celebrate something that connects all of us—reading and the joy of stories.

KCLS also held Plaza Comunitaria and Fiestas events, community listening sessions; celebrated Juneteenth, Pride Month and Welcoming Week, and offered various multicultural author events.

CURIOSITY
LEVELS THE PLAYING FIELD

Fostering Wellness, Removing Barriers

KCLS offers a broad spectrum of supportive services and resources in response to community needs, to help individuals and communities thrive. Mobile Services as well as library-based resource centers, Resource Fairs, support for Veterans and other programs offered mental and behavioral health, housing, employment, refugee, legal and more assistance.

Community Resource Centers



In partnership with local government, Bellevue, Redmond and Federal Way Libraries offer employment and other assistance through Community Resource Centers in conjunction with Community Court. The Bellevue Library Community Court was added in 2025 to expand opportunities for patrons to participate in this alternative to the criminal justice system that focuses on building stronger and safer neighborhoods and reducing recidivism.

1,831 Attendees

LanguageLine

Through its partnership with LanguageLine, KCLS offers free, on-demand, over-the-phone and video interpretation services to help patrons in more than 240 languages.

8,805 Minutes Offered **980** Audio & Video Calls

Resource Fairs

6 Sites **316** People Served

Peers In Libraries



KCLS was the first library system in Washington State—and one of the few nationally—to adopt the Peers in Libraries program. Seven libraries provide Peer specialists trained in trauma-informed best practices, offering support to those impacted by substance abuse, mental health conditions, HIV/AIDS or other complex needs.

6,377 Peer Specialist Patron Contacts

This number has more than doubled since 2024, demonstrating the increasing need for this important work.

CURIOSITY
OPENS DOORS

Financial Stewardship

KCLS' funding comes from the taxpayers of King County, and it is our duty to ensure every dollar is serving the needs and interests of our community. With inflation and rising costs, balancing the budget requires diligent planning and efficiency. We're proud to have ended 2025 with a balanced budget, while delivering the vital resources our community counts on KCLS to provide.

\$139,309,000	Beginning Fund Balance
+ \$1,848,000	Total Surplus
\$141,157,000	Ending Fund Balance

2025 Revenue

\$140,268,000	Property Tax
\$7,121,000	Investment Interest & Other Earnings
\$3,254,000	Miscellaneous Revenues
\$1,717,000	KCLS Foundation/Grants
\$1,121,000	Erate Reimbursement
\$889,000	Lost Material/Contracts
\$502,000	Timber Revenues/Other Taxes
\$39,000	Damaged Materials
\$154,911,000	Total Revenue

2025 Expenses

Personnel

\$68,866,000	Salaries
\$22,882,000	Benefits

Other Expenses

\$16,738,000	Repairs & Maintenance
\$15,840,000	Library Materials
\$8,628,000	Insurance/Lease/Utilities/Communications
\$5,316,000	Professional Services
\$2,616,000	Supplies
\$2,036,000	Capital FFE/Intergov./Reserve/MISC
\$1,811,000	Travel/Advertising/Staff Development

Capital Investment Plan

\$4,515,000	Facilities CIP
\$3,815,000	Information Technology Services CIP
\$153,063,000	Total Expenses



In 2025, the King County Library System Foundation donated \$3,466,641 to KCLS, including \$1,753,041 for programs and a \$1,713,600 in-kind software donation from Microsoft to strengthen KCLS technology infrastructure.

This included a \$275,000 investment in KCLS Mobile Services to help replace a damaged Library2Go! bookmobile and its collection. The Foundation also brought the community together through events like the Literary Lions Gala, Live Pages, and Kick It with KCLS Foundation, which collectively raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for libraries.

Together, these efforts advanced KCLS programs and initiatives across four Funding Priorities: Accessibility & Inclusion, Community Services & Outreach, Library Innovation, and Lifelong Literacy & Learning.

The Foundation funded 17 programs through advance and agility grants to KCLS:

Accessibility & Inclusion

- Connect: Wi-Fi Hotspots and Laptops
- Connecting Older Adults Online
- Friends Day 2025
- PRIDE Giveaway Books
- Writers of Color Author Series

Community Services & Outreach

- Peers in Libraries
- Supportive Services to Unhoused Patrons
- The Welcoming Centers

Library Innovation

- Grant Portal 2.0
- WA Discover Pass

Lifelong Literacy & Learning

- Adult Literacy Incentive
- FAFSA College Success
- Raising A Reader
- Rewind Adult Reading Challenge
- Study Zone
- Summer Reading Program
- Supporting Grade Level Reading
- OTTER & Sasquatch Award



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Metropolitan King County Council Staff Report

Committee:	Committee of the Whole		
Agenda Item:	7	Analyst(s):	Brandi Paribello
Proposed No.:	2026-0133	Meeting Date:	September 22, 2026

OVERVIEW

TOPIC: An ordinance to update King County Code (K.C.C.) provisions related to the organizational structure of the King County Information Technology (KCIT) department.

LEGISLATION SUMMARY

The proposed ordinance would change code by adding two divisions in KCIT, updating two existing division names and functions, moving the Radio Communications from a standalone division to be housed under the purview of the Business Operations and Services division, and moving the Cable Office to the Department of Executive Services. The ordinance would also rename the Enhanced 911 Program to 911 Program. The organizational structure of KCIT was last updated in 2016 via Ordinance 18432.¹

KEY ISSUES FROM THE ANALYSIS

Council staff have not identified any issues with the proposed ordinance.

BACKGROUND & TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

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Background. Council adopted Ordinance 17142² in July 2011, which consolidated the County's information technology functions and responsibilities for information technology services in the Executive branch into one department, KCIT.

In 2016, Ordinance 18432 updated code related to the KCIT organizational structure to reflect more clearly defined roles and responsibilities for each division. Of note, that ordinance created the Office of the Chief Information Officer, the Emergency Radio Systems division, and the Infrastructure and Operations division.

Timing. There are no timing considerations for this proposed ordinance.

¹ [Ordinance 18432](#), adopted December 12, 2016.

² [Ordinance 17142](#), adopted July 11, 2011.

Key changes to K.C.C. 2A.380, KCIT Organizational Structure. Table 1 below provides a general overview of key proposed changes to this section of code.

Table 1. Changes to K.C.C. 2A.380

Code Section	Changes
2A.380.010 <i>Department of information technology - general - offices and divisions</i>	- Removes the Emergency Radio Systems Division - Adds the Chief Information Security Officer - Adds the Information Security and Privacy Division - Renames the Enterprise Business Services Division to the Enterprise Technology Services Division - Renames the Infrastructure and Operations Services Division to the Business and Operations Services Division - Adds the Data and Information Services Division
2A.380.025 <i>Chief information security officer</i>	Adds Subsection D. to say, “D. The chief information security office shall manage and direct the information security and privacy division.”
2A.380.050 <i>Emergency radio communications division</i>	Removes all references to the Emergency Radio Communications Division and its duties and replaces them with the duties of the Information Security and Privacy Division. See Attachment 4 to this Staff Report for a full list of duties.
2A.380.060 <i>Enterprise services division</i>	- Changes division name from Enterprise Business Services Division to Enterprise Technology Services Division. - Removes the list of duties related to the Enterprise Business Services Division and replaces them with a list of duties for the Enterprise Technology Services Division. Duties are related to maintaining and managing cloud-based digital applications, as well as servers and data centers used by the county. - See Attachment 4 to this Staff Report for a full list of duties.
2A.380.070 <i>Infrastructure and operations division</i>	- Changes division name from Infrastructure and Operations Division to the Business and Operations Division. - Removes the list of duties related to the Infrastructure and

Code Section	Changes
	Operations Division and replaces it with a list of duties for the Business and Operations Division. Duties are related to maintaining and managing county-wide technology infrastructure. • See Attachment 4 to this Staff Report for a full list of duties.
Proposed New Chapter	• Adds the Data and Information Services Division to the organizational structure and adds a list of the duties of the new division. Duties of note include implementing, maintaining, and building tools related to data modeling, analysis, and management. • See Attachment 4 to this Staff Report for a full list of duties.

Executive staff state that these organizational changes formalize areas of existing practice as well as reflect organizational priorities in the areas of security, privacy and data ownership. Staff further state that the new structure would “more effectively meet the County’s business and technology capital needs” while keeping pace with current and future evolutions in the security, privacy, and artificial intelligence sectors.

Key changes to K.C.C. 4A.200.280 & 2805, Enhanced 911 Operating and Capital Funds.

Code sections creating the Enhanced 911 Operating and Capital Funds would be amended to remove the word “enhanced.” Transmittal materials state the rationale for this change is that the word “enhanced” is outdated terminology.

Key changes to K.C.C. 4A.510.220, Use of Taxes for Enhanced 911 Emergency Telephone System.

This code section would be amended to remove the word “enhanced.” As with K.C.C. 4A.200 above, transmittal materials state the rationale for this change is that the word “enhanced” is outdated terminology.

Key changes to K.C.C. 6.27A, Cable Communications. The ordinance proposes to amend this code section by changing the organizational structure of the cable office and cable manager from being housed within KCIT to being housed under the Department of Executive Services (DES) within the Facilities Management Division (FMD). Transmittal materials state that the rationale for this change is that county code charges the Department of Executive Services with overseeing “all franchising activities except for cable telecommunications, which is currently managed by the department of information

technology. In partnership with DES, the move of the Cable Office to DES FMD efficiently consolidates all franchise work under one department.”

Fiscal Impacts of the Proposed Ordinance. Executive staff have stated there will be no fiscal impacts related to the reorganization. KCIT plans to create a Chief Data Officer position to lead the Data and Analytics Division within existing position authority, but for which there is not an existing classification. The department plans to work with Classification and Compensation Services to establish the appropriate classification that aligns with the responsibilities of this function. KCIT expects that the cost associated with establishing the Chief Data Officer classification will be like that of the current Director of the Data and Analytics Division and so no budgetary impact is expected.

There will be some Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) unit impacts related to the proposed ordinance. First, 2.0 FTEs which are currently doing Cable Office franchise work will be moved from KCIT to FMD in a future budget ordinance. Additionally, former KCIT leadership created 2.0 FTEs division director positions without corresponding defined divisions. The proposed ordinance formally eliminates these divisions. KCIT states it will redirect these existing FTEs toward other functions.

Council staff have not identified any issues with these proposed organizational changes.

AMENDMENTS

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There are no amendments.

INVITED

- Stephen Heard, Chief Information Officer and Director, King County Information Technology Department

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Ordinance 2026-0133
2. Transmittal Letter
3. Fiscal Note
4. King County Code Change Comparisons Document



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2026-0133.1

Sponsors von Reichbauer

AN ORDINANCE relating to organization and functions of the department of information technology; amending, Ordinance 14199, Section 11, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.16.035, Ordinance 14005, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 2A.380.010, Ordinance 20012, Section 1, and K.C.C. 2A.380.025, Ordinance 18432, Section 5, as amended, and K.C.C. 2A.380.050, Ordinance 18432, Section 6, and K.C.C. 2A.380.060, Ordinance 18432, Section 7, as amended, and K.C.C. 2A.380.070, Ordinance 5868, Sections 1-2, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.200.280, Ordinance 18386, Section 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.200.2805, Ordinance 6875, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.510.220, Ordinance 10159, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.27A.010, and Ordinance 10159, Section 16, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.27A.140, recodifying K.C.C. 4A.200.280 and K.C.C. 4A.200.2805, adding new sections to K.C.C. chapter 4A.200, and adding a new section to K.C.C. chapter 2A.380.

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

1. The code governing the department of information technology is revised to more clearly reflect its updated essential functions and responsibilities,

21 reinforcing its role within county operations, and enhancing overall
22 efficiency.

23 2. The department's divisional structure was last updated in 2016 via
24 Ordinance 18432. Since that time, King County's technology needs and
25 uses have significantly expanded, along with the rapidly evolving modern
26 technology environment.

27 3. Under K.C.C. 2.16.035, the department of executive services oversees all
28 franchising activities except for cable telecommunications, which is
29 currently managed by the department of information technology. Under the
30 proposed amendments, responsibility for cable telecommunications
31 franchising will transfer to the department of executive services, aligning it
32 with the county's other franchising functions.

33 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

34 SECTION 1. Ordinance 14199, Section 11, as amended, and K.C.C.
35 2.16.035 are hereby amended to read as follows:

36 A. The county administrative officer shall be the director of the department of
37 executive services. The department shall include the records and licensing services
38 division, the finance and business operations division, the facilities management division,
39 the fleet services division, the airport division, the office of risk management services, the
40 administrative office of emergency management, the administrative office of the business
41 resource center, and the Harborview construction and infrastructure division. In addition,
42 the county administrative officer shall be responsible for providing staff support for the
43 board of ethics.

44 B. The duties of the records and licensing services division shall include the
45 following:

46 1. Issuing marriage, vehicle/vessel, taxicab and for-hire driver and vehicle, and
47 pet licenses, collecting license fee revenues, and providing licensing services for the
48 public;

49 2. Enforcing county and state laws relating to animal control;

50 3. Managing the recording, processing, filing, storing, retrieval, and certification
51 of copies of all public documents filed with the division as required;

52 4. Processing all real estate tax affidavits; and

53 5. Acting as the official custodian of all county records, as required by general
54 law, except as otherwise provided by ordinance.

55 C. The duties of the finance and business operations division shall include the
56 following:

57 1. Monitoring revenue and expenditures for the county. The collection and
58 reporting of revenue and expenditure data shall provide sufficient information to the
59 executive and to the council. The division shall be ultimately responsible for maintaining
60 the county's official revenue and expenditure data;

61 2. Performing the functions of the county treasurer;

62 3. Billing and collecting real and personal property taxes, local improvement
63 district assessments, and gambling taxes;

64 4. Processing transit revenue;

65 5. Receiving and investing all county and political subjurisdiction moneys;

66 6. Managing the issuance and payment of the county's debt instruments;

- 67 7. Managing the accounting systems and procedures;
- 68 8. Managing the fixed assets system and procedures;
- 69 9. Formulating and implementing financial policies for other than revenues and
70 expenditures for the county and other applicable agencies;
- 71 10. Administering the accounts payable and accounts receivable functions;
- 72 11. Collecting fines and monetary penalties imposed by district courts;
- 73 12. Developing and administering procedures for the procurement of and
74 awarding of contracts for tangible personal property, services, professional or technical
75 services, and public work in accordance with K.C.C. chapter 2.93 and applicable federal
76 and state laws and regulations;
- 77 13. Establishing and administering procurement and contracting methods, and
78 bid and proposal processes, to obtain such procurements;
- 79 14. In consultation with the prosecuting attorney's office and office of risk
80 management services, developing and overseeing the use of standard procurement and
81 contract documents for such procurements;
- 82 15. Administering contracts for goods and services that are provided to more
83 than one department;
- 84 16. Providing comment and assistance to departments on the development of
85 specifications and scopes of work, in negotiations for such procurements, and in the
86 administration of contracts;
- 87 17. Assisting departments to perform cost or price analyses for the procurement
88 of tangible personal property, services, and professional or technical services, and price
89 analysis for public work procurements;

18. Developing, maintaining, and revising as may be necessary from time to time the county's general terms and conditions for contracts for the procurement of tangible personal property, services, professional or technical services, and public work;

19. Managing and developing financial policies for borrowing of funds, financial systems, and other financial operations for the county and other applicable agencies;

20. Managing the contracting opportunities program to increase opportunities for small contractors and suppliers to participate on county-funded contracts. Also, the finance and business operations division shall submit an annual report as required by K.C.C. 2.97.090;

21. Managing the apprenticeship program to optimize the number of apprentices working on county construction projects. Also, the finance and business operations division shall submit an annual report as required by K.C.C. 12.16.175; and

22. Serving as the disadvantaged business enterprise liaison officer for federal Department of Transportation and other federal grant program purposes. The disadvantaged business enterprise liaison officer shall have direct, independent access to the executive on disadvantaged business enterprise program matters consistent with 49 C.F.R. Sec. 26.25. For other matters, the disadvantaged business enterprise liaison officer shall report to the manager of the finance and business operations division.

D. The duties of the facilities management division shall include the following:

1. Overseeing space planning for county agencies;

- 111 2. Administering and maintaining in good general condition the county's
112 buildings except for those managed and maintained by the department of natural
113 resources and parks and the Metro transit department as provided in K.C.C. chapter 4.56;
- 114 3. Operating security programs for county facilities except as otherwise
115 determined by the council;
- 116 4. Administering all county facility parking programs except for public
117 transportation facility parking;
- 118 5. Administering the supported employment program;
- 119 6. Managing all real property owned or leased by the county, except as provided
120 in K.C.C. chapter 4.56, ensuring, where applicable, that properties generate revenues
121 closely approximating fair market value;
- 122 7. Maintaining a current inventory of all county-owned or leased real property;
- 123 8. Functioning as the sole agent for the disposal of real properties deemed
124 surplus to the needs of the county;
- 125 9. In accordance with K.C.C. chapter 4A.100, providing support services to
126 county agencies in the acquisition of real properties, except as otherwise specified by
127 ordinance;
- 128 10. Issuing oversized vehicle permits and issuing franchises, permits, and
129 easements for the use of county property ((~~except franchises for cable television and~~
130 ~~telecommunications~~)), including negotiating, managing, and administering the cable
131 communications provisions in K.C.C. chapter 6.27A;

- 132 11. Overseeing the development of capital projects for all county agencies
133 except for specialized roads, solid waste, public transportation, airport, water pollution
134 abatement, surface water management projects, and parks and recreation;
- 135 12. Being responsible for all general projects, such as office buildings or
136 warehouses, for any county department including, but not limited to, the following:
- 137 a. administering professional services and construction contracts;
- 138 b. acting as the county's representative during site master plan, design, and
139 construction activities;
- 140 c. managing county funds and project budgets related to capital projects;
- 141 d. assisting county agencies in the acquisition of appropriate facility sites;
- 142 e. formulating guidelines for the development of operational and capital
143 project plans;
- 144 f. assisting user agencies in the development of capital projects and project
145 plans, as defined and provided for in K.C.C. chapter 4A.100;
- 146 g. formulating guidelines for the use of life cycle cost analysis and applying
147 these guidelines in all appropriate phases of the capital process;
- 148 h. ensuring the conformity of capital project plans with the adopted space plan;
- 149 i. developing project cost estimates that are included in capital project plans,
150 site master plans, capital projects, and project budget requests;
- 151 j. providing advisory services, feasibility studies, or both services and studies
152 to projects as required and for which there is budgetary authority;

153 k. coordinating with user agencies to assure user program requirements are
154 addressed through the capital development process as set forth in this chapter and in
155 K.C.C. chapter 4A.100;

156 l. providing engineering support on capital projects to user agencies as
157 requested and for which there is budgetary authority; and

158 m. providing assistance in developing the executive budget for capital projects;
159 and

160 13. Providing for the operation of a downtown winter shelter for homeless
161 persons between October 15 and April 30 each year.

162 E. The duties of the fleet services division shall include the following:

163 1. Acquiring, maintaining, and managing the motor pool equipment rental and
164 revolving fund for fleet vehicles and equipment, the equipment rental and revolving fund
165 and the wastewater equipment rental and revolving fund. Metro transit department
166 vehicles determined by the Metro transit department director to be intricately involved in
167 or related to providing public transportation services shall not be part of the motor pool;

168 2. Establishing rates for the rental of equipment and vehicles;

169 3. Establishing terms and charges for the sale of any material or supplies that
170 have been purchased, maintained, or manufactured with money from the motor pool and
171 equipment revolving fund, the equipment rental and revolving fund, and the wastewater
172 equipment rental and revolving fund;

173 4. Managing fleet and equipment training programs, stores function, and vehicle
174 repair facilities;

175 5. Administering the county alternative fuel program and take-home assignment
176 of county vehicles policy; and

177 6. Inventorying, monitoring losses, and disposing of county personal property in
178 accordance with K.C.C. chapter 4.56.

179 F. The duties of the airport division shall include managing the maintenance and
180 operations of the King County international airport, and shall include the following:

181 1. Developing and implementing airport programs under state and federal law
182 including preparing policy recommendations and service models;

183 2. Managing and maintaining the airport system infrastructure;

184 3. Managing, or securing services from other divisions, departments, or entities
185 to perform the design, engineering, and construction management functions related to the
186 airport capital program, including new facilities development and maintenance of
187 existing infrastructure; providing support services such as project management,
188 environmental review, permit, and right-of-way acquisitions, schedule and project control
189 functions; and

190 4. Preparing and administering airport service and supporting capital facility
191 plans and periodic updates.

192 G. The duties of the office of risk management services shall include the
193 management of the county's insurance and risk management programs consistent with
194 K.C.C. chapter 2.21.

195 H. The duties of the administrative office of emergency management shall
196 include the following:

197 1. Preparing and planning for emergencies and disasters;

198 2. Providing effective direction, control, and coordination of operations before,
199 during, and after emergencies and disasters; and

200 3. Being responsible for the emergency management functions defined in
201 K.C.C. chapter 2.56 and K.C.C. 2A.310.

202 I. The duties of the administrative office of the business resource center shall
203 include the following:

204 1. The implementation and maintenance of those systems necessary to generate
205 a regular and predictable payroll through the department of human resources;

206 2. The implementation and maintenance of those systems necessary to provide
207 regular and predictable financial accounting and procedures through the finance and
208 business operations division;

209 3. The implementation and maintenance of those systems necessary to generate
210 regular and predictable county budgets, budget reports, and budget management tools for
211 the county; and

212 4. The implementation and maintenance of the human resources systems of
213 record for all human resources data for county employment purposes.

214 J. The duties of the Harborview construction and infrastructure division shall
215 pertain to the Harborview Medical Center, which is generally described in the definition
216 of "medical center" in K.C.C. 2.42.010. For the purposes of this section, Harborview
217 Medical Center specifically includes those current and future capital projects at locations
218 or buildings to be added to the medical center. The duties of the division include the
219 following:

220 1. Managing the planning, contracting, and construction of all county capital
221 projects at Harborview Medical Center, including new construction and major
222 maintenance projects in accordance with K.C.C. chapter 2.42;

223 2. Managing the planning, contracting and construction of all other capital
224 projects at Harborview Medical Center not otherwise planned, contracted, and
225 constructed by the University of Washington in accordance with K.C.C. chapter 2.42 or
226 the hospital services agreement; and

227 3. Serving as the lead agency in directing and coordinating capital
228 budget requests from Harborview Medical Center, including ensuring that
229 budget requests are compatible with the county's budgeting process.

230 SECTION 2. Ordinance 14005, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 2A.380.010
231 are hereby amended to read as follows:

232 The department of information technology, which is also known as KCIT, is
233 responsible to manage and be fiscally accountable for the information technology operating
234 resources within the executive branch with the exception of the business resource center.
235 The department of information technology shall provide support to the business resource
236 center as agreed by the department of information technology and the department of
237 executive services. The department shall be comprised of the office of the chief
238 information officer, ~~((the emergency radio systems division,))~~ the chief information
239 security officer, the information security and privacy division, the enterprise ((business))
240 technology services division ((and the infrastructure)), the business and operations services
241 division, and the data and information services division.

242 SECTION 3. Ordinance 20012, Section 1, and K.C.C. 2A.380.025 are hereby
243 amended to read as follows:

244 A. The position of chief information security officer shall exist within the
245 department of information technology. The chief information security officer shall
246 establish, oversee, and maintain the county's cybersecurity and privacy program and
247 serve as the sole authority on cybersecurity and privacy matters countywide, across all
248 branches of government.

249 B. The chief information security officer shall report to the chief information
250 officer. To ensure countywide protection of systems and data, the chief information
251 security officer shall maintain a reporting relationship to a member of the executive
252 office, as designated by the county executive.

253 C. The chief information security officer shall have the sole authority to develop,
254 implement and enforce cybersecurity and privacy policies, standards, procedures, and
255 practices countywide across all branches of government.

256 D. The chief information security office shall manage and direct the information
257 security and privacy division.

258 SECTION 4. Ordinance 18432, Section 5, as amended, and K.C.C. 2A.380.050
259 are hereby amended to read as follows:

260 The duties of the ~~((emergency radio communications division include~~
261 ~~administering the emergency radio communication system, but not including the radio~~
262 ~~communication and data system operated and maintained by the Metro transit~~
263 ~~department))~~ information security and privacy division include:

264 A. Implementing and maintaining the county's cybersecurity and privacy
265 programs and activities;

266 B. Developing, implementing, and enforcing cybersecurity and privacy
267 architecture and engineering policies and standards;

268 C. Overseeing cybersecurity and privacy governance, risk, and compliance
269 functions; and

270 D. Identifying, implementing, and enforcing data protection requirements.

271 SECTION 5. Ordinance 18432, Section 6, and K.C.C. 2A.380.060 are hereby
272 amended to read as follows:

273 The duties of the enterprise ~~((business))~~ technology services division include:

274 A. ~~((Application development, system integration, data management, business~~
275 ~~intelligence and managed software services))~~ Providing and managing enterprise
276 architecture, software engineering, and application development, quality and support
277 services for county technology;

278 B. ~~((Web development, standards and governance, social media strategy, King~~
279 ~~County Internet and Intranet, open data strategy and support))~~ Developing and managing
280 applications and digital platforms, including enterprise Geographic Information System
281 platforms, tools, and services; and

282 C. ~~((Information technology business analysis consulting, technology solution~~
283 ~~evaluation, business case development, process improvement, supporting transition to~~
284 ~~technology launch and information technology training for end users on new or enhanced~~
285 ~~technology tools and applications;~~

286 D. Managing information technology projects and related documentation in

287 ~~accordance with countywide project management methodology including post-~~
288 ~~implementation reporting; and~~

289 ~~E. Develop countywide project management methodology and tools for~~
290 ~~information technology projects.)) Designing, operating, managing, and maintaining~~
291 ~~technology networks, servers, storage, cloud environments, and data centers.~~

292 SECTION 6. Ordinance 18432, Section 7, as amended, and K.C.C. 2A.380.070
293 are hereby amended to read as follows:

294 The duties of the ~~((infrastructure))~~ business and operations division include:

295 A. ~~((Designing, planning, developing, operating, maintaining and enhancing~~
296 ~~information technology systems and infrastructures)) Managing enterprise information~~
297 ~~technology project lifecycle activities~~ for the county and other contracting agencies;

298 B. ~~((Managing the lifecycle of workstations and other information technology~~
299 ~~devices, including installation, maintenance and decommissioning)) Managing business~~
300 ~~case development and transition-to-technology activities, including end user training;~~

301 C. ~~((Managing network connectivity and the Institutional Network, also known~~
302 ~~as I-Net)) Configuring, installing, and maintaining end-user computing services,~~
303 ~~software, and device; and~~

304 D. ~~((Providing geographic information systems services, also known as GIS~~
305 ~~services;~~

306 E. ~~Negotiating, managing and administering the cable communications~~
307 ~~provisions in K.C.C. chapter 6.27A;~~

308 F. ~~Providing communications infrastructure and support to include voice and data~~
309 ~~communications services for the county and contracting agencies; and~~

310 ~~G. Managing the enhanced 911 emergency communication system.))~~
311 Developing, designing, deploying, and managing telecommunications and technology
312 infrastructure, including the public safety communications infrastructure, the Institutional
313 Network, which is also known as I-Net, and the emergency communication system for
314 the county and other contract entities, excluding the radio communication and data
315 system operated and maintained by the Metro transit department.

316 NEW SECTION. SECTION 7. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 2A.380
317 a new section to read as follows:

318 The duties of the data and information services division include:

319 A. Implementing and maintaining data and information architecture standards for
320 data modeling, data quality, and data management;

321 B. Designing and operating data and reporting platforms, data integrations, and
322 data repositories; and

323 C. Designing and implementing analytics platforms and solutions.

324 SECTION 8. K.C.C. 4A.200.280, as amended by this ordinance, is
325 recodified as a new section in K.C.C. chapter 4A.200.

326 SECTION 9. Ordinance 5868, Sections 1-2, as amended, and
327 K.C.C. 4A.200.280 are hereby amended to read as follows:

328 A. There is hereby created ~~((an enhanced))~~ a 911 emergency
329 communication system fund.

330 B. The fund shall be a first tier fund. It is a special revenue fund.

331 C. The director of the department of information technology shall be the manager
332 of the fund.

333 D. All receipts from the taxes imposed under K.C.C. 4A.510.200, 4A.510.210,
334 4A.510.220, 4A.510.230, 4A.510.240 and 4A.510.250 shall be deposited in the fund.

335 E. The fund shall provide for the receipt of revenues and disbursement of
336 expenditures related to the provision of ~~((an enhanced))~~ a 911 emergency communication
337 system in King County.

338 SECTION 10. K.C.C. 4A.200.2805, as amended by this ordinance, is recodified
339 as a new section in K.C.C. chapter 4A.200.

340 SECTION 11. Ordinance 18386, Section 1, as amended, and K.C.C.
341 4A.200.2805 are hereby amended to read as follows:

342 A. There is hereby created the ~~((enhanced))~~ 911 emergency communication system
343 capital fund.

344 B. The fund shall be a first tier fund. It is a capital projects fund.

345 C. The director of the department of information technology shall be the manager
346 of the fund.

347 D. All receipts from transfers from the ~~((enhanced))~~ 911 emergency
348 communication system fund, bond proceeds, grants, and other revenues for ~~((enhanced))~~
349 911 with a capital appropriation shall be deposited in the fund.

350 E. The fund shall be used to support capital projects and equipment replacement
351 related to the provision of ~~((an enhanced))~~ a 911 emergency communication system in
352 King County.

353 SECTION 12. Ordinance 6875, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.510.220
354 are hereby amended to read as follows:

355 A. The proceeds of the tax imposed by this chapter before January 1, 2010, and
356 investment earnings therefrom shall be used only to pay for the implementation and
357 operation of ~~((an enhanced))~~ a 911 emergency telephone system.

358 B. The proceeds of the tax imposed by this chapter on and after January 1, 2011,
359 and investment earnings therefrom shall be used only to pay for the implementation and
360 operation of ~~((an enhanced))~~ a 911 emergency communications system and any applicable
361 administrative fee charged by the state of Washington Department of Revenue for the
362 administration and collection of the tax.

363 SECTION 13. Ordinance 10159, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.27A.010
364 are hereby amended to read as follows:

365 For the purpose of this chapter, the following terms, phrases, words, and their
366 derivations shall have the meanings given herein. When not inconsistent with the context,
367 words used in the present tense include the future, words in the plural number include the
368 singular number, and words in the singular number include the plural number. The words
369 "shall" and "will" are mandatory, and "may" is permissive. Words not defined ~~((herein))~~ in
370 this section shall be given the meaning set forth in the Cable Act. Words not defined in this
371 chapter or the Cable Act shall be given their common and ordinary meaning.

372 A. "Abandonment" means failure by the franchisee to operate the entire cable
373 system for ten consecutive days without just cause. "Just cause" ~~((shall))~~ includes
374 circumstances beyond the franchisee's control, such as natural disasters and material
375 breakdown of the system that is not the result of the franchisee's fault or negligence.

376 B. "Access channel" means any channel or bandwidth on a cable system set aside
377 for any combination of public, educational, and ~~((or))~~ governmental use.

378 C. "Basic cable service" means any service tiers ~~((which))~~ that include the
379 retransmission of local television broadcast signals.

380 D. "Bulk rate" means a rate charged to an owner of a structure or parcel of land
381 containing multiple dwelling units in return for the provision of cable service to those units.

382 E. "Cable Act" means the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, codified at
383 47 U.S.C. Secs. 521 et seq., and as hereafter may be amended.

384 F. "Cable manager" means the director of the department of ~~((information~~
385 ~~technology))~~ executive services or ~~((the director's))~~ designee.

386 G. "Cable office" means the ~~((cable section))~~ franchise unit of the facilities
387 management division of the department of ~~((information technology))~~ executive services.

388 H. "Cable rules" means rules promulgated by the director of the department of
389 ~~((information technology))~~ executive services or ~~((the director's))~~ designee for the purpose
390 of administering the terms and requirements of this chapter.

391 I. "Cable service" means the transmission of video or other service over a cable
392 system to subscribers together with any subscriber interaction provided in connection with
393 such service.

394 J. "Cable system" means a facility, consisting of a set of closed transmission paths
395 and associated signal generation, reception, and control equipment that is designed to
396 provide cable service that includes video programming and that is provided to subscribers
397 within King County. ~~((A))~~ "((e))Cable system" does not include:

398 1. ~~((a))~~ A facility that serves only to retransmit the television signals of one or
399 more television broadcast stations;

2. ((a))A facility that serves only subscribers in one or more multiple unit dwellings under common ownership, control, or management, unless ((such)) the facility uses any public right-of-way;

3. ((a))A facility of a common carrier that is subject, in whole or in part, to the provisions of Title II of the Communications Act of 1934, codified at 47 U.S.C. Sec 201 et seq., except that such facility will be considered a cable system to the extent it is used in the transmission of video programming directly to subscribers; or

4. ((a))Any facilities of any electric utility used solely for operating its electric utility systems.

K. "Channel" means a portion of the electromagnetic frequency spectrum which is used in a cable system and which is capable of delivering a television channel, as television channel is defined by the FCC by regulation.

L. "Commercial rate" means a rate charged to a business in return for the provision of cable service to that business.

M. "Disabled subscriber" means a subscriber with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of ((such individual)) the subscriber.

N. "Equitable price" means the price that a willing buyer would pay to a willing seller for a going concern, less any value attributed to the franchise itself, less the amount of harm to the community, and less any expenses incurred by the county as result of the actions giving rise to the revocation.

O. "Fair market price" means the price that a willing buyer would pay to a willing seller for a going concern, less any value attributed to the franchise itself.

423 P. "FCC" means the Federal Communications Commission and any legally
424 appointed, designated or elected agent or successor.

425 Q. "Franchise" means the right granted by the county to a franchisee to construct,
426 reconstruct, repair, maintain and operate a cable system over, on, along, or under any
427 public rights-of-way within all or specified areas within unincorporated areas of the county.

428 ~~((The term))~~ "Franchise" does not include any license or permit required by other laws,
429 ordinances or rules of the county for the privilege of transacting and carrying on a business
430 within the county, or for construction, reconstruction, repair, or maintenance on, over, or
431 under or use of any public rights-of-way.

432 R. "Franchise agreement" means a document entered into between the county and a
433 franchisee that sets forth the terms and conditions under which the franchise will be
434 exercised.

435 S. "Franchisee" means any person granted a franchise pursuant to this chapter who
436 has entered into a franchise agreement with King County.

437 T. "Gross revenues" means the annual gross revenue of the franchisee from all
438 sources in the operation of the cable communications system, excluding any bad debt, sales
439 tax, excise tax, or other taxes collected for direct pass-through to local, state, or federal
440 government.

441 U. "Installation" means either the connection ~~((and/))~~ or the activation, or both, of
442 the system from feeder cable to subscriber terminals.

443 V. "Institutional network" means any combination of a voice, a data ~~and((/or)), and~~
444 a video communications system, whether physically integrated with a cable system or not,

445 that is constructed, operated, or maintained by a franchisee, whose transmissions are
446 principally available to persons other than cable television subscribers.

447 W. "Interconnect means" the sharing of any combination of video, audio, and~~((or))~~
448 data transmissions between two or more cable systems, institutional networks, and~~((or))~~
449 users.

450 X. "Minority persons" means African~~((-))~~ Americans, Hispanics, Mexican~~((-))~~
451 Americans, Asian~~((-))~~ Americans, Pacific Islanders, American Indians, and Alaska Natives.

452 Y. "Person" means any individual, corporation, partnership, limited partnership,
453 association, joint venture, organization, or any other legal entity of any kind, and any
454 lawful trustee, successor, assignee, transferee, or personal representative thereof.

455 Z. "Public rights-of-way" means the surface of and the space along, above, and
456 below any street, road, highway, freeway, lane, sidewalk, alley, court, boulevard, parkway,
457 drive, utility easement, and road right-of-way now or hereafter held or administered by the
458 county.

459 AA. "Senior citizen subscriber" means a subscriber sixty-five years ~~((of age))~~ old
460 or ~~((over))~~ older.

461 BB. "Subscriber" means any person who legally receives cable service delivered
462 over the cable system.

463 CC.1. "Transfer" means any transaction in which:

464 ~~((1-))~~ a. an ownership or other interest in a franchisee is transferred from one
465 person to another person so that control of the franchisee is transferred, or

466 ~~((2-))~~ b. the rights held by the franchisee under a franchise agreement are
467 transferred or assigned, in whole or in part, to another person.

468 ~~((Provided))~~ 2.a. However, the transfer of ownership or other interest in a
469 franchisee between members of the same immediate family shall not be a "transfer" for the
470 purpose of this chapter so long as the county is notified of the fact of the transfer of
471 ownership or other interest no later than fourteen ~~((14))~~ days ~~((prior to))~~ before the
472 transfer of ownership or other interest, except where the transfer of ownership or other
473 interest occurs due to death or disability, in which case the county shall be notified within
474 fourteen ~~((14))~~ days after the transfer of ownership or other interest. The franchisee shall
475 ~~((insure))~~ ensure that its insurance coverage and all other commitments continue in force
476 without interruption and provide evidence of the same to the county.

477 b. For the purposes of this ~~((provision))~~ subsection CC.2., a transfer shall be
478 deemed to be between members of the same family if the transferee is the spouse, parent,
479 sibling, adopted or natural child or other lineal descendant of the transferor, or if the
480 transferee is a trust established for the benefit of such a person or for the benefit of the
481 transferor. If the ownership or other interest in the franchisee is held by the trustee of a
482 trust, then a transfer shall be deemed to be between members of the same family if the
483 transferee is the spouse, parent, sibling, adopted or natural child or other lineal descendant
484 of any other beneficiary of the trust, or any trust created for the benefit of such a person.

485 ~~((Provided further that))~~ 3. Also, the transfer of ownership or other interest in a
486 franchisee in connection with an internal reorganization or internal merger to a direct or
487 indirect parent, subsidiary, or affiliated entity under common control with the franchisee
488 shall not be a "transfer" for the purpose of this chapter so long as:

489 ~~((1-))~~ a. the county is notified of the proposed transfer no later than thirty ~~((30))~~
490 days ~~((prior to))~~ before the transfer of ownership or other interest;

491 ~~((2-))~~ b. the transferee shall ~~((insure))~~ ensure that insurance coverage and all other
492 commitments under the franchise agreement continue in force and without interruption and
493 provide evidence to the same of the county no later than thirty ~~((30))~~ days ~~((prior to))~~
494 before the proposed transfer; and

495 ~~((3-))~~ c. there is no increased risk of liability to the county or nonperformance of
496 the terms of the franchise agreement.

497 DD. "Two-way capability" means the capacity for two-way transmission, over the
498 cable system.

499 EE. "Video programming vendor" means a person engaged in the production,
500 creation, or wholesale distribution of video programming for sale.

501 SECTION 14. Ordinance 10159, Section 16, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.27A.140
502 are hereby amended to read as follows:

503 A.1. A franchisee must charge uniform prices throughout the geographic area in
504 which cable service is provided over its cable system, except that different rates may be
505 offered to commercial rate subscribers~~((s))~~ and ~~((provided further that))~~ reduced rates may
506 be offered to:

- 507 a. new subscribers,
508 b. subscribers adding a service that they have not previously received, or
509 c. disabled, senior citizen, low income, or bulk rate subscribers.

510 2. To the extent provided by federal law, a franchisee may change its rates and
511 charges only if it has given a minimum of thirty calendar days' prior written notice to
512 subscribers and the cable office.

513 B. The county may regulate rates except to the extent it is prohibited from doing so
514 by state or federal law. Any regulated rate shall be adopted by ordinance and shall be
515 processed in accordance with the provisions of K.C.C. 20.22.060. The cable office shall
516 promptly notify the hearing examiner of any proposed rate changes. The director of the
517 department of ((~~information technology~~)) executive services is authorized to issue an order
518 to toll the effective date of proposed rates in accordance with the provisions of the FCC
519 rules and to take any other action necessary to implement rate regulation. The director of
520 the department of ((~~information technology~~)) executive services shall adopt rules governing
521 the regulation of rates that:

- 522 1. Are consistent with the FCC's regulations;
- 523 2. Provide a reasonable opportunity for consideration of the views of interested
524 parties; and
- 525 3. Establish procedures analogous to those set forth by the FCC governing

526 requests that proprietary information produced in the course of a rate proceeding be treated
527 as confidential, to the extent permitted by law.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, ____.

Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

Attachments: None



Executive Girmay Zahilay

Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800
 401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
 Seattle, WA 98104-2391

May 20, 2026

The Honorable First and Last Name of current Council Chair
 Chair, King County Council
 Room 1200
 C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Perry:

I am pleased to transmit to you a proposed Ordinance that would, if enacted, update the divisions of the King County Information Technology Department (KCIT), move the Cable Office to the Department of Executive Services, and make other adjustments to King County Code for KCIT. The department's divisional structure was last updated in 2016 via Ordinance 18432. Since that time, King County's technology needs and uses have significantly expanded, along with the rapidly evolving modern technology environment.

On March 10, 2026, the King County Council confirmed my appointment of Stephen Heard as the director of KCIT. Prior to his confirmation, Mr. Heard had served for over a year as the acting director of KCIT, and before that as the Chief Technology Officer for the department. Over this time, Mr. Heard and his leadership team have been focused on increasing efficiency, driving strategic alignment, and delivering value for the County's technology customers. The updated divisional structure, duties, and functions reflect department's organizational realignment, further strengthening KCIT's ability to more effectively meet the County's business and capital technology needs.

Key changes to KCIT's divisional structure, functions, and duties include adding two new divisions, the Information Security and Privacy Division and the Data and Information Services Division. Two existing division names and functions are updated, with the Enterprise Business Services Division renamed the Enterprise Technology Services Division and the Infrastructure and Operations Division renamed the Business and Operations Services Division. The former standalone Radio Communications Division is moved to be a function under the Business and Operations Services Division. The Enhanced-911 Program, or E-911 Program, is renamed the 911

The Honorable Sarah Perry

May 20, 2026

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Program, dropping the “enhanced” as a long-outdated term for the technology involved in the program.

Another key change is the transfer of the Cable Office, which handles cable franchise agreements, to the Department of Executive Services (DES), Facilities Management Division (FMD). Under King County Code 2.16.035, the Department of Executive Services oversees all franchising activities except for cable telecommunications, which is currently managed by the department of information technology. In partnership with DES, the move of the Cable Office to DES FMD efficiently consolidates all franchise work under one department. The two General Fund supported FTEs doing Cable Office franchise work will be moved in a future budget Ordinance.

As noted, the proposed legislation modernizing KCIT’s divisional structure updates the functions and duties of the divisions. As part of KCIT’s strategic transformation, previously narrowly defined duties and functions are shifting to a dynamic structure designed to advance agility, collaboration, and evolving operational priorities. This shift supports the ability of the department to flexibly respond to evolving customer needs. The updated duties and functions of the department’s divisions highlight modern technology needs such as cybersecurity, privacy, data modeling, and data integration.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation. By more efficiently organizing the work of the department, KCIT is taking steps to deliver on the County’s strategic technology goals of increasing mission impact, improving resident and stakeholder experience, reducing cybersecurity and enterprise risk, driving productivity and cost optimization, and developing people and teams.

If your staff have questions, please contact Stephen Heard, Chief Information Officer and Director, King County Information Technology Department, at 206-477-5728.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Girmay Zahilay", with a stylized flourish at the end.

for

Girmay Zahilay
King County Executive

The Honorable Sarah Perry

May 20, 2026

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Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive

Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive

Sierra Howlett Browne, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Executive

Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive

Stephen Heard, Chief Information Officer and Director, King County Information
Technology Department

Lorraine Patterson, Director King County Department of Executive Services

2026-2027 FISCAL NOTE

Ordinance/Motion: KCIT Reorg
 Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to organization and functions of the department of information technology
 Affected Agency and/or Agencies: KCIT, DES
 Note Prepared By: Junko Keesecker
 Date Prepared: 5/11/2026
 Note Reviewed By:
 Date Reviewed:

Description of request:

Updating the KCIT division structure and moving the Cable Office to DES. These adjustments are strictly capturing the organizational changes to the operations. Any necessary budgetary adjustments will happen in a future budget submittal and will have no fiscal impact. The ordinance is also updating the name of the 911 program from "E-911 program" to "911 program".

Revenue to:

Agency	Fund Code	Revenue Source	2026-2027	2028-2029	2030-2031
TOTAL			0	0	0

Expenditures from:

Agency	Fund Code	Department	2026-2027	2028-2029	2030-2031
TOTAL			0	0	0

Expenditures by Categories

	2026-2027	2028-2029	2030-2031
TOTAL	0	0	0

Does this legislation require a budget supplemental? Ye NO

Notes and Assumptions:

No 2026-2027 budget impact to KCIT or DES FMD.

PO 2026-0133 K.C.C. 2A.380 Change Comparison

Code Section	Current	New
2A.380.010	The department shall be comprised of the office of the chief information officer, the emergency radio systems division, the enterprise business services division and the infrastructure and operations division.	The department shall be comprised of the office of the chief information officer, ((the emergency radio systems division;)) <u>the chief information security officer, the information security and privacy division,</u> the enterprise ((business)) <u>technology services division ((and the infrastructure)), the business and operations services division, and the data and information services division.</u>
2A.380.025	No SubSection D.	<u>D. The chief information security office shall manage and direct the information security and privacy division.</u>
2A.380.050	The duties of the emergency radio communications division include administering the emergency radio communication system, but not including the radio communication and data system operated and maintained by the Metro transit department.	The duties of the ((emergency radio communications division include administering the emergency radio communication system, but not including the radio communication and data system operated and maintained by the Metro transit department)) <u>information security and privacy division include:</u> <u>A. Implementing and maintaining the county's cybersecurity and privacy programs and activities;</u> <u>B. Developing, implementing, and enforcing cybersecurity and privacy architecture and engineering policies and standards;</u> <u>C. Overseeing cybersecurity and privacy governance, risk, and compliance functions; and</u> <u>D. Identifying, implementing, and enforcing data protection requirements.</u>
2A.380.060	The duties of the enterprise business services division include: A. Application development, system integration, data management, business intelligence and managed software services; B. Web development, standards and governance, social media strategy, King County Internet and Intranet, open data strategy and support; C. Information technology business analysis consulting, technology solution evaluation, business case development, process improvement, supporting transition-to-technology launch and information technology training for end users on new or enhanced technology tools and applications; D. Managing information technology projects and related documentation in accordance with countywide project	The duties of the enterprise ((business)) <u>technology services division include:</u> A. ((Application development, system integration, data management, business intelligence and managed software services)) <u>Providing and managing enterprise architecture, software engineering, and application development, quality and support services for county technology;</u> B. ((Web development, standards and governance, social media strategy, King County Internet and Intranet, open data strategy and support)) <u>Developing and managing applications and digital platforms, including enterprise Geographic Information System platforms, tools, and services; and</u> C. ((Information technology business analysis consulting, technology solution evaluation, business case development, process improvement, supporting transition-to-technology launch and information technology training for end users on new or enhanced technology tools and applications;

	management methodology including post-implementation reporting; and E. Develop countywide project management methodology and tools for information technology projects.	———— D. Managing information technology projects and related documentation in accordance with countywide project management methodology including post-implementation reporting; and ———— E. Develop countywide project management methodology and tools for information technology projects.)) <u>Designing, operating, managing, and maintaining technology networks, servers, storage, cloud environments, and data centers.</u>
2A.380.070	The duties of the infrastructure and operations division include: A. Designing, planning, developing, operating, maintaining and enhancing information technology systems and infrastructures for the county and other contracting agencies; B. Managing the lifecycle of workstations and other information technology devices, including installation, maintenance and decommissioning; C. Managing network connectivity and the Institutional Network, also known as I-Net; D. Providing geographic information systems services, also known as GIS services; E. Negotiating, managing and administering the cable communications provisions in K.C.C. chapter 6.27A; F. Providing communications infrastructure and support to include voice and data communications services for the county and contracting agencies; and G. Managing the enhanced 911 emergency-communication system.	The duties of the ((infrastructure)) <u>business</u> and operations division include: A. ((Designing, planning, developing, operating, maintaining and enhancing information technology systems and infrastructures)) <u>Managing enterprise information technology project lifecycle activities</u> for the county and other contracting agencies; B. ((Managing the lifecycle of workstations and other information technology devices, including installation, maintenance and decommissioning)) <u>Managing business case development and transition-to-technology activities, including end user training;</u> C. ((Managing network connectivity and the Institutional Network, also known as I-Net)) <u>Configuring, installing, and maintaining end-user computing services, software, and device; and</u> D. ((Providing geographic information systems services, also known as GIS services; ———— E. Negotiating, managing and administering the cable communications provisions in K.C.C. chapter 6.27A; ———— F. Providing communications infrastructure and support to include voice and data communications services for the county and contracting agencies; and ———— G. Managing the enhanced 911 emergency-communication system.)) <u>Developing, designing, deploying, and managing telecommunications and technology infrastructure, including the public safety communications infrastructure, the Institutional Network, which is also known as I-Net, and the emergency communication system for the county and other contract entities, excluding the radio communication and data system operated and maintained by the Metro transit department.</u>
New Chapter	n/a	The duties of the data and information services division include: A. Implementing and maintaining data and information architecture standards for data modeling, data quality, and data management; B. Designing and operating data and reporting platforms, data integrations, and data repositories; and C. Designing and implementing analytics platforms and solutions.

PO 2026-0133 K.C.C. 4A.200 Change Comparison

Code Section	Current	New
4A.200.280	A. There is hereby created an enhanced 911 emergency communication system fund. B. The fund shall be a first tier fund. It is a special revenue fund. C. The director of the department of information technology shall be the manager of the fund. D. All receipts from the taxes imposed under K.C.C. 4A.510.200, 4A.510.210, 4A.510.220, 4A.510.230, 4A.510.240 and 4A.510.250 shall be deposited in the fund. E. The fund shall provide for the receipt of revenues and disbursement of expenditures related to the provision of an enhanced 911 emergency communication system in King County.	A. There is hereby created ((an enhanced)) a 911 emergency communication system fund. B. The fund shall be a first tier fund. It is a special revenue fund. C. The director of the department of information technology shall be the manager of the fund. D. All receipts from the taxes imposed under K.C.C. 4A.510.200, 4A.510.210, 4A.510.220, 4A.510.230, 4A.510.240 and 4A.510.250 shall be deposited in the fund. E. The fund shall provide for the receipt of revenues and disbursement of expenditures related to the provision of ((an enhanced)) a 911 emergency communication system in King County.
4A.200.2805	A. There is hereby created the enhanced 911 emergency communication system capital fund. B. The fund shall be a first tier fund. It is a capital projects fund. C. The director of the department of information technology shall be the manager of the fund. D. All receipts from transfers from the enhanced 911 emergency communication system fund, bond proceeds, grants, and other revenues for enhanced 911 with a capital appropriation shall be deposited in the fund. E. The fund shall be used to support capital projects and equipment replacement related to the provision of an enhanced 911 emergency communication system in King County.	A. There is hereby created the ((enhanced)) 911 emergency communication system capital fund. B. The fund shall be a first tier fund. It is a capital projects fund. C. The director of the department of information technology shall be the manager of the fund. D. All receipts from transfers from the ((enhanced)) 911 emergency communication system fund, bond proceeds, grants, and other revenues for ((enhanced)) 911 with a capital appropriation shall be deposited in the fund. E. The fund shall be used to support capital projects and equipment replacement related to the provision of ((an enhanced)) a 911 emergency communication system in King County.

PO 2026-0133 K.C.C. 4A.510 Change Comparison

Code Section	Current	New
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4A.510.220	A. The proceeds of the tax imposed by this chapter before January 1, 2010, and investment earnings therefrom shall be used only to pay for the implementation and operation of an enhanced 911 emergency telephone system. B. The proceeds of the tax imposed by this chapter on and after January 1, 2011, and investment earnings therefrom shall be used only to pay for the implementation and operation of an enhanced 911 emergency communications system and any applicable administrative fee charged by the state of Washington Department of Revenue for the administration and collection of the tax.	A. The proceeds of the tax imposed by this chapter before January 1, 2010, and investment earnings therefrom shall be used only to pay for the implementation and operation of ((an enhanced)) a 911 emergency telephone system. B. The proceeds of the tax imposed by this chapter on and after January 1, 2011, and investment earnings therefrom shall be used only to pay for the implementation and operation of ((an enhanced)) a 911 emergency communications system and any applicable administrative fee charged by the state of Washington Department of Revenue for the administration and collection of the tax.
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PO 2026-0133 K.C.C. 6.27A Change Comparison

Code Section	Current	New
6.27A.010	For the purpose of this chapter, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meanings given herein. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words in the plural number include the singular number, and words in the singular number include the plural number. The words "shall" and "will" are mandatory, and "may" is permissive. Words not defined herein shall be given the meaning set forth in the Cable Act. Words not defined in this chapter or the Cable Act shall be given their common and ordinary meaning. A. "Abandonment" means failure by the franchisee to operate the entire cable system for ten consecutive days without just cause. Just cause shall include circumstances beyond the franchisee's control, such as natural disasters and material breakdown of the system that is not the result of the franchisee's fault or negligence. B. "Access channel" means any channel or bandwidth on a cable system set aside for public, educational and/or governmental use. C. "Basic cable service" means any service tiers which include the retransmission of local television broadcast signals.	For the purpose of this chapter, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivations shall have the meanings given herein. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words in the plural number include the singular number, and words in the singular number include the plural number. The words "shall" and "will" are mandatory, and "may" is permissive. Words not defined ((herein)) <u>in this section</u> shall be given the meaning set forth in the Cable Act. Words not defined in this chapter or the Cable Act shall be given their common and ordinary meaning. A. "Abandonment" means failure by the franchisee to operate the entire cable system for ten consecutive days without just cause. "Just cause" ((shall)) <u>includes</u> circumstances beyond the franchisee's control, such as natural disasters and material breakdown of the system that is not the result of the franchisee's fault or negligence. B. "Access channel" means any channel or bandwidth on a cable system set aside for <u>any combination of</u> public, educational, and ((for)) governmental use. C. "Basic cable service" means any service tiers ((which)) <u>that</u> include the retransmission of local television broadcast signals. D. No Change E. No Change F. "Cable manager" means the director of the department of ((information technology)) <u>executive services</u> or ((the director's)) designee.

D. "Bulk rate" means a rate charged to an owner of a structure or parcel of land containing multiple dwelling units in return for the provision of cable service to those units. E. "Cable Act" means the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, codified at 47 U.S.C. Secs. 521 et seq., and as hereafter may be amended. F. "Cable manager" means the director of the department of information technology or the director's designee. G. "Cable office" means the cable section of the department of information technology. H. "Cable rules" means rules promulgated by the director of the department of information technology or the director's designee for the purpose of administering the terms and requirements of this chapter. I. "Cable service" means the transmission of video or other service over a cable system to subscribers together with any subscriber interaction provided in connection with such service. J. "Cable system" means a facility, consisting of a set of closed transmission paths and associated signal generation, reception and control equipment that is designed to provide cable service that includes video programming and that is provided to subscribers within King County. A cable system does not include: 1. a facility that serves only to retransmit the television signals of one or more television broadcast stations; 2. a facility that serves only subscribers in one or more multiple unit dwellings under common ownership, control, or management, unless such facility uses any public right-of-way; 3. a facility of a common carrier that is subject, in whole or in part, to the provisions of Title II of the Communications Act of 1934, codified at 47 U.S.C. Sec 201 et seq., except that such facility will be considered a cable system to the extent it is used in the transmission of video programming directly to subscribers; or 4. any facilities of any electric utility used solely for operating its electric utility systems. K. "Channel" means a portion of the electromagnetic frequency spectrum which is used in a cable system and which is capable of delivering a television channel, as television channel is defined by the FCC by regulation. L. "Commercial rate" means a rate charged to a business in return for the provision of cable service to that business.	G. "Cable office" means the ((cable section)) <u>franchise unit</u> of the <u>facilities management division of the department of ((information technology)) executive services.</u> H. "Cable rules" means rules promulgated by the director of the department of ((information technology)) executive services or ((the director's)) designee for the purpose of administering the terms and requirements of this chapter. I. No Change J. "Cable system" means a facility, consisting of a set of closed transmission paths and associated signal generation, reception, and control equipment that is designed to provide cable service that includes video programming and that is provided to subscribers within King County. ((A)) <u>"((e))Cable system"</u> does not include: 1. ((A)) <u>A</u> facility that serves only to retransmit the television signals of one or more television broadcast stations; 2. ((A)) <u>A</u> facility that serves only subscribers in one or more multiple unit dwellings under common ownership, control, or management, unless ((such)) <u>the</u> facility uses any public right-of-way; 3. ((A)) <u>A</u> facility of a common carrier that is subject, in whole or in part, to the provisions of Title II of the Communications Act of 1934, codified at 47 U.S.C. Sec 201 et seq., except that such facility will be considered a cable system to the extent it is used in the transmission of video programming directly to subscribers; or 4. ((A)) <u>Any</u> facilities of any electric utility used solely for operating its electric utility systems. K. – L. No change. M. "Disabled subscriber" means a subscriber with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of ((such individual)) <u>the subscriber.</u> N.- P. No change. Q. "Franchise" means the right granted by the county to a franchisee to construct, reconstruct, repair, maintain and operate a cable system over, on, along, or under any public rights-of-way within all or specified areas within unincorporated areas of the county. ((The term)) <u>"Franchise"</u> does not include any license or permit required by other laws, ordinances or rules of the county for the privilege of transacting and carrying on a business within the county, or for construction, reconstruction, repair, or maintenance on, over, or under or use of any public rights-of-way. R. – T. No change.
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M. "Disabled subscriber" means a subscriber with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual. N. "Equitable price" means the price that a willing buyer would pay to a willing seller for a going concern, less any value attributed to the franchise itself, less the amount of harm to the community, and less any expenses incurred by the county as result of the actions giving rise to the revocation. O. "Fair market price" means the price that a willing buyer would pay to a willing seller for a going concern, less any value attributed to the franchise itself. P. "FCC" means the Federal Communications Commission and any legally appointed, designated or elected agent or successor. Q. "Franchise" means the right granted by the county to a franchisee to construct, reconstruct, repair, maintain and operate a cable system over, on, along, or under any public rights-of-way within all or specified areas within unincorporated areas of the county. The term does not include any license or permit required by other laws, ordinances or rules of the county for the privilege of transacting and carrying on a business within the county, or for construction, reconstruction, repair or maintenance on, over or under or use of any public rights-of-way. R. "Franchise agreement" means a document entered into between the county and a franchisee that sets forth the terms and conditions under which the franchise will be exercised. S. "Franchisee" means any person granted a franchise pursuant to this chapter who has entered into a franchise agreement with King County. T. "Gross revenues" means the annual gross revenue of the franchisee from all sources in the operation of the cable communications system, excluding any bad debt, sales tax, excise tax, or other taxes collected for direct pass-through to local, state or federal government. U. "Installation" means the connection and/or activation of the system from feeder cable to subscriber terminals. V. "Institutional network" means a voice, data and/or video communications system, whether physically integrated with a cable system or not, that is constructed, operated or maintained	U. "Installation" means either the connection ((and/)) or the activation, or both, of the system from feeder cable to subscriber terminals. V. "Institutional network" means <u>any combination of</u> a voice, <u>a</u> data and((/or)), and <u>a</u> video communications system, whether physically integrated with a cable system or not, that is constructed, operated, or maintained by a franchisee, whose transmissions are principally available to persons other than cable television subscribers. W. "Interconnect means" the sharing of <u>any combination of</u> video, audio, and((/or)) data transmissions between two or more cable systems, institutional networks, and((/or)) users. X. "Minority persons" means African((=)) Americans, Hispanics, Mexican((=)) Americans, Asian((=)) Americans, Pacific Islanders, American Indians, and Alaska Natives. Y. – Z. No change. AA. "Senior citizen subscriber" means a subscriber sixty-five years ((of age)) old or ((over)) older. BB. No change. CC.1. "Transfer" means any transaction in which: ((1-)) <u>a.</u> an ownership or other interest in a franchisee is transferred from one person to another person so that control of the franchisee is transferred, or ((2-)) <u>b.</u> the rights held by the franchisee under a franchise agreement are transferred or assigned, in whole or in part, to another person. ((Provided)) <u>2.a. However</u>, the transfer of ownership or other interest in a franchisee between members of the same immediate family shall not be a "transfer" for the purpose of this chapter so long as the county is notified of the fact of the transfer of ownership or other interest no later than fourteen ((14)) days ((prior to)) <u>before</u> the transfer of ownership or other interest, except where the transfer of ownership or other interest occurs due to death or disability, in which case the county shall be notified within fourteen ((14)) days after the transfer of ownership or other interest. The franchisee shall ((insure)) <u>ensure</u> that its insurance coverage and all other commitments continue in force without interruption and provide evidence of the same to the county. <u>b.</u> For the purposes of this ((provision)) <u>subsection CC.2.</u>, a transfer shall be deemed to be between members of the same family if the transferee is the spouse, parent, sibling, adopted or natural child or other lineal descendant of the transferor, or if the transferee is a trust established for the benefit of such a person or for the benefit of the transferor. If the ownership or other interest in the franchisee is held by the trustee of a trust, then a transfer shall be deemed to be between members of the same family if the transferee is the spouse, parent,
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by a franchisee, whose transmissions are principally available to persons other than cable television subscribers. W. "Interconnect means" the sharing of video, audio and/or data transmissions between two or more cable systems, institutional networks and/or users. X. "Minority persons" means African-Americans, Hispanics, Mexican-Americans, Asian-Americans, Pacific Islanders, American Indians and Alaska Natives. Y. "Person" means any individual, corporation, partnership, limited partnership, association, joint venture, organization, or any other legal entity of any kind, and any lawful trustee, successor, assignee, transferee or personal representative thereof. Z. "Public rights-of-way" means the surface of and the space along, above and below any street, road, highway, freeway, lane, sidewalk, alley, court, boulevard, parkway, drive, utility easement and road right-of-way now or hereafter held or administered by the county. AA. "Senior citizen subscriber" means a subscriber sixty-five years of age or over. BB. "Subscriber" means any person who legally receives cable service delivered over the cable system. CC. "Transfer" means any transaction in which: 1. an ownership or other interest in a franchisee is transferred from one person to another person so that control of the franchisee is transferred, or 2. the rights held by the franchisee under a franchise agreement are transferred or assigned, in whole or in part, to another person. Provided, the transfer of ownership or other interest in a franchisee between members of the same immediate family shall not be a transfer for the purpose of this chapter so long as the county is notified of the fact of the transfer of ownership or other interest no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the transfer of ownership or other interest, except where the transfer of ownership or other interest occurs due to death or disability, in which case the county shall be notified within fourteen (14) days after the transfer of ownership or other interest. The franchisee shall insure that its insurance coverage and all other commitments continue in force without interruption and provide evidence of the same to the county.	sibling, adopted or natural child or other lineal descendant of any other beneficiary of the trust, or any trust created for the benefit of such a person. ((Provided further that)) 3. Also, the transfer of ownership or other interest in a franchisee in connection with an internal reorganization or internal merger to a direct or indirect parent, subsidiary, or affiliated entity under common control with the franchisee shall not be a "transfer" for the purpose of this chapter so long as: ((1-)) a. the county is notified of the proposed transfer no later than thirty ((30)) days ((prior to)) before the transfer of ownership or other interest; ((2-)) b. the transferee shall ((insure)) ensure that insurance coverage and all other commitments under the franchise agreement continue in force and without interruption and provide evidence to the same of the county no later than thirty ((30)) days ((prior to)) before the proposed transfer; and ((3-)) c. there is no increased risk of liability to the county or nonperformance of the terms of the franchise agreement. DD. – EE. No change.
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	For the purposes of this provision, a transfer shall be deemed to be between members of the same family if the transferee is the spouse, parent, sibling, adopted or natural child or other lineal descendant of the transferor, or if the transferee is a trust established for the benefit of such a person or for the benefit of the transferor. If the ownership or other interest in the franchisee is held by the trustee of a trust, then a transfer shall be deemed to be between members of the same family if the transferee is the spouse, parent, sibling, adopted or natural child or other lineal descendant of any other beneficiary of the trust, or any trust created for the benefit of such a person. Provided further that, the transfer of ownership or other interest in a franchisee in connection with an internal reorganization or internal merger to a direct or indirect parent, subsidiary or affiliated entity under common control with the franchisee shall not be a transfer for the purpose of this chapter so long as: 1. the county is notified of the proposed transfer no later than thirty (30) days prior to the transfer of ownership or other interest; 2. the transferee shall insure that insurance coverage and all other commitments under the franchise agreement continue in force and without interruption and provide evidence to the same of the county no later than thirty (30) days prior to the proposed transfer; and 3. there is no increased risk of liability to the county or nonperformance of the terms of the franchise agreement. DD. "Two-way capability" means the capacity for two-way transmission, over the cable system. EE. "Video programming vendor" means a person engaged in the production, creation, or wholesale distribution of video programming for sale.	
6.27A.1 40	A.1. A franchisee must charge uniform prices throughout the geographic area in which cable service is provided over its cable system, except that different rates may be offered to commercial rate subscribers, and provided further that reduced rates may be offered to: a. new subscribers, b. subscribers adding a service that they have not previously received, or	A.1. A franchisee must charge uniform prices throughout the geographic area in which cable service is provided over its cable system, except that different rates may be offered to commercial rate subscribers((=)) and ((provided further that)) reduced rates may be offered to: a. new subscribers, b. subscribers adding a service that they have not previously received, or c. disabled, senior citizen, low income, or bulk rate subscribers.

c. disabled, senior citizen, low income or bulk rate subscribers. 2. To the extent provided by federal law, a franchisee may change its rates and charges only if it has given a minimum of thirty calendar days prior written notice to subscribers and the cable office. B. The county may regulate rates except to the extent it is prohibited from doing so by state or federal law. Any regulated rate shall be adopted by ordinance and shall be processed in accordance with the provisions of K.C.C. 20.22.060. The cable office shall promptly notify the hearing examiner of any proposed rate changes. The director of the department of information technology is authorized to issue an order to toll the effective date of proposed rates in accordance with the provisions of the FCC rules and to take any other action necessary to implement rate regulation. The director of the department of information technology shall adopt rules governing the regulation of rates that: 1. Are consistent with the FCC's regulations; 2. Provide a reasonable opportunity for consideration of the views of interested parties; and 3. Establish procedures analogous to those set forth by the FCC governing requests that proprietary information produced in the course of a rate proceeding be treated as confidential, to the extent permitted by law.	2. To the extent provided by federal law, a franchisee may change its rates and charges only if it has given a minimum of thirty calendar days' prior written notice to subscribers and the cable office. B. The county may regulate rates except to the extent it is prohibited from doing so by state or federal law. Any regulated rate shall be adopted by ordinance and shall be processed in accordance with the provisions of K.C.C. 20.22.060. The cable office shall promptly notify the hearing examiner of any proposed rate changes. The director of the department of ((information technology)) <u>executive services</u> is authorized to issue an order to toll the effective date of proposed rates in accordance with the provisions of the FCC rules and to take any other action necessary to implement rate regulation. The director of the department of ((information technology)) <u>executive services</u> shall adopt rules governing the regulation of rates that: 1. Are consistent with the FCC's regulations; 2. Provide a reasonable opportunity for consideration of the views of interested parties; and 3. Establish procedures analogous to those set forth by the FCC governing requests that proprietary information produced in the course of a rate proceeding be treated as confidential, to the extent permitted by law.
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Metropolitan King County Council Staff Report

Committee:	Committee of the Whole		
Agenda Item:	8	Analyst(s):	Mary Bourguignon
Proposed No.:	2026-0242	Meeting Date:	September 22, 2026

OVERVIEW

TOPIC: Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242 would assume governance of the King County Transportation District (KCTD).

LEGISLATION SUMMARY

In 2014, King County created a Transportation Benefit District (TBD) called the King County Transportation District (KCTD) as an independent government to fund and implement transportation improvements. Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242 would:

- Assume all rights, powers, functions and obligations of the KCTD into King County
- Abolish the KCTD Board of Supervisors
- Readopt and ratify Resolutions previously enacted by the KCTD
- Reiterate the Executive's intent to submit a proposed Implementation Plan for the KCTD's roads funding measure to the Council by October 1, 2026, as a report
- Make the Department of Local Services responsible for administering the City Transportation Improvement Program (CTIP) in the KCTD's roads funding measure

KEY ISSUES FROM THE ANALYSIS

Key Issue A. [Assuming the KCTD into King County is a policy choice for the Council.](#)

King County has experience both with working with an independent district and assuming a district into the County. It is a policy choice for the Council whether the KCTD should remain independent or be assumed. Administrative costs and level of oversight could differ based on the policy choices the Council makes.

AMENDMENTS

Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242 will need a technical amendment to correct several citations. That amendment, as well as any substantive amendments to be proposed by Councilmembers, can be offered and considered at a future meeting.

King County Transportation District. Washington state law¹ allows for the creation of local Transportation Benefit Districts (TBDs), which are independent governments created to fund and implement transportation improvements. TBDs may be established by the legislative authority of a county or city, and they can encompass territory within a jurisdiction's boundaries, the boundaries of multiple jurisdictions, or a portion of the territory within a jurisdiction's boundaries.²

In 2014, King County established the King County Transportation District (KCTD) as a TBD for the county.³ Its geographic boundaries are those of King County. It is governed by a Board of Supervisors made up of the members of the King County Council.⁴ The KCTD is a separate government that is independent from King County.

Roads funding measure. In June 2026, the KCTD Board imposed a councilmanic 0.1% sales and use tax for roads-related purposes.⁵ Sales tax collections will begin January 1, 2027, and extend for 10 years. The roads funding measure is anticipated to collect an average of \$100 million per year, with approximately 12.5% of revenues to be directed to local jurisdictions through a City Transportation Improvement Program (CTIP), and the remainder to be used on King County's unincorporated roads network.

In anticipation of revenue collections, the KCTD must either be assumed into King County or take the necessary administrative steps to accept and manage revenues from the funding measure as an independent governmental entity.

To guide implementation of the roads funding measure, the KCTD Board asked the King County Executive to transmit a proposed Implementation Plan and Interlocal Agreement (ILA) to both the KCTD Board and King County Council by October 1, 2026.⁶

Requirements to assume KCTD into King County. State law outlines the process by which the rights, powers, immunities, functions, and obligations of a TBD can be assumed into its local government.⁷ The assumption process requires that the local government (in this case, King County) adopt two pieces of legislation:

¹ RCW 36.73 ([link](#))

² RCW 36.73.020 ([link](#))

³ Ordinance 17746 ([link](#))

⁴ Resolution TD2014-01 ([link](#))

⁵ Resolution TD2026-01 ([link](#))

⁶ Resolution TD2026-02 ([link](#))

⁷ RCW 36.74

- The first (Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241) would set the time and place for a public hearing to consider whether to assume rights, powers, immunities, functions, and obligations of the KCTD.
- The second (Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242), which cannot be passed until the public hearing is concluded, would effectuate the assumption. Specifically, it would:
 - o Assume all rights, powers, functions and obligations of the KCTD into King County.
 - o Abolish the KCTD Board of Supervisors.
 - o Add a new chapter to the King County Code readopting and ratifying all Resolutions enacted by the KCTD Board of Supervisors that were not expressly repealed by the effective date of Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242 and that are not inconsistent with the King County Charter or ordinances.
 - o Reiterate the Executive's intent, as originally requested by the KCTD,⁸ to submit a proposed Implementation Plan for the roads funding measure to the Council by October 1. As Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242 is currently drafted, the implementation plan would be submitted to the Council as a report to be filed, without a requirement for Council action to adopt, affirm, or acknowledge the transmitted implementation plan.
 - o Amend the King County Code to make the Department of Local Services responsible for administering the City Transportation Improvement Program (CTIP) that was created by the KCTD's roads funding measure⁹ to allocate moneys to qualifying city transportation projects.

If Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242 is passed, the funding sources allocated to the KCTD for transportation improvements under State law would become available to King County. The responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the KCTD's 2026 roads funding measure, as well as the responsibility for developing any future roads or transit funding measures based on the funding sources currently available to the KCTD would belong to the King County Executive and King County Council following County policies, as outlined in the King County Charter, King County Code, and adopted ordinances.

⁸ Resolution TD2026-02 ([link](#))

⁹ Resolution TD2026-01 ([link](#))

Key Issue A. Assuming the KCTD into King County is a policy choice for the Council. As the KCTD Board has discussed over the course of the last year, King County has experience with both working with an independent district and with assuming an independent district into King County, meaning that it is a policy choice for the Council whether the KCTD should remain an independent governmental entity, as it is now, or whether it should be assumed into King County, which is what would occur if the Council passes Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242. As examples of these approaches:

- **The King County Flood Control District** is an independent governmental entity that carries out its work through an Interlocal Agreement (ILA)¹⁰ with King County. The Flood Control District has a staff of three (Director, Deputy Director, Clerk), as well as contracted legal, accounting, and communications support. The district contracts with King County for office space and IT, for treasury services, and for the implementation of flood control projects.
- **The King County Ferry District** was created as an independent government in 2007¹¹ and carried out its work under contract to King County until it was assumed into King County in 2014.¹² The Ferry District's dedicated property tax¹³ is now part of King County's taxing authority. Water taxi services, which had previously been operated by King County's Marine Division under contract, are now operated by the Marine Division as part of the King County's transit¹⁴ operations.

Factors in the Council's decision regarding assumption could include:

Fiscal impact. The Executive has asserted that assuming the KCTD into King County would save approximately \$2.5 million each year in administrative costs. It is difficult to precisely estimate the fiscal impact of assumption because the KCTD is not yet fully operational. There are some expenses related to implementing the 2026 roads funding measure that would be incurred regardless of whether the KCTD remains in existence or is assumed, and some costs that might vary depending on the KCTD's status. Specifically:

- **Costs that would be incurred regardless.** Whether the KCTD remains independent or is assumed, there will be costs to manage and implement the 2026 roads funding measure that will be covered with revenues from the roads funding measure. The

¹⁰ FCD2021-06

¹¹ Ordinance 15739

¹² Ordinances 17908 and 17935, Motion FD14-01

¹³ RCW 36.54.130

¹⁴ The Marine Division had been part of the former King County Department of Transportation. In 2019, it was moved into the newly created Metro Transit Department (Ordinance 18777).

Finance and Business Operations Division (FBOD) has indicated it will request support to provide treasury and cash management services for the roads funding measure, including managing disbursements from the measure's City Transportation Improvement Program (CTIP). The Department of Local Services has indicated it will request support to oversee the roads funding measure, as well as for staff, contractors, and supplies to implement the funded road improvements. Council staff understand that the upcoming second omnibus budget ordinance will include proposed appropriation and FTE authority for these types of expenses.

- **Costs that may differ based on the KCTD's status.** The Executive has indicated that there could be a cost savings of up to \$2.5 million each year by assuming the KCTD into King County,¹⁵ stating that there would be savings in staffing and administrative costs by making King County rather than the KCTD responsible for the KCTD's functions. Executive staff note that the \$2.5 million estimate is based on the current budget of the Flood Control District, which employs three staff and has an annual administrative budget of \$2.5 million, which includes \$1.3 million for management and support; \$1 million for legal, accounting, and professional services; and the remainder for rent, insurance, and the other costs of doing business as an independent entity. Executive staff state that these costs would be avoided by absorbing the KCTD into King County. It is unclear if that differential might be lower: for example, King County might need additional legal counsel support if the KCTD is assumed and therefore no longer has dedicated counsel.

A definitive fiscal impact of the assumption of KCTD into King County is difficult to estimate because the KCTD does not currently have staff and is not yet administering an ILA with King County to oversee implementation of the roads funding measure.

However, it is likely that it would be less expensive to rely on existing County staff and procedures (if the KCTD is assumed) rather than hiring staff to manage a contract with King County (if the KCTD remains independent).

Oversight responsibilities. If the KCTD is assumed into King County, the Executive branch would manage the implementation of the roads funding measure, as well as the planning for any future transportation measures or programs to be funded with the revenues originally allocated to the KCTD.

Oversight would be provided by the Council through standard County procedures, including the budget process and the King County Code. For the roads funding measure, Council oversight would also be provided through the reporting requirements established

¹⁵ Executive Zahilay Statement on Transportation Benefit District Legislation, August 25, 2026 ([link](#))

in the authorizing Resolution for the KCTD funding measure, which requires a review of projects and programs at the end of the sixth year of sales tax collections.¹⁶

If the KCTD remains independent, there would be an additional layer of oversight through the ILA that the KCTD would negotiate with King County. That ILA would set the terms and conditions through which King County would implement the roads funding measure.

Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242 states that the Executive plans to transmit an Implementation Plan for the roads funding measure, as had originally been requested by the KCTD. As Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242 is drafted, the Implementation Plan would be transmitted as a report and would not require action by the Council to approve, accept, or acknowledge the Implementation Plan. If the Council wishes to move forward with the assumption of the KCTD but also wishes additional oversight of specific aspects of the roads funding measure, the Council could amend Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242 to include additional oversight mechanisms.

It is a policy choice for the Council whether the Council's standard level of oversight would be sufficient to manage the implementation of the roads funding measure; whether the Council would wish to add in additional oversight requirements or authority to initiate a future transit measure or other use of KCTD's former funding sources via Code changes or other means; or whether the Council would wish to retain the level of oversight that would be provided by an ILA between King County and an independent KCTD.

AMENDMENTS

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Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242 will need a technical amendment to correct several citations. That amendment, as well as any substantive amendments to be proposed by Councilmembers, can be offered and considered at future meetings of this committee or the full Council.

Staff will coordinate with the Chair to provide an amendment timeline once the date for the required public hearing has been set through Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242
2. Transmittal Letter
3. Fiscal Note

¹⁶ Resolution TD2026-01 ([link](#))



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2026-0242.1

Sponsors Dembowski, Lewis, Mosqueda,
Dunn and von Reichbauer

1 AN ORDINANCE assuming governance of the King
2 County transportation district; amending Ordinance 11955,
3 Section 5, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.16.055 and adding a
4 new chapter to K.C.C. Title 2.

5 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

6 **SECTION 1. Findings:**

7 A. On February 10, 2014, through Ordinance 17746, King County established a
8 county-wide transportation district coterminous with the boundaries of the county, as
9 authorized by chapter 36.73 RCW.

10 B. The King County transportation district may be assumed by King County in
11 accordance with chapter 36.74 RCW.

12 C. On June 12, 2026, the board of supervisors for the transportation district
13 passed TD Resolution TD2026-01. This resolution provided taxpayer funding for the
14 transportation district through adoption of a one-tenth-of-one-percent sales tax. Tax
15 revenues implemented by TD Resolution TD2026-01 shall be used to acquire, invest in,
16 construct, improve, provide, operate, preserve, maintain, or pay for transportation
17 improvements in the district, focused on high-priority road and bridge needs.

18 D. The public interest and welfare is best served by the county assuming the
19 rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the transportation district. By allowing the

utilization of existing county structures and staff, assumption of the transportation district by the county provides a more efficient way to administer the revenues towards transportation improvements in the district.

E. On [insert date], the King County council held the public hearing as required by Ordinance XXXXX (Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241) and RCW 36.74.020.

F. Following this public hearing, the King County council determined that the public interest or welfare would be satisfied by the county assuming the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the King County transportation district and hereby declares that to be the council's intent.

SECTION 2. King County hereby assumes all rights, powers, functions and obligations of the King County transportation district as set forth in chapter 36.74 RCW and the same are hereby vested in accordance with the executive and legislative responsibilities defined in the King County Charter. The county is now vested with all the rights, powers, functions and obligations formerly vested by law in the board of supervisors of the transportation district. In exercising such rights, powers, functions and obligations, all actions will be taken in the name of the county utilizing all power and authority available to the county. Title to all transportation district property or property rights is vested in the county.

SECTION 3. As required by RCW 36.150.040(2), the transportation district board of supervisors is abolished.

SECTION 4. Ordinance 17746, Section 2, and Section 5 of this ordinance should constitute a new chapter in K.C.C. Title 2.

42 NEW SECTION. SECTION 5. There is hereby added to the chapter created
43 under section 4 of this ordinance a new section to read as follows:

44 All resolutions enacted by the board of supervisors of the King County
45 transportation district and not expressly repealed by the effective date of this ordinance,
46 that are not inconsistent with the King County Charter or ordinances are hereby
47 readopted and ratified.

48 SECTION 6. A. The King County executive should prepare and submit to the
49 King County council, by October 1, 2026, a proposed implementation plan related to the
50 planning and implementation of county roadway infrastructure improvements utilizing
51 sales and use tax revenue authorized by resolution TD2026-01. The proposed
52 implementation plan should include sufficient detail to allow the council to evaluate the
53 necessity, timing, and effectiveness of proposed expenditures, and shall include, at a
54 minimum:

55 1. A description of county obligations to effectively and efficiently plan and
56 implement county roadway infrastructure improvements;

57 2. A detailed spending plan for the county roadway programs and projects. The
58 spending plan shall include but not be limited to:

59 a. estimated funding allocations by project and program category;

60 b. identification of whether the proposed expenditures supplement or replace
61 existing funding; and

62 c. preliminary cost estimates and anticipated funding allocations by project and
63 program category, proposed for the 2026 -2027 biennium, and a projection of anticipated
64 future investments;

- 65 3. A framework for determining appropriations for the county roadway
66 programs and projects in future biennia;
- 67 4. Performance metrics to track financial accountability, project delivery,
68 transportation system outcomes, and timelines for achieving performance targets;
- 69 5. Processes to achieve a goal that no less than twenty percent of apprentice
70 labor hours on county roadway capital projects and programs exceeding a reasonable cost
71 threshold and funded by sales and use tax revenues be performed by graduates from a
72 Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council-approved pre-apprenticeship
73 program;
- 74 6. A description of methods and processes that will be used to track
75 apprenticeship and pre -apprenticeship utilization across county roadway capital projects
76 and programs funded by sales and use tax revenues; and
- 77 7. Regular financial and performance reporting transmitted to, and reviewed by,
78 the King County council, including:
- 79 a. quarterly reports on expenditures and project status;
- 80 b. an annual summary evaluation report on the programs and projects
81 supported by the district's revenue;
- 82 c. a midterm summary evaluation report on the programs and projects
83 supported by the district's revenues through 2032; and
- 84 d. final summary evaluation report on the programs and projects supported by
85 the district's revenues to be delivered in the penultimate year of the sales and use tax
86 authorization period to be used in the evaluation of a potential reauthorization of the sales
87 and use tax.

88 B. The proposed implementation plan should also include information about the
89 funding needs of the Metro transit department, similar to the information provided in
90 response to Ordinance 20023, Section 116, Proviso P7, as amended by Ordinance 20086,
91 Section 94, to inform a future funding measure for the public transportation system,
92 specifically how funding would be spent to help implement the Metro Connects long -
93 range plan, guided by the King County Metro Service Guidelines, as adopted by
94 Ordinance 19367.

95 C. The executive should electronically file the proposed implementation plan
96 with the clerk of the council, who shall retain an electronic copy and provide an
97 electronic copy to all councilmembers, the council chief of staff, and the lead staff for the
98 Transportation, Economy, and Environment committee or its successor.

99 SECTION 7. Ordinance 11955, Section 5, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.16.055 are
100 hereby amended to read as follows:

101 A. The department of local services is responsible for managing and being
102 fiscally accountable for the permitting division and the road services division. The
103 department shall also administer the county roads function as authorized in applicable
104 sections of Titles 36 and 47 RCW and other laws, regulations, and ordinances as may
105 apply. Consistent with Motion 15125, the department shall:

106 1. Work in partnership with each county council district to focus on
107 coordinating, enhancing and improving municipal services provided to the county's
108 unincorporated areas. To effectuate this partnership, the executive shall routinely and
109 proactively meet and collaborate with councilmembers representing the unincorporated

110 area about potential organizational, operational, and other changes to county programs or
111 services that will affect unincorporated area residents;

112 2. Be available to brief the council's standing and regional committees on issues
113 related to unincorporated area local services;

114 3. Develop and implement programs and strategies that emphasize:

115 a. improving the coordination of local services by county agencies through
116 increased collaboration;

117 b. strengthening partnerships between the county, communities and other
118 entities;

119 c. improving the delivery, responsiveness, and quality of local services to the
120 people, businesses and communities of unincorporated King County through unified
121 accountability;

122 d. improving local services through robust employee engagement while
123 embracing equity and racial and social justice and continuous improvement;

124 e. strengthening unincorporated communities by supporting local planning and
125 community initiatives; and

126 f. pursuing innovative funding strategies.

127 B. The department shall support the executive's office in regional planning by:

128 1. Supporting the council and executive through the provision of information
129 and data, development of policy proposals and options for regional issues related to
130 growth management, economic development, and transportation;

131 2. Coordinating the development of demographic and growth forecasting data
132 and information including census data, growth targets, and buildable lands;

133 3. Facilitating annexations and joint planning with cities, including developing
134 annexation proposals, drafting interlocal agreements, and serving as the liaison to the
135 boundary review board for King County; and

136 4. Managing updates to the county's Comprehensive Plan in accordance with
137 K.C.C. Title 20 in coordination with the executive's office.

138 C.1. The department shall also manage the development and implementation of
139 subarea plans for the six rural community service area and five urban unincorporated
140 potential annexation area geographies in accordance with the King County
141 Comprehensive Plan and the Growth Management Act.

142 2. Each subarea plan shall be developed consistent with the King County
143 Comprehensive Plan and shall:

144 a. be based on a scope of work established with the community;
145 b. establish a long-range vision, guiding principles, and policies to implement
146 that vision. Policies in the subarea plan shall be consistent with and not redundant to
147 policy direction in the Comprehensive Plan;

148 c. establish performance metrics and monitoring for implementation of the
149 subarea plan. The performance metrics and monitoring shall be:

150 (1)(a) for subarea geographies that have a subarea plan adopted as of
151 December 2022, reviewed and jointly reported on by December 30, 2024, and every two
152 years thereafter; and

153 (b) for subarea geographies that do not have a subarea plan adopted as of
154 December 2022, reviewed and reported on the timelines established in subsection
155 C.2.c.(1)(a) of this section beginning no sooner than two years after adoption; and

(2) informed and monitored by the community and the council;

d. use the tools and resources developed by the executive's office to develop the scope of work and to develop, review, amend, adopt, and implement the subarea plan, including, but not limited to, community engagement, language access, and equity impact review tools. The county shall use, at minimum, the "Co-Create" level of engagement as outlined in the Community Engagement Guide published by the executive's office for the scoping, development, review, amendment, adoption, and implementation of the subarea plan. The county shall include as an appendix to the subarea plan information detailing the community engagement completed during the development of the subarea plan and how the community engagement meets the requirements of this subsection C.2.d.;

e. incorporate the findings of an equity impact analysis and proposals to address equity impacts. During the development of the subarea plan, the public review draft shall include preliminary findings of any equity impacts that will be further refined and submitted as part of the subarea plan proposal;

f. include a review of policies specific to the subarea in the Comprehensive Plan and previously adopted subarea plans, and, where appropriate, transfer policies from those plans to the subarea plan; and

g. review the land use designations and zoning classifications in the subarea geography, including all special district overlays and property-specific development conditions, and transmit map amendments necessary to implement land use and zoning updates and the vision, guiding principles, and policies within the subarea plan, and for the five urban unincorporated potential annexation area geographies, the subarea plan shall include modifications to the land use designations and zoning classifications to

179 meaningfully and substantially increase residential density in order to accelerate housing
180 production.

181 3. Before transmittal of the subarea plan to the council, the executive shall
182 coordinate and collaborate with the councilmember office or councilmember offices who
183 represent the subarea geography on development of the subarea plan.

184 4. Each subarea plan shall be transmitted to the council for possible adoption as
185 established in the schedule in the Comprehensive Plan and K.C.C. Title 20.

186 D.1. The department shall also manage the development and implementation of
187 the list of services, programs, facilities, and capital improvements that are identified by
188 the community, known as a community needs list, for each of the subarea geographies in
189 subsection C. of this section. The community needs list shall be the responsibility of the
190 executive to implement. The department of local services, in coordination with the
191 community, shall be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the community
192 needs list.

193 2. Each community needs list shall:

194 a. be consistent with and implement the subarea plan described in subsection
195 C. of this section and other county plans;

196 b. include potential services, programs, facilities and capital improvements that
197 respond to community-identified needs, including, but not limited to, those that build on
198 the community's strengths and assets;

199 c. be developed, reviewed, prioritized, amended, adopted, and implemented
200 using tools and resources developed by the executive's office, including, but not limited
201 to, community engagement, language access, and equity impact review tools. The county

shall use, at minimum, the "Co-Create" level of engagement as outlined in the Community Engagement Guide published by the executive's office for the development, review, amendment, adoption, and implementation of the community needs list. The county shall include as an appendix to the community needs list information detailing the community engagement completed during the development of the community needs list and how the community engagement meets the requirements of this subsection D.2.c.

3. The community needs list shall be established as follows:

a. An initial catalog shall be compiled that identifies all requests from the community for potential services, programs, and improvements;

b. The community service area program shall review the initial catalog and refine this document into a community needs list based on:

(1) review by the department whether and to what extent the request meets or strengthens the community vision, guiding principles, and policies established in the adopted subarea plan and other county plans;

(2) review by county agencies regarding consistency with other county plans, feasibility, budget constraints, timing, resources needs, and other barriers to implementation; and

(3) review by the community through ongoing community engagement to identify, discuss, and prioritize community needs;

c. For each item that is included in the community needs list, the following shall be included:

223 (1) the executive, in consultation with the community and the councilmember
224 office or offices that represent the subarea geography, shall propose a prioritization of
225 low, medium, or high priority;

226 (2) which county agencies are responsible for implementation; and

227 (3) an anticipated timeline for completion that reflects that future resources
228 and budget appropriations may change the timeline. The county shall encourage
229 creativity and flexibility in identifying potential partnerships with and opportunities for
230 others, such as community-based organizations, to meet these needs;

231 d. For each request from the initial catalog that is not advanced to the
232 community needs list, the executive shall state why the request was not advanced. The
233 county shall clearly communicate why the request was not advanced to the community.
234 For items that cannot be accomplished by the county because they are outside of the
235 scope of county operations, the county shall provide information on how noncounty
236 entities may be able to accomplish the item, including consideration of potential
237 partnerships with noncounty entities; and

238 e. The community needs list shall establish performance metrics to monitor the
239 implementation of the community needs list and the overarching progress towards
240 reaching the twenty-year vision established in the policies of the subarea plan. The
241 performance metrics shall be:

242 (1) reviewed and reported on annually; and

243 (2) informed and monitored by the community and the council.

244 4. Before transmittal of a new or updated community needs list to the council,
245 the executive shall coordinate and collaborate with the councilmember office or
246 councilmember offices who represent the subarea geography.

247 5. A community needs list shall be transmitted to the council for possible
248 adoption by ordinance as follows:

249 a. concurrent with the executive's biennial budget transmittal; and

250 b. when identified by either the community service area work programs and
251 associated community engagement outlined in subsection E. of this section or the
252 services partnership agreements outlined in subsection G. of this section, or both.

253 6. The community needs lists shall be used to develop proposals for the
254 executive's proposed budget, including services, programs, infrastructure, and facilities
255 that implement the list. As part of the executive's budget transmittal, the executive shall
256 include a description of how the proposed budget implements the list.

257 E.1. The department shall also manage the community service area framework
258 adopted by Ordinance 17139, which shall be called the community service area program.
259 The community service area program shall develop and implement programs and services
260 to help all residents of unincorporated King County be more knowledgeable of, better
261 served by and heard by King County departments and agencies. The community service
262 area program shall work with all county departments and agencies whose services,
263 programs, and projects are of interest to unincorporated area residents, to promote
264 successful public engagement.

265 2. A work program shall be, beginning in 2025, developed for each subarea
266 geography described in subsection C. of this section and shall:

267 a. be consistent with and implement the applicable subarea plan as described in
268 subsection C. of this section, the community needs list in subsection D. of this section
269 and other county plans;

270 b. address the required elements in Ordinance 17139;

271 c. list potential action items for the area;

272 d. list known planning activities for the area;

273 e. identify public meetings for the area;

274 f. include the current adopted community needs list as required in subsection
275 D. of this section; and

276 g. establish an ongoing communications and community engagement plan
277 using tools and resources developed by the executive's office, including, but not limited
278 to, community engagement, language access, and equity impact review tools. The county
279 shall use, at minimum, the "Co-Create" level of engagement as outlined in the
280 Community Engagement Guide published by the executive's office for the development,
281 review, amendment, adoption, and implementation of the community needs list; and
282 h. establish performance metrics to monitor the implementation of the work
283 program.

284 3. The community service area program shall provide regular updates to the
285 councilmember or councilmembers who represent the subarea geography on the progress
286 of the work program throughout the year and shall publish regular reports on the work
287 program to its website at least once per quarter.

288 4. The work program shall be updated on an annual basis.

289 F.1. The department of local services shall monitor and report on performance
290 metrics for subarea plans described in subsection C. of this section, for community needs
291 lists described in subsection D. of this section, and for the work program described in this
292 subsection E. of this section.

293 2. The timing for reporting on performance metrics and monitoring shall be:

294 a. for transmitting a report to the council:

295 (1) for subarea geographies that have a subarea plan adopted as of December
296 2022, reviewed and jointly reported on by December 30, 2024, and every two years
297 thereafter; and

298 (2) for subarea geographies that do not have a subarea plan adopted as of
299 December 2022, reviewed and reported on the timelines established in subsection
300 C.2.c.(1)(a) of this section beginning no sooner than two years after adoption; and

301 b. for reporting outside of the timeframe in subsection F.2.a. of this section,
302 reporting is required every year by the last business day of December, by posting the
303 performance metrics and monitoring information on the department's website.

304 3. Performance monitoring shall be informed and monitored by the community
305 and the council.

306 G.1. The department shall also establish service partnership agreements with
307 each executive branch agency that provides programs, services, or facilities in the
308 unincorporated area, including those agencies that provide regional services to
309 unincorporated area residents and businesses. The service partnership agreements shall
310 inform budget development for programs, services, or facilities in the unincorporated
311 area.

312 2. Service partnerships agreements shall:

313 a. be consistent with and implement the subarea plans in subsection C. of this
314 section, the community needs lists in subsection D. of this section, the community service
315 area work programs in subsection E. of this section, and other county plans;

316 b. use tools and resources developed by the executive's office by the partner
317 agency to deliver the programs, services, and facilities described in the service
318 partnership agreements.

319 3. Each service partnership agreement shall include, at a minimum:

320 a. roles and responsibilities for the department of local services and the partner
321 agency;

322 b. a general description of the programs, services or facilities provided by the
323 partner agency for unincorporated area residents and businesses and, where applicable, in
324 the subarea geographies;

325 c. goals for the partner agency to achieve the emphasis on local service
326 delivery described in Motion 15125 and this section, including:

327 (1) the desired outcomes for provision of each program, service, or facility;

328 and

329 (2) service level goals for each program, service, or facility;

330 d. performance metrics to monitor progress of implementing the outcomes and
331 service level goals for each program, service, or facility;

332 e. use of the community service area work programs in local service delivery
333 by the partner agency; and

334 f. the current adopted community needs lists and associated performance
335 metrics for monitoring and reporting on the progress the county agencies have made on
336 items on the lists that they are responsible for.

337 4. The service partnership agreements, after they are established, shall be
338 updated concurrent with the development of the annual or biennial budget and shall be
339 transmitted to the council as part of the supporting material for the executive's proposed
340 annual or biennial budget. In addition to the requirements for service partnership
341 agreements described in this subsection F., the updates shall include evaluation and
342 reporting on the goals and performance metrics identified in the previous service
343 partnership agreement and in the community needs list.

344 H. Until an ordinance that makes changes to the King County Code required in
345 Ordinance 18791, Section 217, is effective, the permitting division shall be considered
346 the successor agency to the department of permitting and environmental review.
347 Therefore, upon effectiveness of Ordinance 18791 and until an ordinance required by
348 Ordinance 18791, Section 217, is effective, where the code states or intends a decision to
349 be made or action to be implemented by the department of permitting and environmental
350 review, those decisions or actions shall be performed by the permitting division.

351 I.1. The duties of the permitting division shall include the following:

352 a. ensuring consistent and efficient administration of environmental, building
353 and land use codes and regulations for commercial and residential projects by means of
354 permit review and approval, construction inspections and public information;

355 b. administering the State Environmental Policy Act and acting as lead agency,
356 including making the threshold determinations, determining the amount of environmental

357 impact and reasonable mitigation measures, and coordinating with other departments and
358 divisions in the preparation of county environmental documents or in response to
359 environmental documents from other agencies;

360 c. effective processing and timely review of land development proposals,
361 including zoning variances, zoning reclassifications, master drainage plans, variances
362 from the Surface Water Design Manual and the King County Road Design and
363 Construction Standards, critical area, subdivision, right-of-way use, clearing and grading,
364 shoreline, special use, and conditional use applications;

365 d. pursuing and resolving code violations, including preparing for
366 administrative or legal actions, evaluating the department's success in obtaining
367 compliance with King County rules and regulations, and designing measures to improve
368 compliance;

369 e. regulating the operation, maintenance, and conduct of county-licensed
370 businesses, except taxicab, for-hire, and transportation network company drivers and
371 vehicles; and

372 f. developing and implementing an inspection program to identify fire hazards
373 and require conformance with K.C.C. Title 17, reviewing building plans and applications
374 for compliance with K.C.C. Title 17, and conducting inspections, including inspections of
375 new construction, for compliance with K.C.C. Title 17.

376 2. The permitting division manager shall be the:

377 a. county planning director;

378 b. zoning adjuster;

379 c. responsible official for purposes of administering the State Environmental
380 Policy Act;

381 d. county building official; and

382 e. county fire marshal.

383 3. The manager may delegate the functions in subsection I.2. of this section to
384 qualified subordinates.

385 J. The road services division is responsible for designing, constructing,
386 maintaining, and operating a comprehensive system of roadways and other transportation
387 facilities and services to support a variety of transportation modes for the safe and
388 efficient movement of people and goods and delivery of services. The duties of the
389 division shall include the following:

390 1. Designing, constructing, and maintaining county roads, bridges, and
391 associated drainage facilities;

392 2. Designing, installing, and maintaining county traffic signs, markings and
393 signals;

394 3. Designing, installing, and maintaining roadway active transportation
395 facilities;

396 4. Managing intergovernmental contracts or agreements for services related to
397 road maintenance and construction and to other transportation programs supporting the
398 transportation plan;

399 5. Inspecting utilities during construction and upon completion for compliance
400 with standards and specifications, and ensuring that public facilities disturbed due to
401 construction are restored;

402 6. Performing detailed project development of roads capital improvement
403 projects that are consistent with the transportation element of the county's Comprehensive
404 Plan, and coordinating such programming with other county departments and divisions
405 assigned responsibilities for Comprehensive Plan implementation;

406 7. Incorporating into the roads capital improvement program those projects
407 identified in the transportation needs report, related functional plans and elsewhere
408 consistent with the county's Comprehensive Plan;

409 8. Preparing, maintaining, and administering the county road standards;

410 9. Preparing and administering multiyear roads maintenance and capital
411 construction plans and periodic updates;

412 10. Administering the transportation concurrency and mitigation payment
413 programs; and

414 11.a. Performing the duties of the office of the county road engineer, which is
415 hereby established as an administrative office of the road services division. The office of
416 the county road engineer shall be an office of record, supervised by the county road
417 engineer hired in accordance with RCW 36.80.010 and reporting to the manager of the
418 road services division. The office of the county road engineer shall be located within the
419 corporate limits of the county seat.

420 b. The county road engineer shall carry out all duties assigned to the county
421 road engineer as prescribed by state statute, except as modified by the county executive
422 as authorized in subsection J.11.c. of this section.

423 c. The county executive may assign professional engineering duties of the
424 county road engineer to someone other than the county road engineer, except as

otherwise assigned by the King County Code, and only if the individual assigned those duties shall be qualified as required under RCW 36.80.020. The executive shall provide to the county council and the Washington state County Road Administration Board, in writing, those specific professional engineering duties not assigned to the county road engineer, the name and position of each person responsible for carrying out those assigned duties, the specific reporting and working relationships with the county road engineer and the duration for which those duties have been assigned.

J. The department is responsible for the general administration of the city transportation improvement program, through allocating moneys to qualifying city transportation projects as specified in transportation benefit district resolution

435 TD2026-01, or by subsequent county ordinances, and ensuring that moneys are used for
436 the projects' specified purposes.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, ____.

Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

Attachments: None



Executive Girmay Zahilay

Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800
 401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
 Seattle, WA 98104-2391

August 25, 2026

The Honorable Sarah Perry
 Chair, King County Council
 Room 1200
 COURTHOUSE

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits a proposed ordinance which assumes the powers of the King County Transportation District into King County government, consistent with Chapter 36.74 Revised Code of Washington. With the imminent implementation of new revenues to support transportation improvements in high priority roads and bridges, it serves the public interest and welfare for the County to assume the powers of the district and administer these revenues directly without the administrative costs of standing up financial and administrative structures for a separate jurisdiction.

Washington State law establishes special procedures for the legislative proceedings towards the assumption of the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a transportation benefit district. The King County transportation district, established in 2014 through Ordinance 17746 as an independent jurisdiction coterminous with the boundaries of King County, may be assumed in accordance with these procedures, beginning with a public hearing initiated via ordinance (transmitted separately).

The King County Transportation District board of supervisors approved resolution TD2026-01 on June 12th 2026, implementing a 0.1% sales and use tax within the district boundaries effective January 1st 2027. This measure will generate over \$100 million in annual revenues to support regional transportation improvements, including support for the King County Roads Division as well as partner cities through the City Transportation Improvement Program (CTIP).

King County assuming the transportation district achieves administrative efficiencies by consolidating the district's functions within existing County organizations with established processes. The district remaining independent will require the standing up of a new organizational structure to establish and administer accounting, contracting, reporting, staffing,

The Honorable Sarah Perry

August 25, 2026

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and governance, as well as partnering with cities participating in the CTIP to manage over \$12M in annual grants.

Our proposal is that King County begin immediately using County processes as the successor to the transportation district to govern and administer the revenues authorized by TD2026-01. This avoids temporary stand-alone KCTD systems, avoids costs associated with developing new interlocal agreements between the district and the county, provides consistent ownership of CTIP, and minimizes handoffs. Delaying the assumption of the district means that the district will need to stand up new systems and processes with transition provisions for contracts, reimbursements, and work in progress. This would create greater risk of duplicated systems, unclear ownership, midyear budget adjustments, and reconciliation of funds, records, and contracts.

The attached legislation reflects only the legal process of the assumption of the district's rights, powers, functions, and obligations. The impacts on county appropriations and fund structure will be reflected in the forthcoming omnibus budget to be transmitted in late September 2026.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. This important legislation will avoid redundant organizations, eliminate duplicative processes, and allow the County to focus on programming revenues towards improvement in our regional roads and bridges.

If your staff have questions, please contact Jeff Muhm, Special Advisor to the Executive Leadership Team, at 206-263-4601.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Girmay Zahilay", written in a cursive style.

for

Girmay Zahilay
King County Executive

The Honorable Sarah Perry

August 25, 2026

Page 3

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive

Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive

Sierra Howlett Browne, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Executive

Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive

Jeff Muhm, Special Advisory to the Executive Leadership Team, Office of the Executive

Leon Richardson, Director, Department of Local Services

2026-2027 FISCAL NOTE**Ordinance/Motion:**

Title: King County Assumption of KC Transportation District
 Affected Agency and/or Agencies: King County Executive Office; Department of Local Services
 Note Prepared By: T.J. Stutman, King County Executive Office
 Date Prepared: 8/6/2026
 Note Reviewed By: Bonnie L. Fluckinger, Executive Office Budget Team
 Date Reviewed: 8/17/2026

Description of request:

King County proposes to assume the rights, powers, functions, immunities, and obligations of the KC transportation district, in accordance with RCW 36.74

Revenue to:

Agency	Fund Code	Revenue Source	2026-2027	2028-2029	2030-2031
Department of Local Services		0.1% sales tax	102,758,300	204,992,896	214,482,834
TOTAL			102,758,300	204,992,896	214,482,834

Expenditures from:

Agency	Fund Code	Department	2026-2027	2028-2029	2030-2031
TOTAL			0	0	0

Expenditures by Categories

	2026-2027	2028-2029	2030-2031
TOTAL	0	0	0

Does this legislation require a budget supplemental? Yes/No**Notes and Assumptions:**

This ordinance reflects only the assumption of the district into King County and the County revenue impact as incorporated into the July 2026 OEFA revenue forecast. The expenditure impact, including revenue-backed Roads projects, City Transportation Improvement Program (CTIP) grants, and CTIP administrative costs, will be incorporated into the 2nd omnibus to be transmitted in late September 2026.



Metropolitan King County Council Staff Report

Committee:	Committee of the Whole		
Agenda Item:	9	Analyst(s):	Mary Bourguignon
Proposed No.:	2026-0241	Meeting Date:	September 22, 2026

OVERVIEW

TOPIC: Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241 would declare King County's intent to conduct a public hearing regarding whether to assume the rights and responsibilities of the King County Transportation District (KCTD).

LEGISLATION SUMMARY

Washington State law allows cities and counties to establish local Transportation Benefit Districts (TBDs), independent governments that fund and implement transportation improvements. In 2014, King County created a TBD called the King County Transportation District (KCTD). In June 2026, the KCTD Board approved a 10-year roads funding measure. Following that action, the KCTD must either be assumed into King County or take the necessary administrative steps to accept and manage revenues from the funding measure as an independent governmental entity.

Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241 would declare King County's intent to conduct a public hearing regarding whether to assume the rights, powers, immunities, functions, and obligations of the KCTD into King County. This is the first of two steps required under State law (RCW 36.74) to assume a TBD. The second step, effectuating the assumption, would be accomplished by a separate ordinance, Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242.

KEY ISSUES FROM THE ANALYSIS

Staff have not identified any issues with Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241. It would set the time and place for a public hearing regarding King County's possible assumption of the rights, powers, immunities, functions, and obligations of the KCTD. If the ordinance passes, public notice and advertising would be conducted during the two weeks preceding the scheduled hearing, as required by State law.

AMENDMENTS

Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241 must be amended at committee or Council to set a date for the required public hearing with adequate time for the required advertising.

King County Transportation District. Washington state law¹ allows for the creation of local Transportation Benefit Districts (TBDs), which are independent governments created to fund and implement transportation improvements. TBDs may be established by the legislative authority of a county or city, and they can encompass territory within a jurisdiction's boundaries, the boundaries of multiple jurisdictions, or a portion of the territory within a jurisdiction's boundaries.²

In 2014, King County established the King County Transportation District (KCTD) as a TBD for the county.³ Its geographic boundaries are those of King County. It is governed by a Board of Supervisors made up of the members of the King County Council.⁴ The KCTD is a separate government that is independent from King County.

Roads funding measure. In June 2026, the KCTD Board imposed a councilmanic 0.1% sales and use tax for roads-related purposes.⁵ Sales tax collections will begin January 1, 2027, and extend for 10 years. The roads funding measure is anticipated to collect an average of \$100 million per year, with approximately 12.5% of revenues to be directed to local jurisdictions through a City Transportation Improvement Program (CTIP), and the remainder to be used on King County's unincorporated roads network.

In anticipation of revenue collections, the KCTD must either be assumed into King County or take the necessary administrative steps to accept and manage revenues from the funding measure as an independent governmental entity.

To guide implementation of the roads funding measure by an independent KCTD, the KCTD Board asked the King County Executive to transmit a proposed Implementation Plan and Interlocal Agreement (ILA) to both the KCTD and King County Council by October 1, 2026.⁶

Requirements to assume KCTD into King County. State law outlines the process by which the rights, powers, immunities, functions, and obligations of a TBD can be assumed into its local government.⁷ The assumption process requires that the local government (in this case, King County) adopt two pieces of legislation:

¹ RCW 36.73 ([link](#))

² RCW 36.73.020 ([link](#))

³ Ordinance 17746 ([link](#))

⁴ Resolution TD2014-01 ([link](#))

⁵ Resolution TD2026-01 ([link](#))

⁶ Resolution TD2026-02 ([link](#))

⁷ RCW 36.74 outlines the process by which the KCTD could be assumed into the County.

- The first (Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241) would set the time and place for a public hearing to consider whether to assume the rights, powers, immunities, functions, and obligations of the KCTD.
- The second (Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242), which cannot be passed until the public hearing is concluded, and which will be separately discussed and deliberated, would effectuate the assumption of the KCTD. Specifically, it would:
 - o Assume all rights, powers, functions and obligations of the KCTD into King County
 - o Abolish the KCTD Board of Supervisors
 - o Add a new chapter to the King County Code readopting and ratifying all Resolutions enacted by the KCTD Board of Supervisors that were not expressly repealed by the effective date of Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242 and that are not inconsistent with the King County Charter or ordinances
 - o Reiterate the Executive's intent, as had originally been requested by the KCTD,⁸ to submit a proposed Implementation Plan for the roads funding measure to the Council by October 1 (to be filed as a report)
 - o Amend the King County Code to make the Department of Local Services responsible for administering the City Transportation Improvement Program (CTIP) that was created by the KCTD's roads funding measure⁹ to allocate revenue to qualifying city transportation projects.

Public noticing and advertising requirements. Under State law,¹⁰ if the County Council adopts Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241 to set the time and place for a public hearing regarding whether to assume the KCTD into King County, notice of the hearing must be published at least two times during the two weeks preceding the hearing date in newspapers of daily general circulation printed or published in the county.

The public notice and advertising schedule will be set based on the selected public hearing date, which must be added to Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241 by amendment.

⁸ Resolution TD2026-02 ([link](#))

⁹ Resolution TD2026-01 ([link](#))

¹⁰ RCW 36.74.020 ([link](#))

ANALYSIS

[↑ BACK TO TOP](#)

Staff have not identified any issues with Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241. It would set the time and place for a public hearing regarding King County's possible assumption of the rights and responsibilities of the KCTD.

The decision of whether to actually effectuate the assumption of the KCTD into King County would be made through a separate piece of legislation, Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242. As described above, under State law, the Council cannot take action on Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242 until after the conclusion of the public hearing that would be set by Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241.¹¹ Proposed Ordinance 2026-0242 will be discussed and deliberated on separately.

If Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241 passes, public notice and advertising, as described above, would be conducted during the two weeks preceding the scheduled hearing, as required by State law.¹²

AMENDMENTS

[↑ BACK TO TOP](#)

Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241 must be amended at committee or Council to set a date for the required public hearing with adequate time for the required advertising.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Ordinance 2026-0241
2. Transmittal Letter
3. Fiscal Note

¹¹ RCW 36.74.030 ([link](#))

¹² RCW 36.74.020 ([link](#))



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2026-0241.1

Sponsors Dembowski

1 AN ORDINANCE declaring King County's intent to
2 conduct a public hearing regarding whether to assume
3 rights, powers, immunities, functions, and obligations of
4 the King County transportation district.

5 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

6 1. The King County transportation district may be assumed by King County in
7 accordance with chapter 36.74 RCW. Assumption of the district is consistent
8 with the authority and responsibility assigned to the council and the executive in
9 the King County Charter.

10 2. By allowing the utilization of existing county structures and staff, assumption
11 of the transportation district by the county provides a more efficient way to
12 administer the functions of the transportation district without unnecessarily
13 increasing overhead and staff expenses.

14 3. The public interest and welfare is best served by the county assuming the
15 rights, powers, immunities, functions, and obligations of the transportation
16 district.

17 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

18 SECTION 1.

19 A. In accordance with RCW 36.74.020, King County intends to consider whether
20 to assume all rights, powers, immunities, functions, and obligations of the transportation
21 district.

22 B. The King County council will conduct a public hearing at the King County
23 Courthouse on _____, 2026, at ____ a.m./p.m. to consider the proposed assumption of the
24 transportation district, at which time all persons interested in the proposal may appear and

- 25 be heard by testifying in accordance with the council's rules of procedure for public
26 hearings.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, ____.

Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

Attachments: None

**Executive Girmay Zahilay**

Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800
 401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
 Seattle, WA 98104-2391

August 25, 2026

The Honorable Sarah Perry
 Chair, King County Council
 Room 1200
 C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits an ordinance indicating King County's intent to conduct a hearing concerning the assumption of the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the King County transportation district, consistent with RCW 36.74.020. The proposed legislation would establish a time and place at which the County Council will consider the proposed assumption and at which all persons interested may appear and be heard.

The Revised Code of Washington establishes special procedures for the legislative proceedings towards the assumption of the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a transportation benefit district. The King County transportation district, established in 2014 through Ordinance 17746 as an independent jurisdiction coterminous with the boundaries of King County, may be assumed in accordance with these procedures as detailed in Chapter 36.74 RCW. The assumption is initiated by the attached ordinance establishing a public hearing, at a date to be set by the Council.

I look forward to working with the Council to assure that all voices are heard as King County considers the assumption of the transportation district and the implementation of new revenues to support countywide transportation improvements, as well as the administration of the City Transportation Improvement Program.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed ordinance. If your staff have questions, please contact Jeff Muhm, Special Advisor to the Executive Leadership Team, at 206-263-4601.

The Honorable Sarah Perry

August 25, 2026

Page 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Girmay Zahilay".

for

Girmay Zahilay

King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive

Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive

Sierra Howlett Browne, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Executive

Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive

Jeff Muhm, Special Advisor to the Executive Leadership Team, Office of the Executive

2026-2027 FISCAL NOTE**Ordinance/Motion:**

Title: Public Hearing for King County Assumption of KC Transportation District

Affected Agency and/or Agencies: King County Executive Office

Note Prepared By: T.J. Stutman, King County Executive Office

Date Prepared: 8/6/2026

Note Reviewed By: Bonnie L. Fluckinger, Executive Office Budget Team

Date Reviewed: 8/18/2026

Description of request:

The assumption of the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a transportation benefit district may be initiated by the adoption of an ordinance by the county legislative authority indicating its intention to conduct a hearing concerning the assumption of such rights, powers, functions, and obligations.

Revenue to:

Agency	Fund Code	Revenue Source	2026-2027	2028-2029	2030-2031
TOTAL			0	0	0

Expenditures from:

Agency	Fund Code	Department	2026-2027	2028-2029	2030-2031
TOTAL			0	0	0

Expenditures by Categories

	2026-2027	2028-2029	2030-2031
TOTAL	0	0	0

Does this legislation require a budget supplemental? Yes/No

Notes and Assumptions:

This ordinance reflects only the indication of the County's intent to conduct a hearing concerning the assumption of the King County transportation district.



Metropolitan King County Council Staff Report

Committee:	Committee of the Whole		
Agenda Item:	10	Analyst(s):	Sam Porter
Proposed No.:	2026-0194	Meeting Date:	September 22, 2026

OVERVIEW

TOPIC: A motion acknowledging receipt of a letter from the Harborview Board of Trustees in response to a proviso requiring a spending plan for the County Hospital Levy Revenue dedicated to Harborview operations in 2026.

LEGISLATION SUMMARY

Proposed Motion 2026-0194 would acknowledge receipt of the letter required by County Hospital Levy Proviso P1 in Ordinance 20023. Approval of the proposed motion would release \$48 million in County Hospital Levy tax dollars to support Harborview Medical Center (HMC) operations which includes, but is not limited to, labor, supplies, overhead, and clinical services in 2026.

The spending plan in the letter proposes to use County Hospital Levy dollars in Fiscal Year 2026 on the following programs:

1. Inpatient Rehabilitation and Rehabilitation Clinic losses
2. Care for King County Jail inmates
3. Primary Care, Downtown Programs, and other clinic losses

KEY ISSUES FROM THE ANALYSIS

- A. Proviso Response.** The proviso requires that the Executive transmit a letter including a detailed spending plan for the \$48 million restricted by ER3 (Ordinance 20023, Section 102, Expenditure Restriction ER3) of the County Hospital Levy budget to be spent on Harborview operations in 2026. The letter required information regarding staffing, programs or services, demographics about individuals served, and a narrative description of the impact of County Hospital Levy monies.

The letter appears to satisfy the proviso requirements but does not include demographic information about all programs supported by County Hospital Levy dollars. UW Medicine provided additional demographic information in response to follow-up questions sent by Council Staff.

It is a policy choice for the Council whether the information provided in the proviso response and this staff report is sufficient to meet the intent of the proviso.

BACKGROUND & TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

Background & timing considerations. Harborview is a 540-bed Level 1 trauma and burn center serving Washington, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho. The hospital is owned by King County, governed by a 13-member county-appointed Board of Trustees, and operated by University of Washington Medicine (UW Medicine). Harborview prioritizes serving the “mission population” of non-English-speaking poor, the uninsured and underinsured, people who experience domestic violence and or sexual assault, incarcerated people in King County's jails, people with behavioral health illnesses, particularly those treated involuntarily, people with sexually transmitted diseases, and individuals who require specialized emergency care, trauma care, and severe burn care.

In 2024, the Washington State Legislature amended RCW 36.62.090 authorizing a councilmanic additional property tax, not to exceed 20 cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, for the operation, maintenance, and capital expenses of the hospital, and any outpatient clinics operated by the hospital, and for the payment of principal and interest on bonds issued for such purposes. King County issued this in 2026 at a rate of fifteen cents which is estimated to generate approximately \$275 million during the biennium. The 2026-2027 budget, Ordinance 20023, Section 102, includes eleven expenditure restrictions and five provisos designating the use of County Hospital Levy revenue.

Proviso language. The 2026-2027 Biennial Budget included a proviso (Ordinance 20023, Section 102, Proviso P1) that withheld \$48,000,000 from the County Hospital Levy budget:

“Of the moneys restricted by Expenditure Restriction ER3¹ of this section, \$48,000,000 shall not be expended or encumbered in 2026 to support Harborview operations until the Harborview board of trustees transmits a letter to the county executive and council, and the executive transmits a motion to council acknowledging receipt of the letter, and the motion is passed by the council. The letter shall include, but not be limited to, the amount and components of operational expenditures of county hospital tax revenue by category of operating expenditure, including but not limited to labor, supplies, overhead, and clinical services.

¹ ER3 restricts \$97,923,000 to be expended or encumbered solely to support Harborview Medical Center operations and shall not be used for capital expenses. Operations includes, but is not limited to labor, supplies, overhead, and clinical services.

The letter shall describe how Harborview intends to achieve the labor standards goals included in the Hospital Services Agreement Section 3.1.2. The letter shall include documentation from the University of Washington, as operator of the hospital, regarding the proposed expenditures of county hospital tax revenue to be spent on operating spending plan referenced in the letter. Such documentation shall include, but not be limited to, a detailed breakdown of how the operating support identified in Expenditure Restriction ER3 is proposed to be spent in 2026 on:

- A. Staffing, including a breakdown of FTE classifications and their roles;*
- B. Programs or services, including the names of each program or service, and demographics about individuals served; and*
- C. A narrative description of the impact of county hospital tax revenue on:*
 - 1. The mission population served by Harborview Medical Center;*
 - 2. The staff and employees of Harborview Medical Center; and*
 - 3. The clinical services provided by Harborview Medical Center.*

The motion should reference the subject matter, the proviso's ordinance, ordinance section, and proviso number in both the title and body of the motion. The executive should electronically file the letter and a motion required by this proviso by June 1, 2026, with the clerk of the council, who shall retain an electronic copy and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers, the council chief of staff, and the lead staff for the committee of the whole or its successor.”

Timing Considerations. Executive staff indicate that action on this item at the September 22, 2026, Committee of the Whole meeting would be ideal.

ANALYSIS

Key Issue A. Proviso Response. Proposed Motion 2026-0194 was transmitted on July 15, 2026, and proposes that the \$48 million withheld by the proviso in 2026 be used to offset losses in Harborview's Primary Care clinics, the Downtown Programs, Harborview Abuse and Trauma Center, and other clinics that serve Harborview's Mission Population, including incarcerated people in King County jails. The spending plan proposes the use of County Hospital Levy funds in Fiscal Year 2026² be spent on the following programs with their respective estimated losses indicated in parenthesis:

² University of Washington's 2026 fiscal year runs from July 2026 through June 2027.

1. Inpatient Rehabilitation and Rehabilitation Clinic losses (\$9.9 million)
2. Care for King County Jail inmates (\$4 million)
3. Primary Care, Downtown Programs, and other clinic losses (\$35.7 million)

The letter states that the total losses for these programs are \$49.6 million. Passage of Proposed Motion 2026-0194 would release \$48 million of County Hospital Levy revenue to support the operations of these programs.

This section of the staff report provides an overview of the required components of the proviso indicated in bold.

How Harborview intends to achieve the labor standards goals included in the Hospital Services Agreement Section 3.1.2.

The Harborview Hospital Services Agreement (HSA) Section 3.1.2.3 states that the "University shall maintain a process of continual improvement for employee and labor relations between the University and University Employees and their certified bargaining representative." This effort is required to include measurable metrics that align with UW Medicine's commitment to being an employer of choice" and include reporting that includes "progress with the Medical Center's Employer of Choice goals." According to UW Medicine staff, the Employer of Choice goals include:

- Workforce engagement
- Vacancy rate (including the rate for nurses and all staff)
- Voluntary turnover (including all staff, nurses, and turnover by tenure)

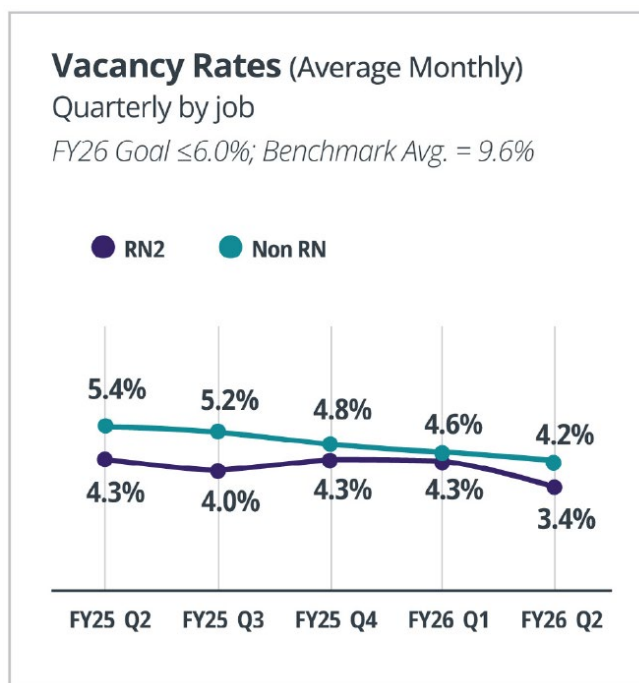
Pages 11-19 of the transmitted letter address workforce issues, metrics related to these goals, and efforts underway to continue meeting these goals. This includes an overview of workforce partnerships and employee well-being efforts, and information from the employee dashboard data and employee satisfaction survey results. Additional details are provided pertaining to continual improvement for employee and labor relations, continuing education efforts for employees, and Harborview's efforts to ensure effective staffing.

Employee Satisfaction and Data Dashboard. Data provided in the letter indicates that since Q2 2025, Harborview's employee count has increased to 6,013 employees. According to UW Medicine staff, the five-year goal established in FY26 is to achieve a workforce engagement mean score equivalent to the 75th percentile nationally. The letter indicates that Harborview's engagement scores are at the 66th percentile achieving, "higher levels of engagement than employees at roughly two-thirds of hospitals nationwide."³

³ Report, p. 12

Pages 13-15 of the letter provide snapshots of data related to staff satisfaction and workforce adequacy. The FY26 Employer of Choice goal for the vacancy rate is less than or equal to 6%, as indicated in italics under the title in Figure 1. As shown in Figure 1, the vacancy rate for both Registered Nurses and not Registered Nurses is within the goal metric.

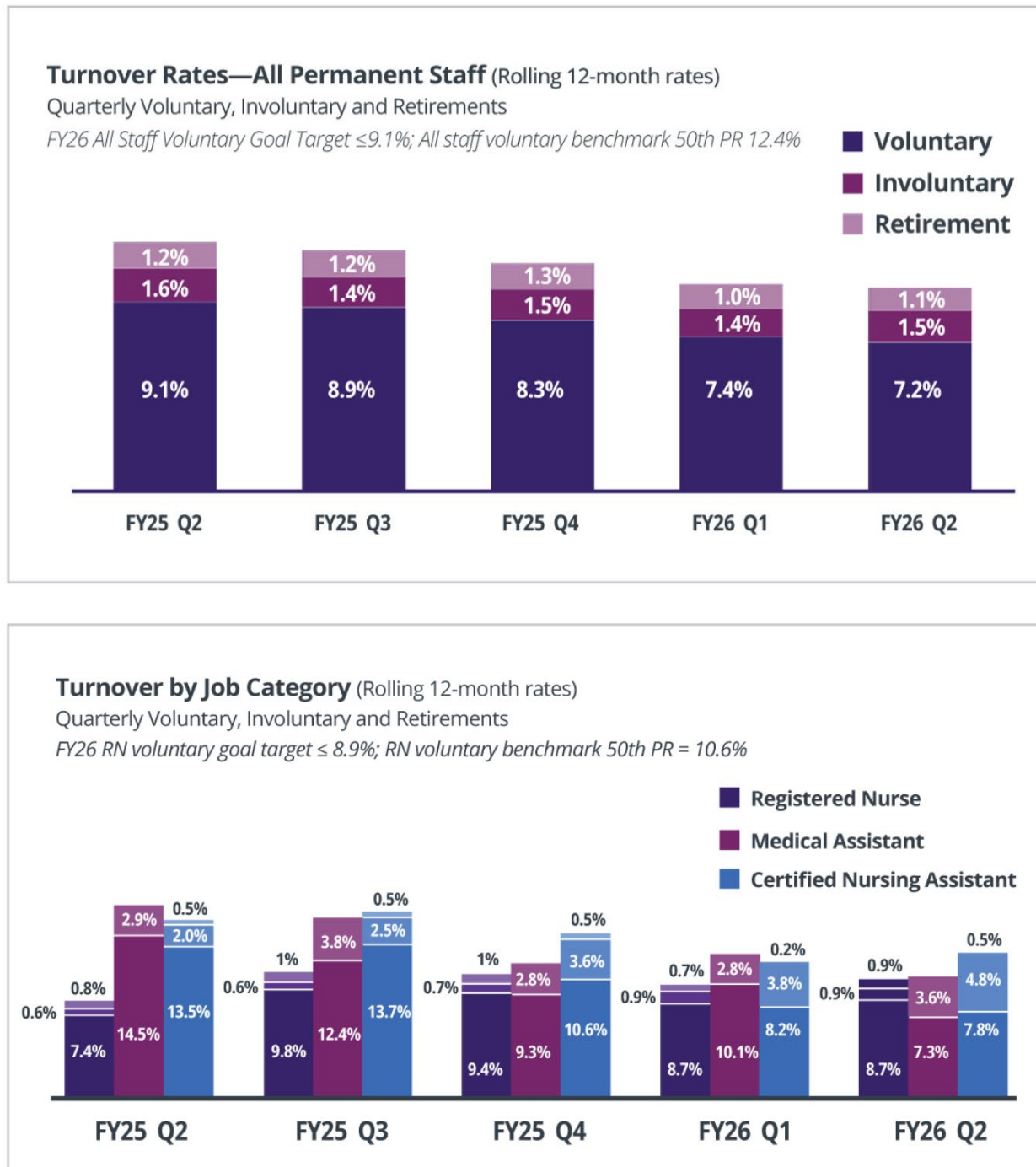
Figure 1. Harborview Employee Vacancy Rates, p. 13



Goals pertaining to turnover rates differ depending on which metric is being addressed. According to the letter, Harborview has a "significantly lower rate of turnover" compared to other hospitals.⁴ Figure 2 shows the turnover rates for all permanent staff, and turnover by job category as seen on page 14 of the letter. The Employer of Choice goals are indicated in italics beneath the title for each table. The turnover rates for all permanent staff has improved since FY25 Q2 and is now within the goal. The voluntary turnover rates for registered nurses has also decreased since FY25 Q4 and is now within the goal by 0.2% in FY26 Q2.

⁴ As of Q2 FY 2026, Harborview's all-staff voluntary turnover rate was 7.2%. Whereas, the national hospital turnover rate is approximately 18.3%.

Figure 2. Harborview Employee Turnover Rates, p. 14



The letter states that in 2025, 73% of staff and nearly 300 physicians and advanced practice providers participated in the PressGaney Workforce Survey which showed improvement as compared to the 2024 survey, "including higher engagement and gains in areas such as safety, well-being, and staffing." Slides provided by Harborview showing the

Engagement section of the PressGaney Workforce Survey Results are attached to this staff report as Attachment 3.

The remainder of the labor-related sections of the letter provide information regarding efforts that would affect the Employer of Choice labor standards goals.

Labor Relations and Bargaining. According to the letter, "the HSA articulates Harborview's commitment to partnership with employees and continuous improvement of the employee experience. When staff feel respected, supported, and valued, they are best able to provide exceptional care to patients. That is why we view our partnership with labor as essential to fulfilling our public mission."⁵ The letter states that Harborview works closely with three labor unions that represent employees at the Medical Center. This includes the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 1199NW (representing 3,000 employees), SEIU 925 (representing 480 employees), and the Washington Federation of State Employees (WFSE) (representing 1,630 employees).

The letter states that Harborview engages in a monthly staffing committee that, "has equal representation from labor and management, and provides hospital-wide oversight. The committee determines staffing plans, which are required to be approved by 51% majority to ensure broad support."⁶ The transmitted letter provides information regarding the recent collective bargaining agreement negotiations with SEIU 1199NW that utilized an interest-based bargaining approach to negotiate the current contract which continues through June 30, 2027. The letter states that the current SEIU 925 and WFSE contracts expire June 30, 2027, and negotiations were set to begin in June 2026.

Employee Well-Being and Continuing Education. The letter states that Harborview employees participated in programs offered through the University of Washington's Whole U program including wellness fairs and challenges, wellness activities including Tai Chi classes offered at Harborview, and financial seminars offered by TIAA at Harborview. The letter states that Harborview is "committed to investing in workforce development as a key strategy to support staff retention, clinical excellence, and high-quality patient care."

A. Staffing, including a breakdown of FTE classifications and their roles;

The transmitted letter includes a summary of staffing, including a breakdown of FTE classifications and their roles for most programs that are anticipated to receive funding

⁵ 2026 County Hospital Tax Operating Spending Plan, p. 11

⁶ 2026 County Hospital Tax Operating Spending Plan, p. 19

through the County Hospital Levy Tax in 2026. Table 1 provides a summary of the programs, FTEs, and classifications. These appear on pages 21-31 of the letter.

Table 1. Harborview Staffing Supported by County Hospital Levy Revenue in 2026

Clinic FTEs Roles	Clinic FTEs	Clinic FTEs Roles
Adult Medicine Clinic	24.6 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist
Family Medicine Clinic	19.5 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
Pediatric Clinic	14.6 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
International Medicine Clinic	13.5 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
Madison Clinic	23.6 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
Madison Clinic – Psych	1.0 FTE	Physician, Other
Madison Satellite Clinic	2.5 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
Senior Care Clinic	5.1 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
Pioneer Square (PSQ) Field-Based Primary	6.0 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist
Hobson Place Clinic	13.7 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist
PSQ Robert Clewis Center	1.3 FTE	Management and Professional, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist
PSQ 3rd Avenue Clinic	4.1 FTE	Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
PSQ Neighborhood Clinic	14.7 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
Harborview Abuse and Trauma Center (HATC)	5.11 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician

Counseling Clinic		Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist
HATC Medicine Clinic	6.94 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist
Palliative Care Service	4.04 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist
Maternity Support Case Management Program	1.4 FTE	Technical Specialist
Occupational Med Clinic	4.02 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist
Post Acute Care Service	10.74 FTE	Nonphysician Medical Practitioner
Outpatient Rehabilitation Clinic	9.8 FTE	Doctors (physiatrists); Rehabilitation Nurses; Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapists; Patient Care Coordinators; Therapeutic Recreational Specialists; Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors; Rehab Psychologists; and Social Workers
Inpatient Rehabilitation Clinic	64.3 FTE	Doctors (physiatrists), Psychologists, Nurses, Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech Language Pathologists, Recreational Therapists, Social Workers, and Care Managers.
	250.55 FTE	

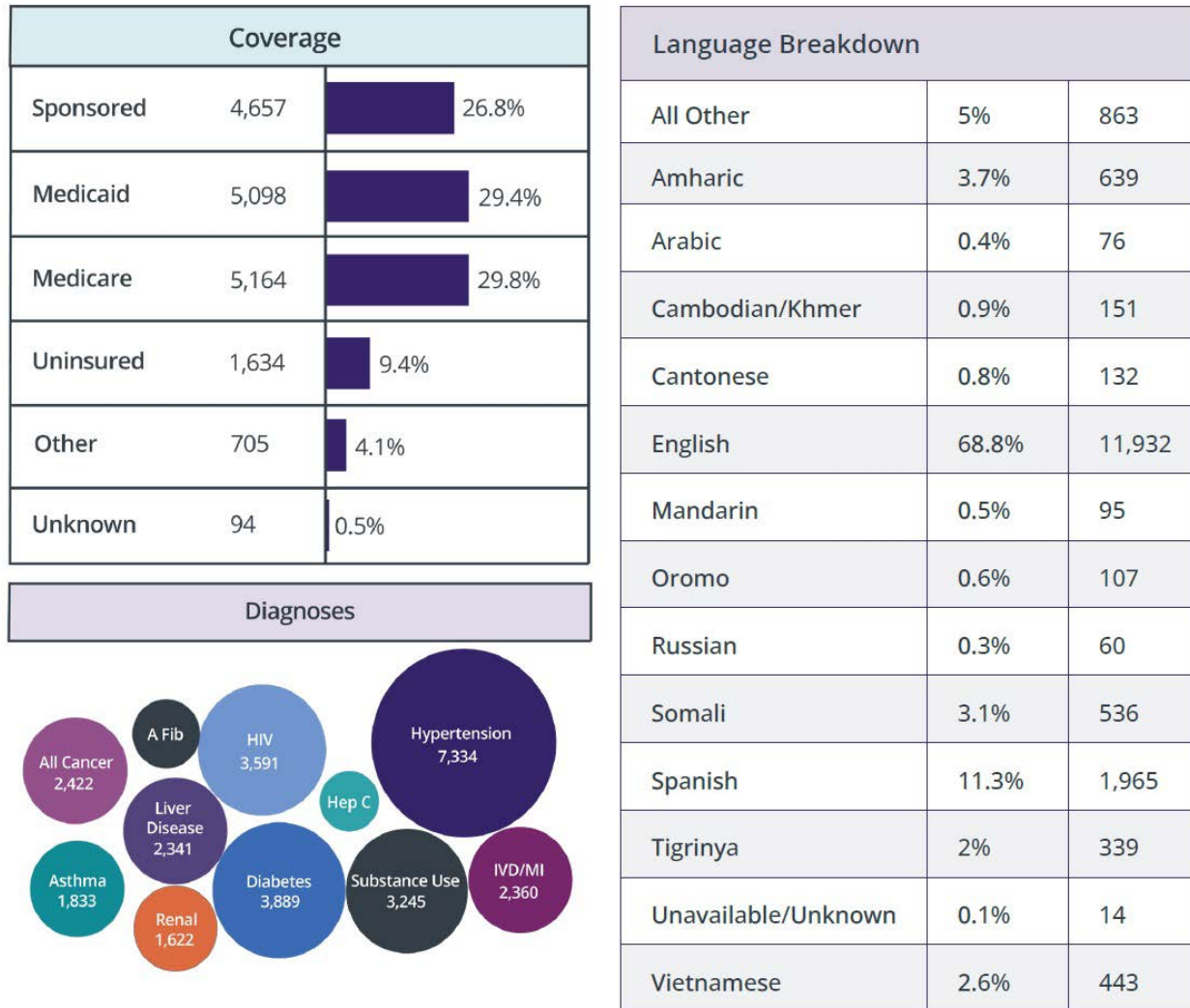
In addition to the primary care and other clinical programs and services described above, Harborview also provides care to people incarcerated in King County's Jails. The letter indicates that "FTEs for this program cannot be discretely quantified as jail patients are seen across many services and settings at Harborview including the emergency room, operating room, and ambulatory clinics."⁷

B. Programs or services, including the names of each program or service, and demographics about individuals served; and

Pages 21-31 of transmitted letter includes the names of each program or service and demographics about individuals served. The names of each program and service are listed in Table 1 in Section A of this analysis. Figure 3 shows the demographics for Primary Care and Downtown Program Patients as it appears on page 22 of the letter.

⁷ 2026 County Hospital Tax Operating Spending Plan, p. 31

Figure 3. Primary Care and Downtown Program Patient Demographics



Additional demographics for the following programs are shown on the corresponding pages:

- **Harborview Abuse and Trauma Center on page 25**
- **Palliative Care Inpatient Program on page 26**
- **Outpatient Palliative Care Program on page 27**
- **Rehabilitation Clinics on page 30**

Demographic information was not provided in the letter for Maternity Support Case Management Program, Occupational Medicine Clinic, Post-Acute Care Services, and KC

Jail Inmates. In response to follow up questions, Harborview staff provided the following information:

1. The "Maternity Support Case Management program serves a very defined population (pregnant people through Medicaid) and within that population Harborview serves a subset of the most medically complex patients via referral only. Harborview's population reflects the criteria established by the Washington State Health Care Authority."
2. The Occupational Medicine Clinic serves, "gender (51% Female), race (59% white, 15% Black or African American, 11% Asian, 15% Other and 1% or less for the categories of Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, American Indian or Alaska Native) and language (86% English, 8% Spanish, 1% Amharic and less than 1% for each other language served -- Tigrinya, Farsi, Somali, French, Cantonese, Russian, Arabic, Vietnamese, Portuguese, Mandarin, Estonian, Serbian, Sign Language and Other)."⁸
3. The demographics for the Post Acute Care program is 50/50 for gender, and other demographics approximately mirror the overall HMC population.
4. According to Harborview staff, "King County Jail inmates are served throughout Harborview – in the Emergency Room, ORs, and Clinics. As these patient encounters are reflected in multiple cost centers and not in a single clinic, we are unable to isolate and pull demographics."

C. A narrative description of the impact of county hospital tax revenue on:

- 1. The mission population served by Harborview Medical Center;**
- 2. The staff and employees of Harborview Medical Center; and**
- 3. The clinical services provided by Harborview Medical Center.**

The transmitted proviso letter includes a patient spotlight on page 10 that provides a narrative description of the impact of County Hospital Tax revenue on Harborview's mission population, staff and employees, and clinical services as required by the proviso. This narrative description features the experience of an Adult Medicine Clinic patient as told by the patient's primary care doctor. This narrative highlights the positive impact Harborview's continuum of services, including the Adult Medicine Clinic, had on a patient who, over a period of a few years, achieved medication adherence, stopped drinking, and

⁸ Additionally, Harborview staff stated that, "However, in addition to individual patients via clinic visits, the Center provides a range of services that serve employers and groups of employees. For example, the center offers a program that seeks to minimize work-related disability by offering education and training in best occupational health practices to physicians who treat workers with work-related injuries. Therefore, comprehensive demographics could not be reported and were not included in the report."

improved his quality of life. The Adult Medicine Clinic received County Hospital Tax revenue in 2025 and is proposed to receive funding again in 2026.

Conclusion. The transmitted proviso letter, in combination with the follow-up information provided by UW Medicine to Council Staff and included in this staff report, appears to be responsive to the proviso requirements. The letter in Attachment A provides an overview of the amount of operational expenditures of County Hospital Tax revenue to be spent in 2026, including a breakdown of staffing by FTE classification, their roles, and what program each role is serving; demographics about patients served by the programs or services; and a narrative description of the impact of County Hospital Levy revenue on the mission population of Harborview, Harborview staff and employees, and the clinical services provided by Harborview.

It is a policy choice for the Council to determine whether the information provided in the letter and in this staff report is sufficient to adopt the proposed motion and release the withheld \$48 million.

INVITED

- Sommer Kleweno Walley, CEO, Harborview
- Madeline Grant, Chief Administrative Officer, Harborview Medical Center
- Ian Goodhew, Chief External Affairs Officer, UW Medicine
- Jeff Muhm, Special Advisor to the Executive's Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2026-0194 (and its attachment)
2. Transmittal Letter
3. 2025 PressGaney Workforce Survey Engagement Results



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2026-0194.1

Sponsors Barón

1 A MOTION acknowledging receipt of a letter from the
2 Harborview board of trustees pertaining to the county
3 hospital tax operating spending plan, as required by the
4 2026-2027 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 20023,
5 Section 102, Proviso P1.

6 WHEREAS, the 2026-2027 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 20023,
7 included Section 102, Proviso P1, which called for the Harborview board of trustees to
8 transmit to the executive and to the council a letter containing components of operational
9 expenditures of the county hospital tax revenue by category of operational expenditure,
10 and for the executive to transmit a motion to council acknowledging receipt of the letter,
11 and

12 WHEREAS, the Harborview board of trustees has transmitted to the executive
13 and to the council the required letter entitled 2026 County Hospital Tax Operating
14 Spending Plan, and the executive has transmitted a motion to council acknowledging the
15 receipt thereof;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

17 The King County council hereby acknowledges receipt of Attachment A to this

- 18 motion, 2026 County Hospital Tax Operating Spending Plan, as required by Ordinance
19 20023, Section 102, Proviso P1.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, ____.

Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

Attachments: None

2026 County Hospital Tax Operating Spending Plan

Harborview Medical Center

HARBORVIEW
MEDICAL CENTER

UW Medicine  King County



A Message from the Harborview Board of Trustees

Harborview Medical Center and the Board of Trustees are thankful for the King County Council's support and commitment to the mission of Harborview. Owned by King County and operated by UW Medicine, Harborview provides expert, compassionate care for the most vulnerable residents of King County while also serving as the provider of choice and leader in trauma and quaternary care.

As the region's sole Level 1 adult and pediatric trauma and burn center and as an academic medical center, Harborview offers advanced specialty care and cutting-edge treatment. When a community member experiences a life-threatening or altering injury or illness, we are ready to care for them.

Harborview's care teams turn life-threatening situations into hope and healing for countless people across our region.

As the leading safety net hospital for King County's most vulnerable patients, Harborview provides responsive, expert care to all patients regardless of ability to pay. We provide accessible, compassionate and culturally sensitive care to individuals experiencing homelessness, mental illness, substance abuse and the chronic diseases that can accompany these conditions. Our care extends beyond the walls of our facilities with clinical teams providing services in shelters, supported housing, and mobile vans on the streets.

As enshrined in our mission (see appendix for

full statement), patients given priority for care include:

- Non-English speaking poor
- Uninsured or underinsured
- Victims of domestic violence or sexual assault
- People incarcerated in King County's jails
- People with mental illness or substance abuse problems, particularly those treated involuntarily
- People with sexually transmitted diseases and
- Those who require specialized emergency, trauma or burn care

Many of the services Harborview provides operate at a loss due to the nature of the services or the intensity of resources needed to care for our specialized populations. The County Hospital Tax passed in 2024 is a key source of funding for Harborview, especially in today's challenging healthcare financial environment.

As Trustees, we are deeply grateful for this support, which reflects the strong partnership among King County, UW Medicine, and the Harborview Board of Trustees.

In this report we intend to illustrate the transformational impact of the County Hospital Tax. We will provide a summary of the impact of prior year operating funds, propose a spending plan for 2026 County Hospital Tax operating dollars and share information about the proposed programs and services and their impact on patients.

In addition, we share information on Harborview's work to achieve the labor standards goals set out in the Hospital Services Agreement between King County and the University of Washington.

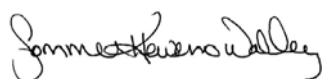
On June 18th, 2026, the Harborview Board of Trustees approved a motion to approve this 2026 County Hospital Tax Operating Spending Plan. We look forward to engaging further with the Council about this proposal and welcome any questions. Thank you for your continued support of Harborview.



Dorothy Teeter

President

Harborview Board of Trustees



Sommer Kleweno Walley

Chief Executive Officer

Harborview Medical Center



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Executive Summary

Harborview Medical Center, owned by King County and operated by UW Medicine, serves as the region's safety-net hospital and the only Level I adult and pediatric trauma and burn center in Washington State. Harborview provides highly specialized medical care while fulfilling a public mission to serve vulnerable populations regardless of their ability to pay.

These populations include people experiencing homelessness, people with mental illness or substance use disorders, survivors of violence, patients who are uninsured or underinsured, and people incarcerated in King County jails. Because many of these populations contain a high proportion of Medicaid or charity care patients, they typically operate at a financial loss. The County Hospital Tax approved in 2024 provides operating funding that helps Harborview to support critical programs like these.

In 2025, \$46 million in County Hospital Tax revenue supported Harborview's Primary Care Clinics and Inpatient Behavioral Health Services. These funds support more than 260 staff across these programs, which provide care to thousands of patients with complex medical and social needs.

Harborview's primary care system includes nine clinics that provide comprehensive, team-based care to approximately 17,000–19,000 patients annually. In addition to clinic-based services, Harborview care teams provide outreach in

shelters, supportive housing, and mobile community settings. Harborview's inpatient behavioral health services provide critical care for patients with the most intensive psychiatric needs in the county's behavioral health system. County Hospital Tax funding helps offset structural financial losses in these programs and ensures continued access to care for vulnerable residents.

Harborview's ability to deliver high-quality care depends on a strong and supported workforce. Harborview maintains close partnerships with three labor partners: SEIU 1199NW, SEIU 925, and WFSE, representing thousands of hospital employees. In 2025, Harborview and SEIU 1199NW ratified a new collective-bargaining agreement using a collaborative interest-based bargaining approach.

Employee engagement also improved significantly in the 2025 workforce survey, with Harborview's engagement score rising to the 66th percentile among hospitals nationwide. Harborview continues to invest in workforce development, professional education, and employee well-being programs to support staff retention and high-quality patient care.

In the 2026–2027 budget, the King County Council allocated \$48 million in County Hospital Tax funding to support Harborview operations in 2026. Harborview proposes using these funds to support programs that are essential to its public mission but that incur significant financial losses due to payer mix and service complexity.

¹ Please note that Harborview operates on a fiscal year that runs from July 1 to June 30th while King County operates on a fiscal year aligned with the calendar year (January 1 to December 31).

² The FY26 operating spending plan funds described in this report will impact Harborview fiscal year 2027 (July 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026).

The proposed spending plan includes \$35.7 million to offset losses in Primary Care and mission-focused clinics, including Harborview's Adult Medicine, Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Senior Care, International Medicine, Madison Clinic, and the Downtown Programs serving individuals experiencing homelessness. This funding will also support specialized programs such as the Harborview Abuse and Trauma Center, Palliative Care services, Occupational Medicine, Maternity Support Case Management, and Post-Acute Care coordination.

An additional \$9.9 million would support Harborview's inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation programs. As a Level I trauma center, Harborview must provide a full continuum of trauma care, including rehabilitation services for patients recovering from traumatic brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, stroke, and other severe conditions. Because many rehabilitation patients at Harborview rely on Medicaid coverage, these services generate substantial financial losses despite their critical role in patient recovery.

Finally, approximately \$4 million would support the cost of providing care for individuals incarcerated in King County jails. Harborview cares for these patients when their medical needs exceed the services available within the jail. These patients are seen in all areas of the organization, including in the emergency department, operating rooms, and ambulatory clinics.

County Hospital Tax funding plays a vital role in sustaining Harborview's mission and supporting access to essential healthcare services for the region's most vulnerable residents. Through strong partnerships with King County, UW Medicine and its workforce, Harborview remains committed to delivering high-quality, compassionate care while maintaining critical programs that support the health and well-being of the community.



2025 Operating Plan Expenditures

Summary of 2025 Operating Spending Plan

In 2025, \$46 million in County Hospital Tax funds were designated to support medical center operations, specifically the Harborview Primary Care Clinics and Inpatient Behavioral Health Services. These funds are supporting 133 Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) across 9 different primary care clinics and 132 FTEs for Inpatient Behavioral Health.

At Harborview, our primary care practices are uniquely equipped to deliver care to the most medically and socially complex patients, many of whom would face challenges receiving primary care through other traditional healthcare organizations. Harborview's inpatient Behavioral Health services are a critical component of the County's behavioral health system with ability to serve patients with the most intensive needs.

Despite the importance of these services, primary care and behavioral health programs incur significant losses, which the County Hospital Tax operating revenue has helped to mitigate.



NUMBERS SNAPSHOT

\$46 million
in County Hospital Tax funds supported:

133 FTEs
across 9 primary care clinics

132 FTEs
for Inpatient Behavioral Health



Program	Planned Spending	Annualized Spending Projection	FYTD Actual Through March	Description of Activity
Primary Care Clinics	\$23,439,001	\$23,749,947	\$18,109,335	Salary and benefits budgeted in FY26 to support the Harborview Medical Center primary care clinics, which includes 9 different clinics. There are 133 full time equivalents (FTEs) budgeted for these clinics, including 26.1 physician FTEs.
Inpatient Behavioral Health Services	\$22,560,999	\$29,364,920	\$22,390,752	Salary and benefits budgeted in FY26 to support the Harborview Medical Center behavioral health inpatient units. There are 132 full time equivalents (FTEs) budgeted for these units, including 4.6 physician FTEs.
Total	\$46,000,000	\$53,114,867	\$40,500,087	
This spending plan is backed by \$46 million of County Hospital Tax Revenue				

Your tax dollars in action:



\$46 million

in operating support provided by the County Hospital Tax in 2025.



265 FTEs

supported in primary care, off-campus clinics, behavioral health and psychiatry.



89,027

primary care clinics visits provided in FY25, a **4% increase** over the prior year.



2,523

visits provided by offsite clinical teams embedded within shelters in FY25.



3,715

visits provided by offsite clinical teams embedded within local supportive housing units (DESC & Plymouth) in FY25.

Spotlight: Pioneer Square Clinic Team

On August 1, 2025, Harborview Medical Center's **Pioneer Square Clinic celebrated 50 years** of providing low-barrier, trauma-informed, evidence-based care to some of Seattle's most vulnerable residents. Since its inception, the Clinic has offered walk-in and ongoing primary care to individuals living in shelters, on the streets and in permanent, supportive housing.

Harborview's "**Downtown Programs**" (as they have come to be called) encompass three comprehensive primary care locations: Pioneer Square Clinic, Hobson Place Clinic in North Beacon Hill and the Third Ave Clinic in Belltown. Clinic services include: an onsite pharmacy, nutrition, podiatry services, psychiatry, behavioral health, social work, office-based opioid treatment, and financial counseling on insurance or charity care coverage.

Downtown Programs Clinic Services



Pharmacy



Nutrition



Podiatry



Psychiatry



Behavioral
Health



Social
Work



Opioid
Treatment



Financial
Counseling

The Downtown Programs also include **15 community-based sites** and **5 mobile teams** where they provide onsite care. These teams provide excellent medical care but also treat the whole person with dignity and compassion. For example, each winter the clinic organizes a clothing donation drive and clothes are provided to patients in need.



Patient Spotlight

as told by the patient's primary doctor

I first met Vlad (name changed) six years ago, when I was a preceptor for the Student Evening Clinic at Adult Medicine Clinic at Harborview. That clinic is staffed by medical students who provide care to highly vulnerable patients who would otherwise not be able to attend daytime clinic visits, often due to work obligations. Over that year, we got to know Vlad. He used to be a teacher in Russia, before moving to America with his wife. He had a child here and then his alcohol use got out of control.

Vlad's wife divorced him, he lost his housing and was living in a tent by the freeway. He worked in construction but was barely able to do the manual labor due to worsening fatigue and shortness of breath. After an ER visit, he was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. He was started on medications to treat heart failure and alcohol use but had trouble taking them given housing and income instability.

The next year, I started working at a hotel shelter as part of the Harborview Field Based teams, and Vlad was referred to the shelter. There, we were able to have his medications delivered to the hotel shelter in convenient bubble packs and his medication adherence improved significantly, as did his symptoms of heart failure. His alcohol use also gradually stabilized.

Vlad started pursuing drawing and painting, which were always hobbies for him but he was unable to do when living in a tent. While at the hotel shelter, Vlad was visited by Harborview's Community Heart Failure Program, where a cardiologist and nurse met with him in his room,

checking on his medication adherence and how his heart health was progressing.

Vlad was able to stay in the hotel shelter for over a year until he received permanent supportive housing. After getting housed, he continued with me as his primary care doctor at Adult Medicine Clinic, where we follow up together on a regular basis. Vlad recently came to see me for a follow up appointment. He was taking his heart failure medications every day and feeling well. He wasn't drinking alcohol. He wanted a flu shot. I asked him about his art and he showed me on his phone pictures of a project he was working on with a local artists' cooperative where they are creating pieces for a fundraising event.

His face had a big proud smile when he said "It's great what we're doing, I'm doing great."



Workforce Partnership and Employee Well-being

The Hospital Services Agreement (HSA) is an agreement between the King County and the University of Washington wherein UW Medicine provides management services and operates Harborview Medical Center the hospital on behalf of King County. The agreement delineates the roles and responsibilities of each party within the partnership and was last amended in 2025.

The HSA articulates Harborview's commitment to partnership with employees and continuous improvement of the employee experience. When staff feel respected, supported, and valued, they are best able to provide exceptional care to patients. That is why we view our partnership with labor as essential to fulfilling our public mission.

Advancing Workforce Partnerships

Harborview works closely with three labor partners — **SEIU 1199NW**, **SEIU 925**, and **WFSE** — who represent employees at Harborview Medical Center.



SEIU 1199NW represents
3,000 employees*
the majority of whom are
registered nurses

SEIU 925 represents
480 employees*
at Harborview
(1,600+ across UW Medicine)
in administrative, healthcare
technician, and healthcare
technologist roles

WFSE represents:
1,630 employees*
at Harborview
(1,760 across UW Medicine)
working in **204** different
classifications, the largest
populations being custodians,
food-service employees, hospital
assistants, and medical assistants

*Numbers are approximate

Employee Satisfaction

Harborview 2025 Workforce Survey Results

Harborview Medical Center continues to prioritize listening to and acting on employee feedback. In 2025, 73% of staff and nearly 300 physicians and advanced practice providers participated in the PressGaney Workforce Survey. Results show meaningful improvement compared to 2024, including higher engagement and gains in areas such as safety, well-being, and staffing.

Harborview's engagement scores moved from the 56th to the 66th percentile, which means Harborview staff are reporting higher levels of engagement than employees at roughly two-thirds of hospitals nationwide.

2025 PressGaney Workforce Survey Participation and Engagement

73% staff participation

300 physicians and advanced practice providers participated

66th percentile in engagement scores, an increase of **10%** from 2024



Employee Dashboard Data

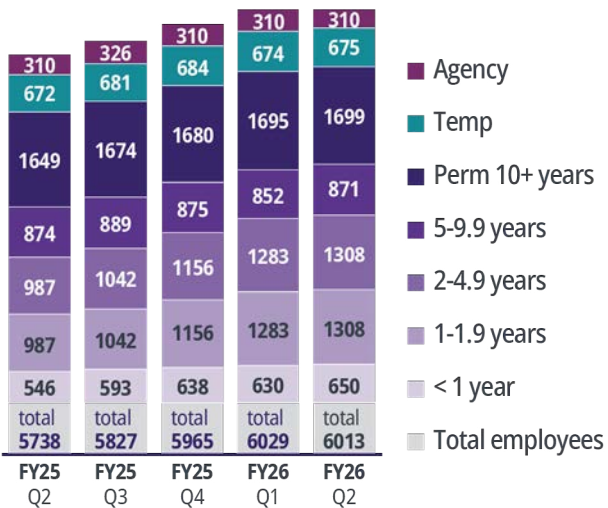
Each quarter, the Harborview Board of Trustees reviews a dashboard that tracks indicators of staff satisfaction and workforce adequacy. The dashboard includes data on turnover rates, active employee count, and vacancy rates.

Compared to other hospitals, Harborview has a significantly lower rate of turnover. As of Quarter 2 Fiscal Year 2026, Harborview's all-staff voluntary turnover rate was 7.2%. Vacancy rates have also trended down over the last fiscal year, with a rate of 4.2% for non-RN roles and a vacancy rate of 3.4% for RN roles.

This demonstrates that Harborview has stable employment. When a position does become available, people desire to come work at Harborview and the position is able to be filled efficiently. As of Quarter 2, Harborview has a total active employee count of 6,013 employees.

Active Employee Count

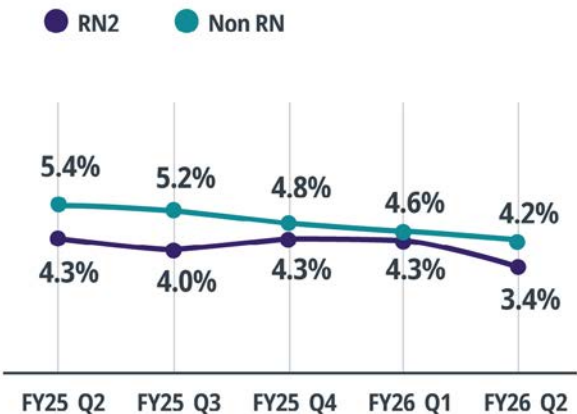
By type and tenure



Vacancy Rates (Average Monthly)

Quarterly by job

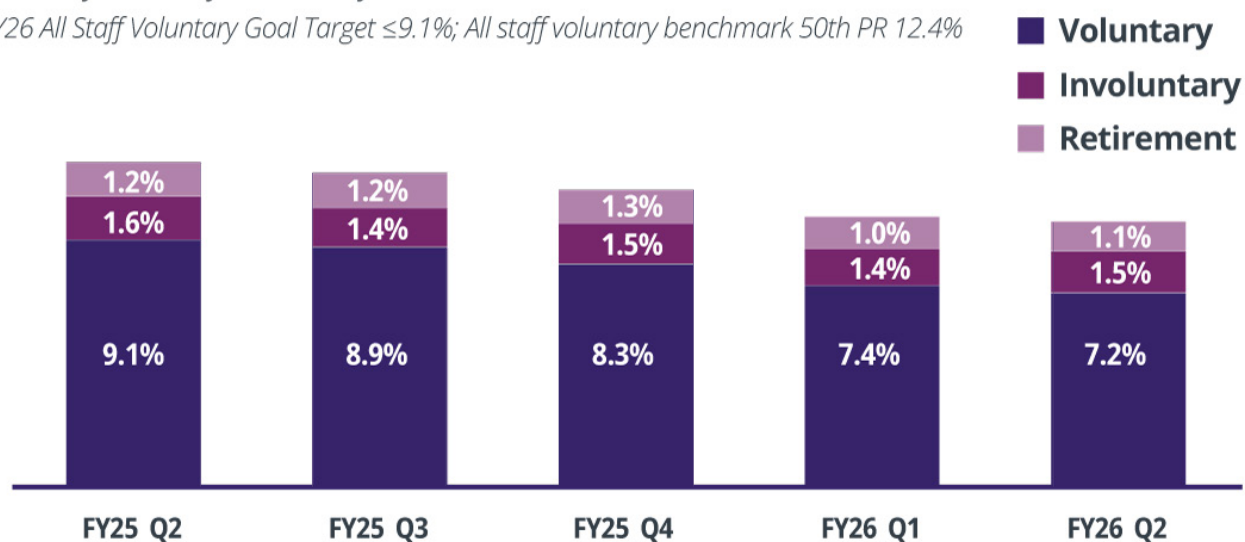
FY26 Goal ≤6.0%; Benchmark Avg. = 9.6%



Turnover Rates—All Permanent Staff (Rolling 12-month rates)

Quarterly Voluntary, Involuntary and Retirements

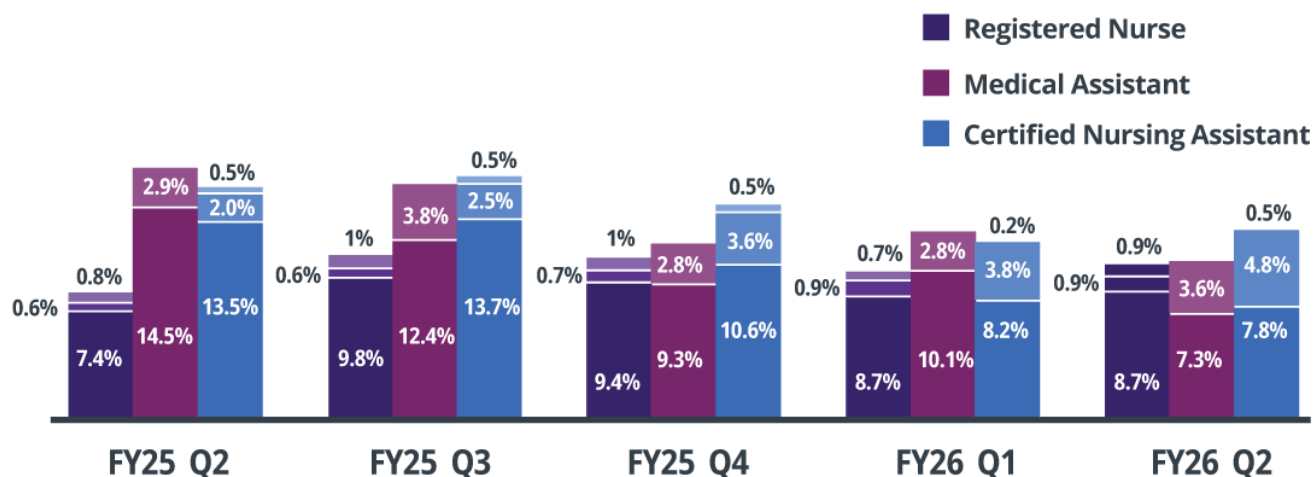
FY26 All Staff Voluntary Goal Target $\leq 9.1\%$; All staff voluntary benchmark 50th PR 12.4%



Turnover by Job Category (Rolling 12-month rates)

Quarterly Voluntary, Involuntary and Retirements

FY26 RN voluntary goal target $\leq 8.9\%$; RN voluntary benchmark 50th PR = 10.6%



All-staff Turnover Trends

Quarter

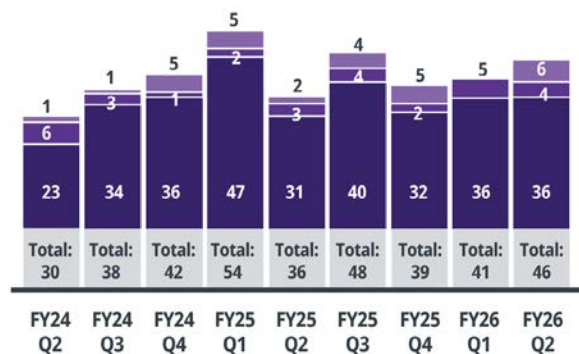
Voluntary
Involuntary
Retire



RN Turnover Trends

Quarter

Voluntary
Involuntary
Retire

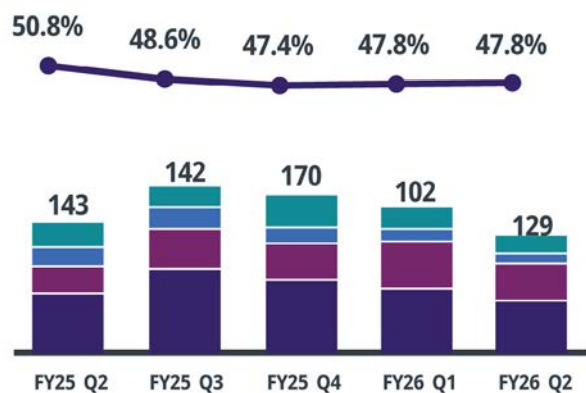


Turnover by Tenure (Rolling 12-month rates)

Quarterly by Tenure Category

FY26 goal target $\leq 43.0\%$ with tenure < 2 years

< 2 years 2-5 5-10 >10 %



Employee Well-Being

All UW employees have access to programs offered by The Whole U program. The Whole U supports the well-being, growth and connection of faculty and staff across every campus and medical center. Programs and events are designed within seven key pillars: 1) **Be Active**, 2) **Eat Well**, 3) **Engaging Interests**, 4) **Staying Healthy**, 5) **Financially Fit**, 6) **Life Events & Changes**, and 7) **Volunteerism**.

Harborview employee participation highlights in 2025 and quotes about the Whole U program:

1,810

employees participated in Wellness Fairs.



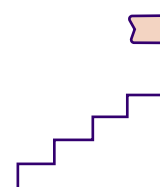
“



It was so much fun, and I was connected to other employees. Everyone looks so happy.” *(at the Zumba class)*

499

employees participated in Wellness Challenges.



“



I loved the instructor and the outdoor Zumba event. I would love to see this held more often in the summer! It was a fun workout class.”

52

employees attended the TIAA financial seminars at Harborview.



“

The TIAA presentations I've gone to have been consistently EXCELLENT. Welcoming, engaging, energizing, and definitely very informative and helpful. I recommend these to anyone I can.”

“



“I learned a variety of ways as to how to approach budgeting that I may not have been aware of in the past. I was also surprised at how many others were experiencing similar financial hardships.” *(on the Manage Your Money Seminar with BECU)*

53

employees attended Tai Chi classes at Harborview.



Continuing Education for Employees

Harborview Medical Center remains committed to investing in workforce development as a key strategy to support staff retention, clinical excellence, and high-quality patient care. Continuing education opportunities are designed to strengthen clinical skills, support career progression, and promote a resilient and highly skilled workforce.

Career Development Hub

Harborview supports employee growth through UW Medicine's Career Development Hub, which provides easy access to development resources, tools, and career guidance. The Hub helps employees explore career paths, build skills, and take an active role in their professional development, reinforcing a culture of growth and opportunity.

Professional Development & Nursing Education

In 2025, a total of 192 Professional Development & Nursing Education (PDNE) classes were offered to support ongoing professional development across the organization.

These classes include a range of educational offerings such as clinical skill development, onboarding and orientation support, leadership training, and specialty education aligned with patient care needs.

A total of 2,981 staff participated in PDNE classes in 2025, reflecting strong engagement in internal learning opportunities and a continued commitment to professional growth.

Continuing Education Utilization

Staff continue to actively utilize contractual continuing education (CE) funds and educational

leave to support external learning opportunities. In Fiscal Year 2025, there were 1,705 CE funding requests submitted by 956 employees, totaling \$570,398 in educational investment. These funds support a variety of professional development activities, including conferences, certifications, and continuing education courses.



NUMBERS SNAPSHOT

192 PDNE classes were offered

2,981 staff participated in PDNE classes

\$570,398 in educational investment through **1,705** CE funding requests by **956** employee

Scholarships & Career Advancement

In FY2025, 48 staff members were awarded scholarships to support academic and professional advancement. These scholarship programs support both degree advancement and broader professional development, helping to build a more highly educated nursing workforce and create pathways for career mobility within the organization.

New Leader Pathway

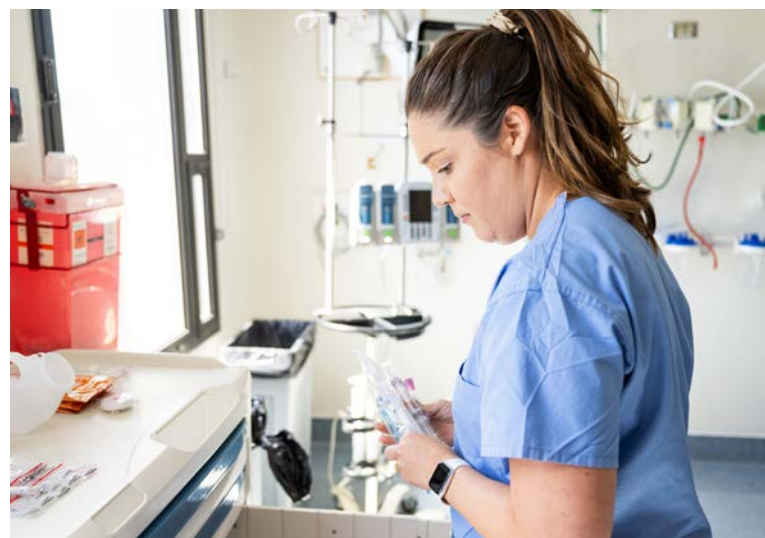
Harborview is strengthening support for new managers through the New Leader Pathway, with 14 managers completing the program in its first year.

This three-month program helps leaders build essential skills and confidence early in their roles, better equipping them to support their teams and create a positive work environment.

NUMBERS SNAPSHOT

48 staff members were awarded scholarships in FY2025

14 managers completed the New Leader Pathway program



Ensuring Effective Staffing

Harborview is proud to maintain a very active staffing committee that meets monthly, has equal representation from labor and management, and provides hospital-wide oversight. The committee determines staffing plans, which are required to be approved by 51% majority to ensure broad support.

Recent CBA Negotiations with SEIU 1199NW

For the most recent round of bargaining with SEIU 1199NW, the parties utilized interest-based bargaining. IBB (Interest-based bargaining) is a collaborative approach to collective bargaining in which all parties work together to identify underlying interests and needs rather than staking out rigid positions, with the goal of reaching mutually beneficial outcomes.

Unlike traditional adversarial negotiation, IBB equips bargaining teams with shared tools, techniques, and communication strategies — often through joint training — to foster transparency and cooperation throughout the negotiation process.

The process is flexible and can be tailored to the specific needs of the parties involved, sometimes including a neutral facilitator to guide early sessions and help establish ground rules. In collaboration with our labor partners and via the IBB process, the most recent Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) was ratified on November 26, 2025, with a 94% vote. This contract continues through June 30, 2027, as, per RCW 41.80, the contract period cannot extend beyond the current biennium budget cycle (July 2025 to June 2027).

Future WFSE and SEIU 925 Contract Negotiations

The current SEIU 925 and WFSE collective bargaining agreements expire on June 30, 2027. The parties are set to begin bargaining in June 2026 for a CBA that runs from July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2029.

RCW 41.80 requires that the parties complete bargaining and submit a ratified agreement to the Washington State Office of Financial Management by October 1, 2026 for a determination of financial feasibility.



Proposed 2026 Spending Plan

FY26 Request Summary

In the 2026 – 2027 Biennium, the County Council allocated \$48 Million in funds to support the operations of the hospital. Harborview proposes that these funds be utilized to support the operations of programs that are known to incur a loss but which are important services to populations identified in our mission statement.

Specifically Harborview proposes that these funds be used to support the following programs in 2026:

- Inpatient Rehabilitation and Rehabilitation Clinic Losses (\$9.9 million)
- Care for King County Jail Inmates (\$4 million)
- Primary Care, Downtown Programs, and select other clinic losses (\$35.7 million)

These programs represent a total loss of \$49.6 million.

The programs proposed for the operating plan will directly support the mission Harborview serves. These programs serve patient populations that are disproportionately covered by Medicaid and charity care, which supports Harborview's mission to serve persons who are uninsured or underinsured. At a time when other healthcare organizations in the region are limiting access for uninsured or underinsured patients due to federal funding changes, Harborview is committed to continuing access for patients in need.

For the 2026 Operating Funds allocated by the County, Harborview proposes that these funds be used to offset clinic losses in Primary Care, the Downtown Programs, Harborview Abuse & Trauma Center, and select other clinics that focus on serving populations outlined in the organization's mission statement. These include Palliative Care, Maternity Support Case Management, Occupational Medicine, and Post-Acute Care. The identified clinics result in losses of \$35.7 million annually.

NUMBERS SNAPSHOT

\$48 million allocated by the County Council to support hospital operations.

Proposed use of funds to support:

\$9.9 million
Inpatient Rehabilitation and Rehabilitation Clinic losses

\$4 million
Care for King County Jail inmates

\$35.7 million
Primary Care, Downtown Programs and select other clinic losses

Primary care clinics

Harborview's primary care clinics include:

- Adult Medicine
- Family Medicine
- Pediatrics
- Senior Care
- International Medicine
- Pioneer Square (including PSQ, 3rd Ave and Hobson clinics) and
- Madison Clinics

Historically, Harborview empaneled patients range from 17,000 to 19,000 patients

Harborview's primary care clinics are designed to serve the most medically and socially complex patients and include more extensive wraparound services that are not provided in typical primary care provided in the community. These clinics focus on serving our mission populations including:

- Persons who are non-English speaking poor, who are served by all clinics, especially the International Medicine Clinic;
- Persons who are uninsured or underinsured; who are served by all clinics
- Persons with mental illness, who are served by all clinics; especially Pioneer Square clinics
- Persons with substance abuse, who are served by all clinics; especially Pioneer Square clinics
- Persons with sexually transmitted disease, who are served by all clinics; especially Madison clinics

Losses associated with Primary Care are expected to grow due to federal funding reductions.

Downtown Programs

Within our Downtown Programs and in addition to the Pioneer Square Clinics, Harborview maintains field-based teams that who provide clinical services at shelter locations, housing sites and on the streets.

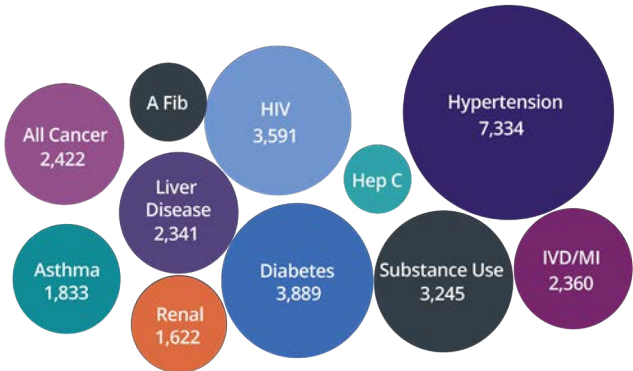


Our teams serve a diverse patient population, as illustrated in the demographics data provided below. The FTE associated with each clinic and the roles within each clinic are also provided below.

Primary Care and Downtown Program Patient Demographics

Coverage		
Sponsored	4,657	26.8%
Medicaid	5,098	29.4%
Medicare	5,164	29.8%
Uninsured	1,634	9.4%
Other	705	4.1%
Unknown	94	0.5%

Diagnoses



Within our primary care patient population, 32% of patients identify as white, 29% of patients identify as Black or African American, 18% of patients identify as Hispanic, 13% of patients identify as Asian and the remaining 8% of patients identify as other or multiple races.

Within this population, approximately 58% of patients identify as male. 42% identify as female,

Language Breakdown		
All Other	5%	863
Amharic	3.7%	639
Arabic	0.4%	76
Cambodian/Khmer	0.9%	151
Cantonese	0.8%	132
English	68.8%	11,932
Mandarin	0.5%	95
Oromo	0.6%	107
Russian	0.3%	60
Somali	3.1%	536
Spanish	11.3%	1,965
Tigrinya	2%	339
Unavailable/Unknown	0.1%	14
Vietnamese	2.6%	443

and less than 1% identify as another gender.

Most patients fall between the ages of 18 and 84 — 23% are between the ages of 18–39, 46% are between the ages of 40–64, and 26% are between the ages of 65–84. Approximately 1% of patients are under age 18, and 3% are age 85+.

Primary Care FTE and Roles by Clinic

Clinic	FTEs	Roles
CC102287 HMC Adult Medicine Clinic	24.6 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist
CC102288 HMC Family Medicine Clinic	19.5 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
CC102291 HMC Pediatric Clinic	14.6 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
CC102350 HMC International Medicine Clinic	13.5 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
CC102352 HMC Madison Clinic	23.6 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
CC102353 HMC Madison Clinic Psych	1.0 FTE	Physician, Other
CC102357 HMC Madison Satellite Clinic	2.5 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
CC102341 HMC Senior Care Clinic	5.1 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
CC102292 HMC PSQ Field-Based Primary	6.0 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist
CC102303 HMC Hobson Place Clinic	13.7 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist
CC102360 HMC PSQ Robert Clewis Center	1.3 FTE	Management and Professional, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist
CC102361 HMC PSQ 3rd Avenue Clinic	4.1 FTE	Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other
CC102363 HMC PSQ Neighborhood Clinic	14.7 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist, Other

Harborview Abuse and Trauma Center

The Harborview Abuse and Trauma Center's (HATC) mission is to prevent and treat the harmful effects of traumatic experiences on survivors, families, and communities. The mission populations served by HATC include persons who experience domestic violence and persons who experience sexual assault. This program serves primarily adults but 22% of patients are under 18 years of age. HATC provides effective support and care that is also individualized, culturally inclusive, and compassionate.

HATC serves the larger community through leadership, prevention, education, and advocacy. Our programs include:

- Trauma counseling services
- Gun violence prevention counseling
- The Foster Care Assessment Program
- Sexual Assault Nurse (SANE) training
- Educational services for the community
- Training and consultation on trauma-informed care to behavioral healthcare organizations and professionals

HATC is supported by multiple grants and public sources of funding, but not all expenses are fully covered.



HATC FY25 NUMBERS SNAPSHOT

1,703 patients served in clinic

647 patients served in hospitals following sexual assault and/or non-fatal domestic violence strangulation

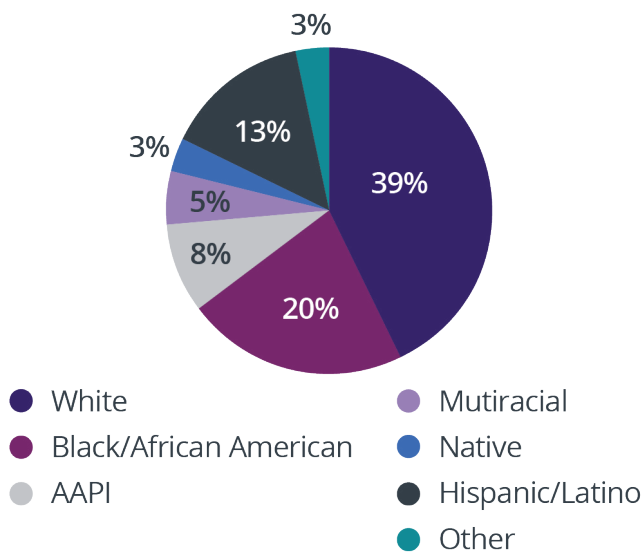
247 children statewide served by the Foster Care Assessment Program

2,611 providers statewide participated in multi-disciplinary prevention services training

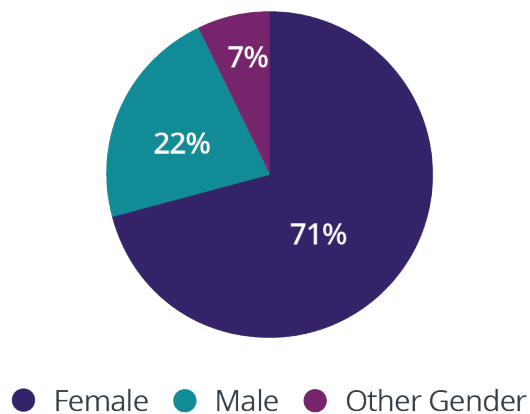
246 nurses participated in Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner training statewide

HATC Patient Demographics

Ethnicity



Gender



HATC FTE and Roles

Program	FTEs	Roles
CC102472 HMC HATC Counseling Clinic	5.11 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist
CC102476 HMC HATC Medicine Clinic	6.94 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Non-physician Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist

Other Selected Clinics

Other selected clinics to include Palliative Care Service, Maternity Support Case Management, Occupational Med Clinic and Post-Acute Care.

Palliative Care

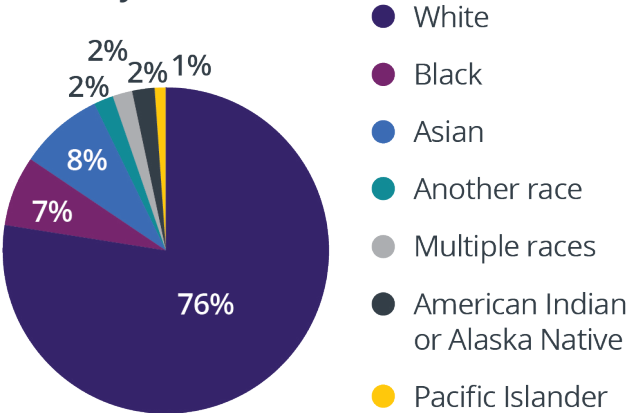
The Palliative Care Service is an interdisciplinary team that partners with patients, families, and care teams across inpatient and outpatient settings to improve quality of life for individuals living with serious illness, while receiving curative/life-prolonging care, or end-of-life care. The team supports patients and families to understanding their illness, evaluating treatment options, and making informed decisions that align with their goals, values, and cultural preferences.

Through expert symptom management, communication, emotional and spiritual support, and coordinated care planning, palliative care enhances the patient and family experience, supports clinicians in delivering goal-concordant care, which can often impact health-system-related outcomes such as length of stay and overall cost of care.

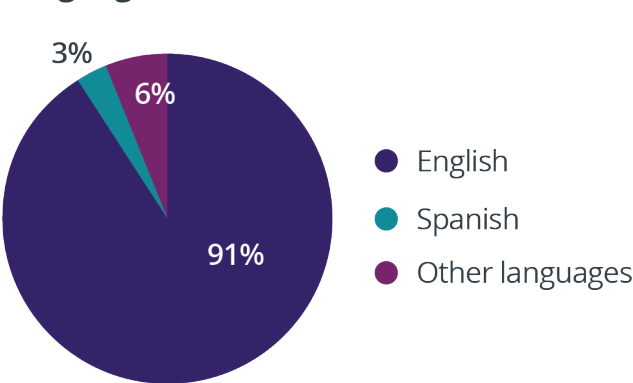
The Palliative Care Inpatient Program serves a diverse patient population which is approximately 47% female and 53% male.

Additional demographics include:

Ethnicity

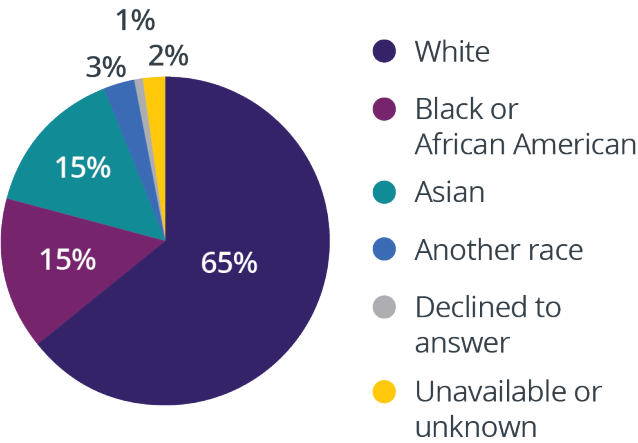


Language

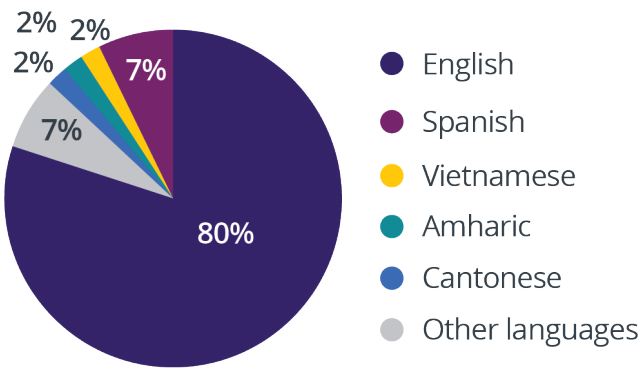


The Outpatient Palliative Care Program also serves a diverse set of patients. The patient population is approximately 58% female and 42% male. Additional demographics include:

Ethnicity



Language



Palliative Care FTE and Roles

Program	FTEs	Roles
CC102482 HMC Palliative Care Service	4.04 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist

Maternity Support Case Management Program

The Maternity Support Case Management Program primarily serves women of child-bearing age. The program provides preventive health and education services to help a woman have a healthy pregnancy and a healthy baby. Services can begin any time during the pregnancy, delivery, or postpartum period, and continue up to 60 days postpartum.

Most patients in the community receive this service through public health but a small, referral-based program at Harborview supports approximately 80–110 visits annually and serves a subset of highly medically complex patients.

Maternity Support Case Management Program FTE and Roles

Program	FTEs	Roles
CC102290 HMC Maternity Support Case Management	1.4 FTE	Technical Specialist

Occupational Medicine Clinic

The Occupational and Environmental Medicine Clinic at Harborview offers comprehensive services for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of occupational and environmental injuries, exposures, and illnesses. Common conditions include breathing problems, neurological problems, hearing loss, skin problems, musculoskeletal problems and exposures to toxic chemicals such as metals, solvents and pesticides.

The Occupational Medicine Clinic works with employers, workers and others to help prevent

work-related illnesses and injuries and offer worksite visits as permitted. The clinic offers medical screening and monitoring; regulatory compliance examinations for asbestos, silica, beryllium, and hazardous waste; emergency response; and assessment of barriers to return to work and the need for reasonable accommodations for non-work-related injuries.

Occupational Medicine Clinic FTE and Roles

Program	FTEs	Roles
CC102336 HMC Occupational Med Clinic	4.02 FTE	Management and Professional, Physician, Registered Nurse, Technical Specialist



Post-Acute Care Service

The Post-Acute Care Service partners across the hospital and community continuum to ensure patients transition to the right level of care after hospitalization. By strengthening discharge pathways, supporting complex transitions, and improving access to skilled nursing, home health, rehabilitation, hospice, and other services, the team helps reduce length of stay and preserve hospital bed capacity. This work improves care coordination, quality, and patient outcomes while reducing preventable readmissions, unnecessary ED utilization, and total cost of care under value-based care models.

Post-Acute Care Service FTE and Roles

Program	FTEs	Roles
CC102378 HMC Post Acute Care	10.74 FTE	Non-physician Medical Practitioner



Inpatient Rehabilitation and Rehabilitation Clinic

As a Level 1 Trauma Center, Harborview is required to provide access to the full continuum of trauma care, including rehabilitation services. Harborview's rehabilitation population is disproportionately Medicaid as other, private rehabilitation facilities often decline to accept Medicaid patients in favor of accepting commercially insured patients.

Harborview Medical Center's Inpatient Rehabilitation unit is a 24-bed inpatient trauma rehabilitation unit dedicated to providing the highest quality of care to individuals who have sustained a traumatic injury requiring inpatient rehabilitation. Primary patient populations that

we serve are spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, and stroke patients.

Harborview's inpatient rehabilitation staff (64.3 FTE) includes:

- Rehabilitation Physicians
- Psychologists
- Nurses
- Physical Therapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Speech Language Pathologists
- Recreation Therapists
- Social Workers
- Care Managers

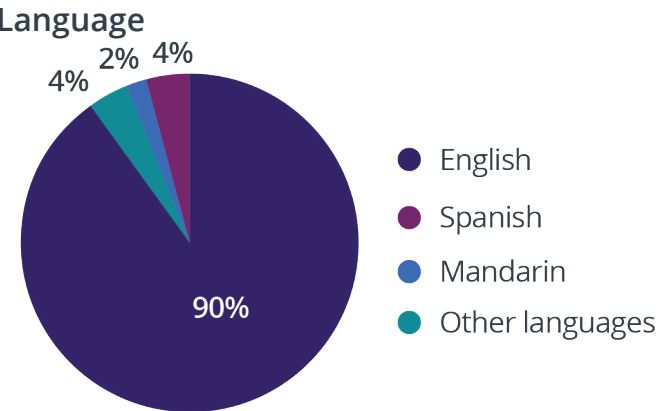
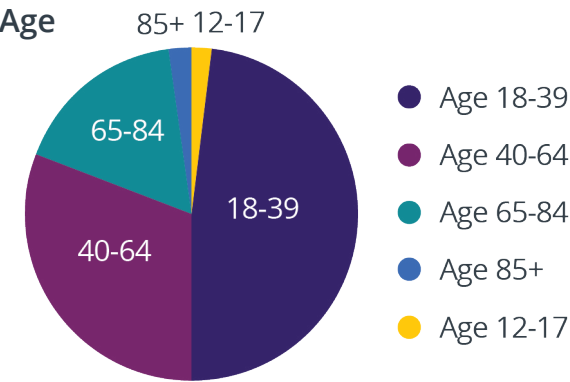
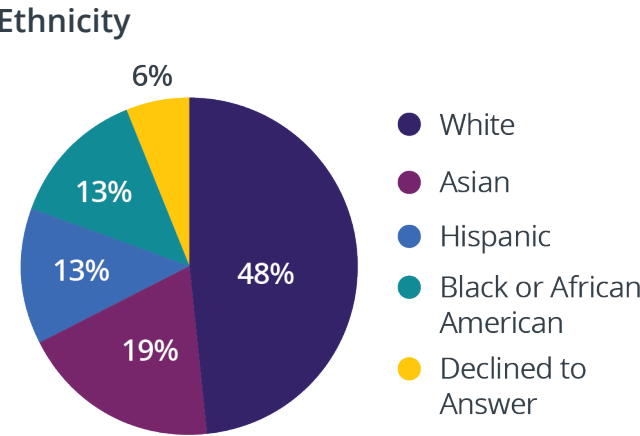
The Outpatient Rehabilitation Medicine Clinic at Harborview offers comprehensive care for adults recovering from spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, stroke, amputations and COVID-19. The clinic offers follow-up care for patients discharged from acute care and rehabilitation units.

Care team members (9.8 FTE) include:

- Doctors who specialize in rehabilitation medicine (physiatrists)
- Rehabilitation Nurses
- Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapists
- Patient Care Coordinators
- Therapeutic Recreation Specialists
- Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors
- Rehabilitation Psychologists
- Social Workers



Rehabilitation patients represent a diverse set of patients. Patients are approximately 54% male and 46% female. Additional demographics include:



Care for King County Jail Inmates

Harborview Medical Center is committed to providing equitable, non-discriminatory care that respects the dignity of all patients. Patients incarcerated in King County's Jails are a specifically designated mission population of Harborview. When the care needs of a patient exceed the services available through jail, Harborview provides care for the patient at no cost.

FTEs for this program cannot be discretely quantified as jail patients are seen across many services and settings at Harborview including the emergency room, operating room, and ambulatory clinics. Harborview collaborates closely with KCJ staff in the care of these patients and has specific protocols in place to successfully manage patients' visits safely and confidentially. Harborview incurs costs of approximately \$4 million annually to care for these patients.



Appendix

Mission Statement

Harborview Medical Center is owned by King County, governed by the Harborview Board of Trustees, and managed under contract by the University of Washington.

Harborview Medical Center is a comprehensive healthcare facility dedicated to the control of illness and the promotion and restoration of health. Its primary mission is to provide healthcare for the most vulnerable residents of King County; to provide and teach exemplary patient care; to provide care for a broad spectrum of patients from throughout the region; and to develop and maintain leading-edge centers of emphasis. As the only Level I Adult and Pediatric Trauma Center in Washington, Harborview Medical Center provides specialized, comprehensive emergency services to patients throughout the region, and serves as the disaster preparedness and disaster control hospital for Seattle and King County.

The following groups of patients and programs will be given priority for care:

- Persons who are non-English speaking poor
- Persons who are uninsured or underinsured
- Persons who experience domestic violence
- Persons who experience sexual assault
- Persons incarcerated in King County's Jails
- Persons with mental illness, particularly those treated involuntarily
- Persons with substance abuse
- Persons with sexually transmitted diseases
- Persons who require specialized emergency care
- Persons who require trauma care
- Persons who require burn care

Harborview's patient care mission is accomplished by assuming and maintaining a strong leadership position in the Pacific Northwest and the local community. This leadership role is nurtured through the delivery of health services of the highest quality to all of its patients and through effective use of its resources as determined by the Harborview Board of Trustees.

Harborview, in cooperation with UW Medicine, plans and coordinates with Public Health Seattle and King County, other County agencies, community providers, and area hospitals, to provide programs and services.

Harborview fulfills its educational mission through commitment to the support of undergraduate, graduate, post-graduate and continuing education programs of the health professions of the University of Washington and other educational institutions, as well as programs relating to patient education.

Harborview recognizes that the delivery of the highest quality of healthcare is enhanced by a strong commitment to teaching, community service and research.

2026–2027 Biennial Budget Ordinance 20023, Section 102 County Hospital Levy, ER3 P1

“Of the moneys restricted by Expenditure Restriction ER3 of this section, \$48,000,000 shall not be expended or encumbered in 2026 to support Harborview operations until the Harborview board of trustees transmits a letter to the county executive and council, and the executive transmits a motion to council acknowledging receipt of the letter, and the motion is passed by the council. The letter shall include, but not be limited to, the amount and components of operational expenditures of county hospital tax revenue by category of operating expenditure, including but not limited to labor, supplies, overhead, and clinical services.

The letter shall describe how Harborview intends to achieve the labor standards goals included in the Hospital Services Agreement Section 3.1.2. The letter shall include documentation from the University of Washington, as operator of the hospital, regarding the proposed expenditures of county hospital tax revenue to be spent on operating spending plan referenced in the letter. Such documentation shall include, but not be limited to, a detailed breakdown of how the operating support identified in

A. Staffing, including a breakdown of FTE classifications and their roles;	Pages 21-31
B. Programs or services, including the names of each program or service, and demographics about individuals served; and	Pages 21-31
C. A narrative description of the impact of county hospital tax revenue on: 1. The mission population served by Harborview Medical Center; 2. The staff and employees of Harborview Medical Center; and 3. The clinical services provided by Harborview Medical Center.	Pages 7- 10 and 20

Photo Credits

All photos throughout this report are courtesy of UW Medicine unless otherwise noted below.

Pages 9-10, 21

Photos taken by Prenz Sa-Ngoun, courtesy of the Harborview Medical Center Mobile Health Outreach team.

Page 21

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Page 28

Photo by Kriangkrai Thitimakorn/Getty Images.

Page 31

Photo by John C Magee/Getty Images.



King County | Office of the Executive

Executive Girmay Zahilay

Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104-2391

July 8, 2026

The Honorable Sarah Perry
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits the 2026 County Hospital Tax Operating Spending Plan as prepared by the Harborview Board of Trustees in response to Ordinance 20023, Section 102, Proviso 1; and a proposed Motion, that would, if enacted acknowledge receipt of the spending plan.

As required, the enclosed report outlines the amount and components of operational expenditures by county hospital tax revenue by category of operating expenditures, including but not limited to labor, supplies, overhead and clinical services including \$4 million to support care for King County Jail inmates; \$9.9 million to support inpatient rehabilitation and rehabilitation clinics, and \$35.7 million to support primary care and downtown clinics.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Council, the Harborview Board of Trustees and UW Medicine to ensure that the Harborview Medical Center receives the support it needs to fulfill its mission. On behalf of the Harborview Board of Trustees, thank you for your consideration of this report.

If your staff have questions, please contact Jeff Muhm, Special assistant to the Executive's Leadership Team, at 206-263-4601.

The Honorable Sarah Perry

July 8, 2026

Page 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Girmay Zahilay".

for

Girmay Zahilay

King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive

Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive

Sierra Howlett Browne, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Executive

Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive

Jeff Muhm, Special Advisor to the Executive's Leadership Team, Office of the Executive



2025 UW Medicine Employee Engagement

HMC - HARBORVIEW ADMINISTRATION

Generated on:

February 10, 2026

Introduction

Survey Administration Dates

Start: Oct 6, 2025

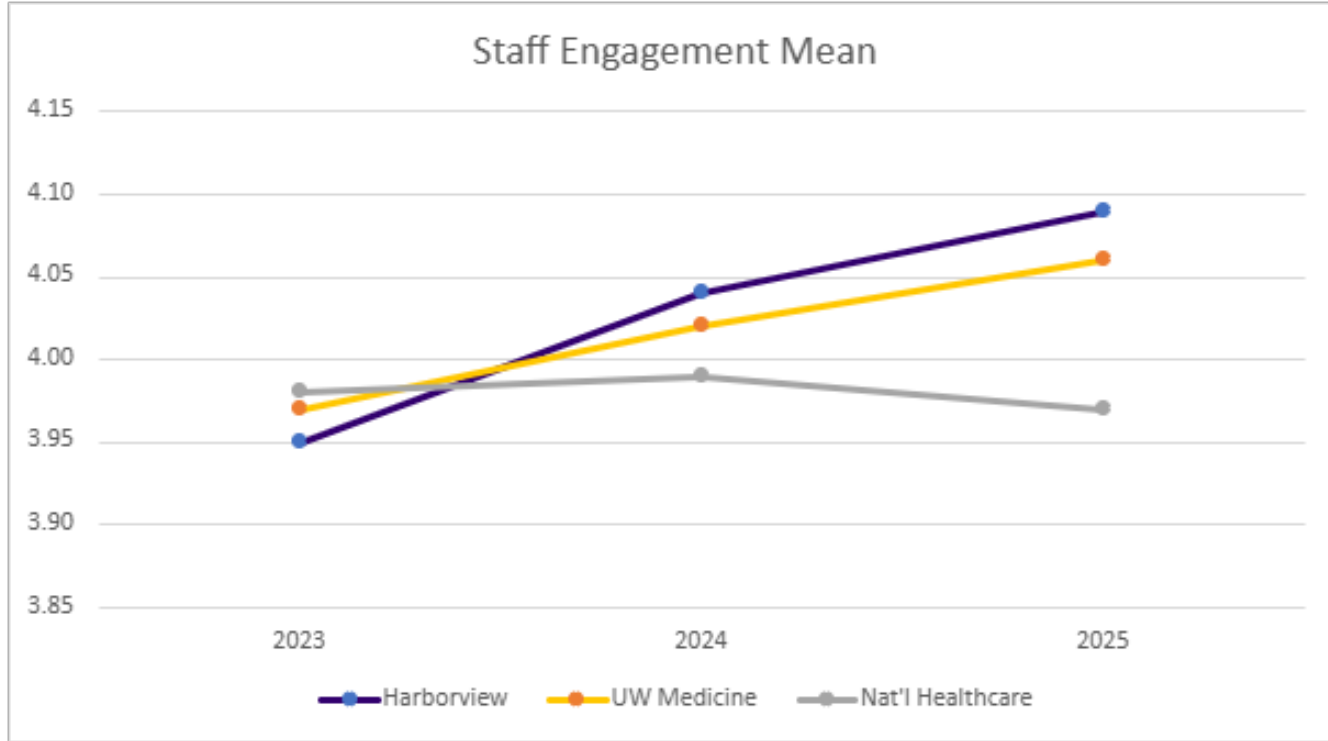
End: Oct 26, 2025

HMC - HARBORVIEW

- **Respondents - 3507**
- **Response rate - 73%**

Comparisons

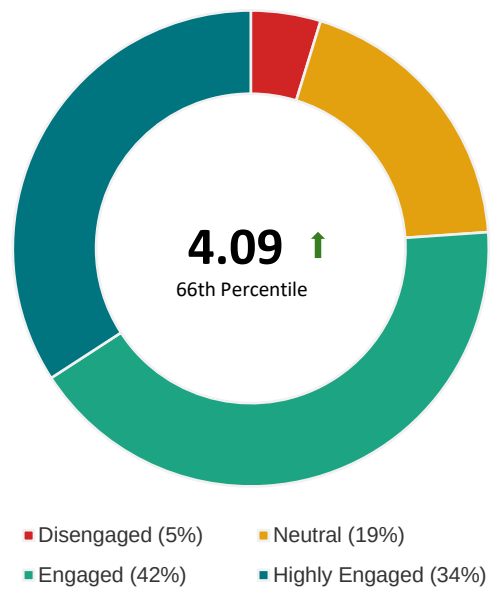
- **Primary benchmark used** - Nat'l Healthcare (Employee) Avg 2025



Engagement

The Engagement score provides insight into the emotional and personal connection to the organization as influenced by work experience.

Mean Score and Distribution



Comparisons

Benchmark	Difference
vs . Nat'l Healthcare (Employee) Avg 2025	+0.12

Historical Performance

Year	Difference
2024 Results	+0.05

Items included in Engagement

Items	Response Distribution	Mean Score	vs. Overall Org Avg	vs. Historical (2024 Results)
	Unfavorable Neutral Favorable			
Engagement	5% 15% 80%	4.09	+0.03	+0.05
I would recommend this organization as a good place to work.	4% 12% 84%	4.18	+0.04	+0.03
I feel like I belong in this organization.	4% 12% 84%	4.16	+0.05	+0.01
I would like to be working at this organization three years from now.	5% 17% 78%	4.10	+0.02	+0.09
I would stay with this organization if offered a similar position elsewhere.	6% 18% 76%	4.03	+0.04	+0.05
Overall, I am a satisfied employee.	7% 15% 79%	4.01	+0.01	+0.08