



King County

1200 King County
Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Agenda Metropolitan King County Council

*Councilmembers: Girmay Zahilay, Chair;
Sarah Perry, Vice Chair of Policy Development and Review;
Reagan Dunn, Vice Chair of Regional Coordination;
Claudia Balducci, Jorge L. Barón, Rod Dembowski,
Teresa Mosqueda, De'Sean Quinn, Pete von Reichbauer*

1:30 PM

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

Hybrid Meeting

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

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC TESTIMONY: The Council values community input and looks forward to hearing from you. Testimony must be limited to items listed on the agenda for council action, unless it's the fourth Tuesday of the month, when the Council will hear general comment on matters relating to county government. You are not required to sign up in advance.

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1. **In person:** You may attend the meeting in person in Council Chambers.
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3. **Remote attendance on the Zoom Webinar:** You may provide oral public testimony at the meeting by connecting to the meeting via phone or computer using the ZOOM application at <https://zoom.us/>, and entering the Webinar ID below.

	<p>Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355). TTY Number - TTY 711.</p> <p>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.</p>	
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CONNECTING TO THE WEBINAR

Webinar ID: 890 5838 1493



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1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance**
Councilmember Dembowski
4. **Approval of Minutes of April 1, 2025**
Councilmember Perry
5. **Additions to the Council Agenda**
6. **Special Item**

Pg. 16**Proclamation of April 13, 2025, as Vaisakhi Day in King County***Councilmember Balducci and Councilmember von Reichbauer***Recognition of April 15, 2025, as the 50th anniversary of the Khmer Rouge genocide***Councilmember Mosqueda, Councilmember Quinn, and Councilmember Barón*

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Hearing and Second Reading of Ordinances from Standing Committees and Regional Committees, and of Ordinances related to Collective Bargaining

There will be one public hearing on Items 6-11, 18-29, and 32

Consent Items

Councilmember Perry

7. [Proposed Substitute Ordinance No. 2024-0387.2](#) **Pg. 26**

AN ORDINANCE relating to wineries, breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms; amending Ordinance 1888, Article III, Section 5, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.01.150, Ordinance 19030, Section 13, and K.C.C. 21A.06.996, Ordinance 19881, Section 211, and K.C.C. 21A.xx.xxx, Ordinance 10870, Section 336, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.08.070, Ordinance 10870, Section 335, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.08.080, Ordinance 10870, Section 336, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.08.090, Ordinance 19881, Section 177, and K.C.C. 21A.xx.xxx, Ordinance 10870, Section 407, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.18.030, Ordinance 10870, Section 536, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.30.080, Ordinance 15606, Section 20, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.30.085, Ordinance 10870, Section 537, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.30.090, Ordinance 10870, Section 547, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.32.100, Ordinance 10870, Section 548, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.32.110, Ordinance 10870, Section 549, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.32.120, and Ordinance 13623, Section 37, as amended, and K.C.C. 23.32.010, adding a new section to K.C.C. chapter 21A.06, repealing Ordinance 19030, Section 3, Ordinance 19030, Section 4, and K.C.C. 6.74.010, Ordinance 19030, Section 5, and K.C.C. 6.74.020, Ordinance 19030, Section 6, and K.C.C. 6.74.030, Ordinance 19030, Section 7, and K.C.C. 6.74.040, Ordinance 19030, Section 8, and K.C.C. 6.74.050, Ordinance 19030, Section 9, and K.C.C. 6.74.060, Ordinance 19030, Section 10, and K.C.C. 6.74.070, Ordinance 19030, Section 11, and K.C.C. 6.74.080, Ordinance 19030, Section 14, and K.C.C. 21A.06.1427A, Ordinance 19030, Section 15, and K.C.C. 21A.06.1427B, Ordinance 19030, Section 16, and K.C.C. 21A.06.1427C, Ordinance 19030, Section 28, Ordinance 19030, Section 29, and K.C.C. 21A.55.110, and Ordinance 19030, Section 32, prescribing penalties, and establishing an effective date.

Sponsors: Balducci

On 11/12/2024, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Committee of the Whole.

On 11/18/2024, the Committee of the Whole Deferred.

On 2/25/2025, the Committee of the Whole Recommended Do Pass Substitute Consent.



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8. [Proposed Substitute Ordinance No. 2025-0054.2](#) **Pg. 154**

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the execution of a new lease to support the operation of local services and transit.

Sponsors: Dembowski

On 2/11/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Budget and Fiscal Management Committee.

On 3/26/2025, the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee Recommended Do Pass Substitute Consent.



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Regional Policy*Councilmember von Reichbauer***9. [Proposed Substitute Ordinance No. 2025-0070.4](#) Pg. 174**

AN ORDINANCE providing for the submission to the qualified electors of King County at a special election to be held in King County on August 5, 2025, of a proposition authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the levy limitation contained in chapter 84.55 RCW for a period of six consecutive years, at a total rate of not more than \$0.2351 per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation in the first year and limiting annual levy increases by the King County inflation plus population index published by the King County office of economic and financial analysis, or the chapter 84.55 RCW limitation, whichever is greater in years two through six for the purpose of maintaining and operating King County's open space system; improving parks, recreation, access, and mobility in King County by acquiring lands and continuing to develop and support parks, recreation facilities, and regional trails; improving parks and trails in and acquiring lands by metropolitan parks districts, towns and cities in King County; funding environmental education, maintenance and conservation programs at the Woodland Park Zoo; funding environmental education, maintenance and conservation programs at the Seattle Aquarium; funding development, maintenance, and programming for Seattle's Waterfront park; funding environmental and climate stewardship and education at Pacific Science Center; funding a capital project at Memorial Stadium; and funding capital improvements at public pools, for all King County residents.

Sponsors: Dembowski and Zahilay

On 2/18/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Budget and Fiscal Management Committee.

On 2/26/2025, the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee Deferred.

On 3/12/2025, the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee Deferred.

On 3/26/2025, the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee Recommended Do Pass Substitute.

On 4/3/2025, the Regional Policy Committee Recommended Do Pass Substitute.

On 4/9/2025, the Regional Policy Committee Recommended Do Pass Substitute.

Public Hearing Required

All versions of the legislation are before the council for consideration.



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Motions, from Standing Committees and Regional Committees and Motions related to Collective Bargaining, for Council Action

Regional Policy

Councilmember von Reichbauer

10. [Proposed Substitute Motion No. 2025-0077.3](#) **Pg. 266**

A MOTION related to a property tax levy for 2026 through 2031 for the purpose of: maintaining and operating King County's open space system; improving parks, recreation, access, and mobility in King County by acquiring lands and continuing to develop and support parks, recreation facilities, and regional trails; improving parks and trails in and acquiring lands by metropolitan parks districts, towns, and cities in King County; funding environmental education, maintenance, and conservation programs at the Woodland Park Zoo; funding environmental education, maintenance and conservation programs at the Seattle Aquarium; funding environmental and climate stewardship and education at Pacific Science Center; funding development, maintenance, and programming for Seattle's Waterfront park; funding a capital project at Memorial Stadium; and funding for capital improvements at public pools, for all King County residents.

Sponsors: Dembowski

On 2/25/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Budget and Fiscal Management Committee.

On 2/26/2025, the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee Deferred.

On 3/12/2025, the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee Deferred.

On 3/26/2025, the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee Recommended Do Pass Substitute.

On 4/3/2025, the Regional Policy Committee Recommended Do Pass Substitute.

All versions of the legislation are before the council for consideration.



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First Reading of and Action on Emergency Ordinances Without Referral to Committee

11. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2025-0117](#) **Pg. 357**

AN ORDINANCE correcting an error in Ordinance 19909; amending Ordinance 19909, Section 1, and establishing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

SUBJECT TO A MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING LESS THAN SEVEN DAYS AFTER FIRST READING PURSUANT TO K.C.C. 1.24.095 AND A MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO TAKE ACTION WITHOUT REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO K.C.C. 1.24.085

Hearing Examiner Consent Agenda

Councilmember Quinn

12. [Proposed Substitute Ordinance No. 2025-0032.2](#) **Pg. 360**

AN ORDINANCE concurring with the recommendation of the hearing examiner to approve, subject to conditions, the application for public benefit rating system assessed valuation for open space submitted by Daniel Klein and David Pfeiffer for property located at 136XX SW 244th Street, Vashon, WA, designated department of natural resources and parks, water and land resources division file no. E24CT006.

Sponsors: Zahilay

On 1/28/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Hearing Examiner.

13. [Proposed Substitute Ordinance No. 2025-0033.2](#) **Pg. 366**

AN ORDINANCE concurring with the recommendation of the hearing examiner to approve, subject to conditions, the application for public benefit rating system assessed valuation for open space submitted by Kerri Grace for property located at east and abutting 13710 SW Reddings Beach Road, WA, designated department of natural resources and parks, water and land resources division file no. E24CT014.

Sponsors: Zahilay

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14. [Proposed Substitute Ordinance No. 2025-0034.2](#) Pg. 373

AN ORDINANCE concurring with the recommendation of the hearing examiner to approve, subject to conditions, the application for public benefit rating system assessed valuation for open space submitted by Derek and Lora Schin for property located at 12633 SW 276th Street, Vashon, WA, designated department of natural resources and parks, water and land resources division file no. E24CT022.

Sponsors: Zahilay

On 1/28/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Hearing Examiner.

15. [Proposed Substitute Ordinance No. 2025-0035.2](#) Pg. 379

AN ORDINANCE concurring with the recommendation of the hearing examiner to approve, subject to conditions, the application for public benefit rating system assessed valuation for open space submitted by Timothy and Teri Farno for property located at 28403 NE 112th Way, Duvall, WA, designated department of natural resources and parks, water and land resources division file no. E24CT010.

Sponsors: Zahilay

On 1/28/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Hearing Examiner.

16. [Proposed Substitute Ordinance No. 2025-0036.2](#) Pg. 385

AN ORDINANCE concurring with the recommendation of the hearing examiner to approve, subject to conditions, the application for public benefit rating system assessed valuation for open space submitted by Fred and Henrlet Schapelhouman for property located at 22312 NE 114th Street Redmond, WA, designated department of natural resources and parks, water and land resources division file no. E24CT013.

Sponsors: Zahilay

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17. [Proposed Substitute Ordinance No. 2025-0041.2](#) **Pg. 391**

AN ORDINANCE concurring with the recommendation of the hearing examiner to approve, subject to conditions, the application for public benefit rating system assessed valuation for open space submitted by Anna Mitros and Seth LaForge for property located at 12003 184th Avenue SE, Redmond, WA, designated department of natural resources and parks, water and land resources division file no. E24CT011.

Sponsors: Zahilay

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Motions, from Standing Committees and Regional Committees and Motions related to Collective Bargaining, for Council Action

Consent Items

Councilmember Perry

18. [Proposed Motion No. 2024-0416](#) **Pg. 397**

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Sercan Hepsener, who resides in council district seven, to the King County immigrant and refugee commission.

Sponsors: von Reichbauer

On 2/4/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Committee of the Whole.

On 3/25/2025, the Committee of the Whole Recommended Do Pass Consent.

19. [Proposed Motion No. 2024-0417](#) **Pg. 402**

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Wahid Bihroz, who resides in council district seven, to the King County immigrant and refugee commission.

Sponsors: von Reichbauer

On 2/4/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Committee of the Whole.

On 3/25/2025, the Committee of the Whole Recommended Do Pass Consent.

20. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0015](#) **Pg. 407**

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Nandita Sharma, who resides in council district three, to the King County women's advisory board, as an executive at-large representative.

Sponsors: Perry

On 2/4/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee.

On 4/1/2025, the Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee Recommended Do Pass Consent.



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21. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0074](#) **Pg. 411**

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Asia Tail, who resides in council district five, to the King County cultural development authority (4Culture), as an executive at-large representative.

Sponsors: Quinn

On 2/25/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Committee of the Whole.

On 3/25/2025, the Committee of the Whole Recommended Do Pass Consent.

22. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0087](#) **Pg. 418**

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Paul Graves, who resides in council district nine, to the Harborview Medical Center board of trustees, as the district nine representative.

Sponsors: Dunn

On 3/18/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Committee of the Whole.

On 3/25/2025, the Committee of the Whole Recommended Do Pass Consent.

23. [Proposed Substitute Motion No. 2025-0099.2](#) **Pg. 422**

A MOTION confirming the appointment of LeAnn Blanco to the citizens' elections oversight committee as a representative sponsored by a junior taxing district or a city with a population of under twenty thousand.

Sponsors: Zahilay

On 3/25/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Employment and Administration Committee.

On 4/1/2025, the Employment and Administration Committee Recommended Do Pass Consent.

24. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0100](#) **Pg. 428**

A MOTION approving a job description for the position of director of the office of law enforcement oversight; and rescinding Motion 15790 and Motion 15790, Attachment A.

Sponsors: Zahilay

On 3/25/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Employment and Administration Committee.

On 4/1/2025, the Employment and Administration Committee Recommended Do Pass Consent.



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Committee of the Whole*Councilmember Balducci*

25. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0088](#) **Pg. 433**

A MOTION adopting the King County 2025 Federal Legislative Priorities.

Sponsors: Zahilay

On 3/18/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Introduced and Referred to Committee of the Whole.

On 3/25/2025, the Committee of the Whole Passed Out of Committee Without a Recommendation.

On 4/1/2025, the Metropolitan King County Council Deferred.

First Reading of and Action on Motions Without Referral to Committee

26. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0114](#) **Pg. 436**

A MOTION appointing the King County executive.

Sponsors: Balducci and Barón

**SUBJECT TO A MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO TAKE ACTION WITHOUT REFERRAL
TO COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO K.C.C. 1.24.085**

27. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0116](#) **Pg. 438**

A MOTION establishing a process for appointing the King County executive.

Sponsors: Dunn

**SUBJECT TO A MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO TAKE ACTION WITHOUT REFERRAL
TO COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO K.C.C. 1.24.085**



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Reappointment Consent Agenda

Councilmember Perry

28. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0097](#) **Pg. 447**

A MOTION confirming the executive's reappointment of Rita Alcantara, who resides in council district two, to the King County children and youth advisory board.

Sponsors: Zahilay

29. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0108](#) **Pg. 449**

A MOTION confirming the executive's reappointment of Aaron Johnson, who resides in council district two, to the King County children and youth advisory board.

Sponsors: Zahilay



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First Reading and Referral of Motions

30. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0113](#)

A MOTION relating to the Skyway-West Hill Community Center project; acknowledging receipt of the parks community center plan relating to the Skyway-West Hill Community Center project as required by the 2023-2024 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 19546, Section 101, Proviso P1, as amended by Ordinance 19633, Section 75.

Sponsors: Zahilay

First Reading and Referral to the Local Services and Land Use Committee

31. **Reports on Special and Outside Committees**

Other Business

32. **Proclamation/Recognition Presented in the Community**

Recognition of the Festival of Color (Holi) in the Indian community

Councilmember Balducci

Adjournment



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King County

1200 King County
Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Minutes

Metropolitan King County Council

*Councilmembers: Girmay Zahilay, Chair;
Sarah Perry, Vice Chair of Policy Development and Review;
Reagan Dunn, Vice Chair of Regional Coordination;
Claudia Balducci, Jorge L. Barón, Rod Dembowski,
Teresa Mosqueda, De'Sean Quinn, Pete von Reichbauer*

1:30 PM

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Hybrid Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

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CONNECTING TO THE WEBINAR

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1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m.

The Chair recessed the meeting at 1:41 p.m.

The Chair reconvened the meeting at 1:41 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Mosqueda, Perry, Quinn, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

3. Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Dunn led the flag salute and Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Minutes of March 25, 2025

Councilmember Perry moved to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2025, meeting as presented. Seeing no objection, the Chair so ordered.

5. Additions to the Council Agenda

There were no additions.

Hearing and Second Reading of Ordinances from Standing Committees and Regional Committees, and of Ordinances related to Collective Bargaining

There will be one public hearing on Items 6-16

The following people spoke:

Matthew Renner

Alex Tsimmerman

Consent Items 6-10

6. **[Proposed Substitute Ordinance No. 2024-0261.2](#)**

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the King County executive to enter into an interlocal agreement with the City of Shoreline to implement a regional program to transfer development rights from lands in unincorporated King County into the city of Shoreline.

Sponsors: Dembowski

The enacted number is 19908.

A Public Hearing was held and closed. This matter passed on the Consent Agenda.

7. **[Proposed Ordinance No. 2025-0010](#)**

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the King County executive to sign an agreement between King County, a political subdivision of the state of Washington, and the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority, a regional transit authority organized under the laws of the state of Washington, regarding the operation and maintenance of the portion of the Downtown Redmond Link Extension that is within King County property.

Sponsors: Dembowski

The enacted number is 19909.

A Public Hearing was held and closed. This matter passed on the Consent Agenda.

8. **[Proposed Ordinance No. 2025-0038](#)**

AN ORDINANCE relating to the annexation of approximately 1.1 acres of land into the Northeast Sammamish sewer and water district, known as the Parklane Annexation, for the purpose of sewer service.

Sponsors: Perry

The enacted number is 19910.

A Public Hearing was held and closed. This matter passed on the Consent Agenda.

9. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2025-0071](#)

AN ORDINANCE relating to retail establishments; changing the effective date of the requirement that retailers in unincorporated King County, unless otherwise exempted, must accept payment in cash; and amending Ordinance 19639, Section 6.

Sponsors: Zahilay

The enacted number is 19911.

A Public Hearing was held and closed. This matter passed on the Consent Agenda.

10. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2025-0084](#)

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Lower Duwamish Waterway cleanup and authorizing the King County executive to sign and fulfill the obligations in the Consent Decree with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington state Department of Ecology and the associated multiparty Settlements to govern the cleanup of sediment contamination at the Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site and address King County and other parties' roles, contributions, and obligations for cleanup.

Sponsors: Mosqueda

The enacted number is 19912.

The Chair announced that technical edits need to be made to the consent decree that the executive will sign. The edits are to correct the name and address of a party for notice purposes and to correct a signature block. Seeing no objection the matter will remain on the consent agenda for action with these clarifications. Seeing no objection the Chair so ordered.

A Public Hearing was held and closed. This matter passed on the Consent Agenda.

Passed On The Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Perry that the Consent Agenda be passed. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Mosqueda, Perry, Quinn, von Reichbauer, and Zahilay

Motions, from Standing Committees and Regional Committees and Motions related to Collective Bargaining, for Council Action

Consent Items 11-12

11. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0059](#)

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Alissa Campbell, who works in council district eight, to the King County solid waste advisory committee, as a representative from the waste management industry.

Sponsors: Mosqueda

The enacted number is 16792.

A Public Hearing was held and closed. This matter passed on the Consent Agenda.

12. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0060](#)

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Laura Mork, councilmember, city of Shoreline, who resides in council district one, to the King County solid waste advisory committee, filling the local elected public official position.

Sponsors: Dembowski

The enacted number is 16793.

A Public Hearing was held and closed. This matter passed on the Consent Agenda.

Passed On The Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Perry that the Consent Agenda be passed. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Mosqueda, Perry, Quinn, von Reichbauer, and Zahilay

Committee of the Whole**13. Proposed Motion No. 2025-0088**

A MOTION adopting the King County 2025 Federal Legislative Priorities.

Sponsors: Zahilay

The Chair announced Proposed Motion 2025-0088 would be deferred to the April 15, 2025, Council meeting.

This matter was Deferred

First Reading and Action on Motions Without Referral to Committee**14. Proposed Motion No. 2025-0110**

A MOTION appointing an acting King County executive.

Sponsors: Dunn, Perry, Mosqueda, von Reichbauer, Balducci, Dembowski, Barón, Zahilay and Quinn

The enacted number is 16794.

Councilmember Perry made a motion to suspend the rules to take action on Item 14 without referral to committee. The motion carried.

Jeff Muhm, Chief Policy Officer, briefed the Council and answered questions.

Shannon Braddock, Deputy Executive, made remarks and answered questions.

The Chair recessed the meeting into Executive Session to discuss with legal counsel legal risks of a proposed action when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the county, at 2:17 p.m. for approximately 15 minutes, until 2:33 p.m.

The Chair reconvened the meeting at 2:33 p.m.

Acting Executive Shannon Braddock was sworn into office by Judge Ketu Shah.

Shannon Braddock, Acting Executive, made remarks and thanked the Council.

A motion was made by Councilmember Perry that this Motion be Passed. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Mosqueda, Perry, Quinn, von Reichbauer, and Zahilay

Reappointment Consent Agenda Item 15-16

15. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0096](#)

A MOTION confirming the executive's reappointment of Meenakshi Natarajan, who resides in council district one, to the King County children and youth advisory board.

Sponsors: Dembowski

The enacted number is 16795.

A Public Hearing was held and closed. This matter passed on the Consent Agenda.

16. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0104](#)

A MOTION confirming the executive's reappointment of Jasmine Fry, who resides in council district three, to the King County children and youth advisory board.

Sponsors: Perry

The enacted number is 16796.

A Public Hearing was held and closed. This matter passed on the Consent Agenda.

Passed On The Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Perry that the Consent Agenda be passed. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Mosqueda, Perry, Quinn, von Reichbauer, and Zahilay

First Reading and Referral of Ordinances

17. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2025-0094](#)

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the execution of an amendment to an existing lease to support the operation of the King County sheriff's office.

Sponsors: Dembowski

This matter had its first reading and was referred to the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee.

18. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2025-0106](#)

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the county executive to renew an interlocal agreement between King County and the cities of Burien, Des Moines, Normandy Park, and SeaTac for stormwater education in the Highline Public School District.

Sponsors: Quinn

This matter had its first reading and was referred to the Transportation, Economy, and Environment Committee.

19. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2025-0109](#)

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Metro transit department to file applications with the Federal Transit Administration, an operating administration of the United States Department of Transportation, for federal transportation assistance authorized by 49 U.S.C. chapter 53, Title 23 U.S.C., and other federal statutes administered by the Federal Transit Administration; and adding a new chapter to K.C.C. Title 28.

Sponsors: Quinn

This matter had its first reading and was referred to the Transportation, Economy, and Environment Committee.

First Reading and Referral of Motions

20. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0105](#)

A MOTION confirming the county executive's appointment of Carol Williams to the King Conservation District, as a representative of an organization that specifically promotes equity and social justice.

Sponsors: Quinn

This matter had its first reading and was referred to the Transportation, Economy, and Environment Committee.

21. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0107](#)

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Neal Black, who works in council district six, to the King County Housing Authority board of commissioners.

Sponsors: Balducci

This matter had its first reading and was referred to the Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee.

22. Reports on Special and Outside Committees

No reports were given.

Other Business**23. Capital Project Notice to Release Moneys Withheld by Proviso Per Ordinance 19712, Section 89, ER2 and P3.**

In accordance with Ordinance 19712, we received notification from Dwight Dively, regarding a capital project notice to release moneys withheld by proviso. On March 19, 2025, the Clerk distributed a copy to all councilmembers. As directed by the proviso, this shall be noticed on two council agendas to give councilmembers an opportunity to object at either of these meetings. In addition to inclusion on today's Council agenda, this notification was included on the March 25, 2025, Council agenda.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____

Clerk's Signature



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2024-0387.2

Sponsors Balducci

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to wineries, breweries,
2 distilleries, and remote tasting rooms; amending Ordinance
3 1888, Article III, Section 5, as amended, and K.C.C.
4 6.01.150, Ordinance 19030, Section 13, and K.C.C.
5 21A.06.996, Ordinance 19881, Section 211, and K.C.C.
6 21A.xx.xxx, Ordinance 10870, Section 336, as amended,
7 and K.C.C. 21A.08.070, Ordinance 10870, Section 335, as
8 amended, and K.C.C. 21A.08.080, Ordinance 10870,
9 Section 336, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.08.090,
10 Ordinance 19881, Section 177, and K.C.C. 21A.xx.xxx,
11 Ordinance 10870, Section 407, as amended, and K.C.C.
12 21A.18.030, Ordinance 10870, Section 536, as amended,
13 and K.C.C. 21A.30.080, Ordinance 15606, Section 20, as
14 amended, and K.C.C. 21A.30.085, Ordinance 10870,
15 Section 537, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.30.090,
16 Ordinance 10870, Section 547, as amended, and K.C.C.
17 21A.32.100, Ordinance 10870, Section 548, as amended,
18 and K.C.C. 21A.32.110, Ordinance 10870, Section 549, as
19 amended, and K.C.C. 21A.32.120, and Ordinance 13623,
20 Section 37, as amended, and K.C.C. 23.32.010, adding a

new section to K.C.C. chapter 21A.06, repealing Ordinance 19030, Section 3, Ordinance 19030, Section 4, and K.C.C. 6.74.010, Ordinance 19030, Section 5, and K.C.C. 6.74.020, Ordinance 19030, Section 6, and K.C.C. 6.74.030, Ordinance 19030, Section 7, and K.C.C. 6.74.040, Ordinance 19030, Section 8, and K.C.C. 6.74.050, Ordinance 19030, Section 9, and K.C.C. 6.74.060, Ordinance 19030, Section 10, and K.C.C. 6.74.070, Ordinance 19030, Section 11, and K.C.C. 6.74.080, Ordinance 19030, Section 14, and K.C.C. 21A.06.1427A, Ordinance 19030, Section 15, and K.C.C. 21A.06.1427B, Ordinance 19030, Section 16, and K.C.C. 21A.06.1427C, Ordinance 19030, Section 28, Ordinance 19030, Section 29, and K.C.C. 21A.55.110, and Ordinance 19030, Section 32, prescribing penalties, and establishing an effective date.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Findings:

- A. Ordinance 19030 established updated regulations for winery, brewery, distillery facilities and remote tasting rooms in unincorporated King County.
- B. After a lengthy litigation process, on September 19, 2024, the Washington state Supreme Court, in a 5-4 decision, published an opinion reinstating a January 2022

order from the Growth Management Hearings Board that invalidated Ordinance 19030, Sections 12 through 29, Section 31, and Map Amendments 1 and 2.

C. Ordinance 19030 created a licensing system to assist with enforcement, which the Growth Management Hearings Board left in place. While the Board's litigation was pending at the Court of Appeals, the King County Hearing Examiner considered several preemption-based challenges to the licensing provisions. Although the Hearing Examiner determined that he was unable to resolve the core constitutional issues because it was beyond his jurisdiction, he engaged in a lengthy analysis of applicable authorities. The Hearing Examiner concluded that a local license for alcohol-related sales, distribution and premises '...sounds like the local power the State explicitly withdrew in RCW 66.08.120.'

D. This ordinance amends the provisions adopted by Ordinance 19030. Where provisions adopted by Ordinance 19030 are unchanged, they are not included in this ordinance, and the council's intent is that they remain in effect.

E. The council finds that this ordinance complies with the decision of the Washington state Supreme Court, as well as potential preemption issues with the licensing system.

SECTION 2. Ordinance 1888, Article III, Section 5, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.01.150 are hereby amended to read as follows:

A. The office of the hearing examiner is designated to hear appeals by parties aggrieved by actions of the director pursuant to any business license ordinance. For appeals under K.C.C. chapter 6.65 the office of the hearing examiner is designated to hear such appeals unless a different party is designated by the director. The examiner may adopt

reasonable rules or regulations for conducting its business. Copies of all rules and regulations adopted by the examiner shall be delivered to the director, who shall make them freely accessible to the public. All decisions and findings of the examiner shall be rendered to the appellant in writing, with a copy to the director.

B. For-hire transportation appeals under K.C.C. chapter 6.64 (~~and adult beverage businesses appeals under K.C.C. chapter 6.74~~) shall be filed in accordance with K.C.C. 20.22.080 and the hearing process conducted in accordance with K.C.C. chapter 20.22. Appeals under K.C.C. chapter 6.65 shall be filed in accordance with K.C.C. 6.65.450 and the hearing process conducted in accordance with that same section. Subsections C. through H. of this section do not apply to this subsection B.

C. Any person entitled to service under K.C.C. 6.01.130 may appeal any notice and order or any action of the director by filing at the office of the director within seven days from the date of service of such order, a written appeal containing;

1. A heading in the words: "Before the Office of the Hearing Examiner";
2. A caption reading: "Appeal of" giving the names of all appellants participating in the appeal;
3. A brief statement setting forth the legal interest of each of the appellants in the business or entertainment involved in the notice and order;
4. A brief statement in concise language of the specific order or action protested, together with any material facts claimed to support the contentions of the appellant;
5. A brief statement in concise language of the relief sought, and the reasons why it is claimed the protested order or action should be reversed, modified, or otherwise set aside;

89 6. The signatures of all parties named as appellants, and their official mailing
90 addresses; and

91 7. The verification (by declaration under penalty of perjury) of at least one
92 appellant as to the truth of the matters stated in the appeal.

93 D. As soon as practicable after receiving the written appeal, the examiner shall fix
94 a date, time, and place for the hearing of the appeal. The date shall be neither less than ten
95 days nor more than sixty days from the date the appeal was filed with the director. Written
96 notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be given at least ten days before the date of
97 the hearing to each appellant by the examiner either by causing a copy of the notice to be
98 delivered to the appellant personally or by mailing a copy thereof, postage prepaid,
99 addressed to the appellant at the appellant's address shown on the appeal.

100 E. At the hearing the appellant shall be entitled to appear in person, ~~((and))~~ be
101 represented by counsel, and offer such evidence as is pertinent and material to the action of
102 the director.

103 F. Only those matters or issues specifically raised by the appellant in the written
104 notice of appeal shall be considered in the hearing of the appeal.

105 G. Failure of any person to file an appeal in accordance with this section shall
106 constitute a waiver of the person's right to an administrative hearing and adjudication of the
107 notice and order, or any portion thereof.

108 H. Enforcement of any notice and order of the director shall be stayed during the
109 pendency of an appeal therefrom that is properly and timely filed.

110 SECTION 3. Ordinance 19030, Section 13, and K.C.C. 21A.06.996 are hereby
111 amended to read as follows:

Remote tasting room: A small facility licensed by the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board and limited to the following non-retail liquor licenses: an off-site tasting room license for a distillery licensed as a Distillery or Craft Distillery; a Tasting Room - Additional Location for a winery licensed as a Domestic Winery; or a Microbrewery, including, but not limited to, a Microbrewery operating in accordance with an off-site tavern license subject to the retail sale limitations for a Microbrewery in WAC 314-20-015(1). "Remote tasting room" does not include any additional privileges allowed for such licenses or approvals or any use that would require a license under chapter 314-02 WAC, except as specifically set forth in this chapter.

NEW SECTION. SECTION 4. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 21A.06 a new section to read as follows:

Winery, brewery, or distillery: as defined in RCW 66.04.010.

SECTION 5. Ordinance 10870, Section 336, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.08.070 are hereby amended to read as follows:

A. Retail land uses.

SI C#	SPECIFIC LAND USE	A	F	M	RA	UR	R-1	R-4 – R- 8	R- 12 – R- 48	NB	CB	RB	O	I
*	Building Materials and Hardware Stores		P23							P2	P	P		
*	Retail Nursery,	P1 C1			P1 C1					P18	P	P		

	Garden Center, and Farm Supply Stores													
*	Forest Products Sales	P3 and 4	P4		P3 and 4							P		
*	Department and Variety Stores							P30 C14 a C31	P14 P32	P5	P	P		
54	Food Stores				C17			P30 C15 a C31	P15 P32	P18	P	P	C	P6
*	Agricultural Product Sales (28)								P25	P25	P25	P2 5	P2 5	P2 5
*	Farmers Market	P24	P24		P24	P24	P24	P24	P24	P24	P24	P2 4	P2 4	P2 4
*	Motor Vehicle and Boat Dealers											P8		P
55 3	Auto Supply Stores										P9	P9		P
55 4	Gasoline Service Stations									P	P	P		P
56	Apparel and Accessory										P	P		

	Stores													
*	Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores										P	P		
58	Eating and Drinking Places				P21 C19		P20	P20 P30 C16 C31	P20 P16 P32	P10	P	P	P	P
*	Remote Tasting Room				((P1 3))						P7	P7		
*	Drug Stores							P30 C15 C31	P15 P32	P18	P	P	C	
*	Cannabis retailer										P26 C27	P2 6 C2 7		
59 2	Liquor Stores										P	P		
59 3	Used Goods: Antiques/ Secondhand Shops										P	P		
*	Sporting Goods and Related Stores			P2 2 and 29	P22 and 29	P22 and 29	P22 and 29	P22 and 29	P22 and 29	P22 and 29	P29	P2 9	P2 2 and 29	P2 2 and 29
*	Book, Stationery,							P30 C15	P15 P32	P18	P	P		

	Video, and Art Supply Stores							a C31						
*	Jewelry Stores										P	P		
*	Monuments, Tombstones, and Gravestones											P		
*	Hobby, Toy, Game Shops									P18	P	P		
*	Photographic and Electronic Shops									P18	P	P		
*	Fabric Shops										P	P		
59 8	Fuel Dealers										C11	P		P
*	Florist Shops							P30 C15 a C31	P15 P32	P18	P	P	P	
*	Personal Medical Supply Stores										P	P		
*	Pet Shops									P18	P	P		
*	Bulk Retail										P	P		
*	Auction Houses											P1 2		P
*	Livestock Sales (28)													P

127

B. Development conditions.

128 1.a. As a permitted use, covered sales areas shall not exceed a total area of three
129 thousand five hundred square feet, unless located in a building designated as historic
130 resource under K.C.C. chapter 20.62. With a conditional use permit, covered sales areas
131 of up to five thousand square feet may be allowed. Greenhouses used for the display of
132 merchandise other than plants shall be considered part of the covered sales area.

133 Uncovered outdoor areas used to grow or display trees, shrubs, or other plants are not
134 considered part of the covered sales area;

135 b. The site area shall be at least four and one-half acres;

136 c. Sales may include locally made arts and crafts; and

137 d. Outside lighting is allowed if no off-site glare is generated.

138 2.a. Only hardware stores; and

139 b. In rural neighborhood commercial centers, limited to fifteen thousand
140 square feet of gross floor area.

141 3.a. Limited to products grown on-site.

142 b. Covered sales areas shall not exceed a total area of five hundred square feet.

143 4. No permanent structures or signs.

144 5. Limited to SIC Industry 5331-Variety Stores, and further limited to a
145 maximum of two thousand square feet of gross floor area.

146 6. Limited to a maximum of five thousand square feet of gross floor area.

147 7. Off-street parking is limited to a maximum of one space per fifty square feet
148 of tasting and retail areas.

149 8. Excluding retail sale of trucks exceeding one-ton capacity.

150 9. Only the sale of new or reconditioned automobile supplies is allowed.

- 151 10. Excluding SIC Industry 5813-Drinking Places.
- 152 11. No outside storage of fuel trucks and equipment.
- 153 12. Excluding vehicle and livestock auctions.
- 154 13. ~~((Allowed as part of the demonstration project authorized by K.C.C.~~
- 155 ~~21A.55.110))~~ Repealed.
- 156 14.a. Outside of the urban area, limited to SIC Industry No. 5331-Variety
- 157 Stores, limited to a maximum of five thousand square feet of gross floor area, and subject
- 158 to K.C.C. 21A.12.230; and
- 159 b. Before filing an application with the department, the applicant shall hold a
- 160 community meeting in accordance with K.C.C. 20.20.035.
- 161 15. Outside of the urban area, limited to a maximum of five thousand square
- 162 feet of gross floor area and subject to K.C.C. 21A.12.230; and
- 163 b. Before filing an application with the department, the applicant shall hold a
- 164 community meeting in accordance with K.C.C. 20.20.035.
- 165 16.a. Excluding SIC Industry No. 5813-Drinking Places, and limited to a
- 166 maximum of five thousand square feet of gross floor area, and subject to K.C.C.
- 167 21A.12.230, except as provided in subsection B.20. of this section; and
- 168 b. Before filing an application with the department, the applicant shall hold a
- 169 community meeting in accordance with K.C.C. 20.20.035.
- 170 17. Only within a former grange hall incorporated under chapter 24.28 RCW
- 171 and listed in the National Register of Historic Places or designated as a King County
- 172 landmark subject to K.C.C. chapter 21A.32 and if the parcel is located within one

thousand feet of a rural neighborhood commercial center as designated by the King
County Comprehensive Plan.

18. In rural neighborhood commercial centers, limited to fifteen thousand
square feet of gross floor area.

19. Only as:

a. an accessory use to an allowed industrial or retail land use, limited to
espresso stands to include sales of beverages and incidental food items, and not to include
drive-through sales; or

b. an accessory use to a recreation or multiuse park, limited to a total floor area
of three thousand five hundred square feet.

20. Only as:

a. an accessory use to a recreation or multiuse park; or

b. an accessory use to a park and limited to a total floor area of one thousand
five hundred square feet.

21. Accessory to a park, limited to a total floor area of seven hundred fifty
square feet.

22. Only as an accessory use to:

a. a large active recreation and multiuse park in the urban area; or

b. a park, or a recreation or multiuse park in the RA zones, and limited to a
total floor area of seven hundred fifty square feet.

23. Only as accessory to SIC Industry Group 242-Sawmills and SIC Industry
2431-Millwork and:

a. limited to lumber milled on-site; and

196 b. the covered sales area is limited to two thousand square feet. The covered
197 sales area does not include covered areas used to display only milled lumber.

198 24. Requires at least five farmers selling their own products at each market and
199 the annual value of sales by farmers should exceed the annual sales value of nonfarmer
200 vendors.

201 25. Limited to sites located within the urban area and:

202 a. The sales area shall be limited to three hundred square feet and shall be
203 removed each evening;

204 b. There shall be legal parking that is easily available for customers; and

205 c. The site shall be in an area that is easily accessible to the public, will
206 accommodate multiple shoppers at one time and does not infringe on neighboring
207 properties.

208 26.a. Per lot, limited to a maximum aggregated total of two thousand square feet
209 of gross floor area devoted to, and in support of, the retail sale of cannabis.

210 b. Notwithstanding subsection B.26.a. of this section, the maximum
211 aggregated total gross floor area devoted to, and in support of, the retail sale of cannabis
212 may be increased to up to three thousand square feet if the retail outlet devotes at least
213 five hundred square feet to the sale, and the support of the sale, of medical cannabis, and
214 the operator maintains a current medical cannabis endorsement issued by the Washington
215 state Liquor and Cannabis Board.

216 c. Any lot line of a lot having any area devoted to retail cannabis activity shall
217 be one thousand feet or more from any lot line of any other lot having any area devoted to
218 retail cannabis activity; and a lot line of a lot having any area devoted to new retail

cannabis activity may not be within one thousand feet of any lot line of any lot having any area devoted to existing retail cannabis activity.

d. Whether a new retail cannabis activity complies with this locational requirement shall be determined based on the date a conditional use permit application submitted to the department of local services, permitting division, became or was deemed complete, and:

(1) if a complete conditional use permit application for the proposed retail cannabis use was not submitted, or if more than one conditional use permit application became or was deemed complete on the same date, then the director shall determine compliance based on the date the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board issues a Notice of Cannabis Application to King County;

(2) if the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board issues more than one Notice of Cannabis Application on the same date, then the director shall determine compliance based on the date either any complete building permit or change of use permit application, or both, were submitted to the department declaring retail cannabis activity as an intended use;

(3) if more than one building permit or change of use permit application was submitted on the same date, or if no building permit or change of use permit application was submitted, then the director shall determine compliance based on the date a complete business license application was submitted; and

(4) if a business license application was not submitted or more than one business license application was submitted, then the director shall determine compliance based on the totality of the circumstances, including, but not limited to, the date that a

242 retail cannabis license application was submitted to the Washington state Liquor and
243 Cannabis Board identifying the lot at issue, the date that the applicant entered into a lease
244 or purchased the lot at issue for the purpose of retail cannabis use, and any other facts
245 illustrating the timing of substantial investment in establishing a licensed retail cannabis
246 use at the proposed location.

247 e. Retail cannabis businesses licensed by the Washington state Liquor and
248 Cannabis Board and operating within one thousand feet of each other as of August 14,
249 2016, and retail cannabis businesses that do not require a permit issued by King County,
250 that received a Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board license to operate in a
251 location within one thousand feet of another licensed retail cannabis business before
252 August 14, 2016, and that King County did not object to within the Washington state
253 Liquor and Cannabis Board cannabis license application process, shall be considered
254 nonconforming and may remain in the business's current location, subject to the
255 provisions of K.C.C. 21A.32.020 through 21A.32.075 for nonconforming uses, except:

256 (1) the time periods identified in K.C.C. 21A.32.045.C. shall be six months;
257 and

258 (2) the gross floor area of a nonconforming retail outlet may be increased up
259 to the limitations in subsection B.26.a. and B.26.b. of this section.

260 27. Per lot, limited to a maximum aggregated total of five thousand square feet
261 gross floor area devoted to, and in support of, the retail sale of cannabis, and:

262 a. Any lot line of a lot having any area devoted to retail cannabis activity shall
263 be one thousand feet or more from any lot line of any other lot having any area devoted to
264 retail cannabis activity; and any lot line of a lot having any area devoted to new retail

cannabis activity may not be within one thousand feet of any lot line of any lot having any area devoted to existing retail cannabis activity;

b. Whether a new retail cannabis activity complies with this locational requirement shall be determined based on the date a conditional use permit application submitted to the department of local services, permitting division, became or was deemed complete, and:

(1) if a complete conditional use permit application for the proposed retail cannabis use was not submitted, or if more than one conditional use permit application became or was deemed complete on the same date, then the director shall determine compliance based on the date the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board issues a Notice of Cannabis Application to King County;

(2) if the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board issues more than one Notice of Cannabis Application on the same date, then the director shall determine compliance based on the date either any complete building permit or change of use permit application, or both, were submitted to the department declaring retail cannabis activity as an intended use;

(3) if more than one building permit or change of use permit application was submitted on the same date, or if no building permit or change of use permit application was submitted, then the director shall determine compliance based on the date a complete business license application was submitted; and

(4) if a business license application was not submitted or more than one business license application was submitted, then the director shall determine compliance based on the totality of the circumstances, including, but not limited to, the date that a

288 retail cannabis license application was submitted to the Washington state Liquor and
289 Cannabis Board identifying the lot at issue, the date that the applicant entered into a lease
290 or purchased the lot at issue for the purpose of retail cannabis use, and any other facts
291 illustrating the timing of substantial investment in establishing a licensed retail cannabis
292 use at the proposed location; and

293 c. Retail cannabis businesses licensed by the Washington state Liquor and
294 Cannabis Board and operating within one thousand feet of each other as of August 14,
295 2016, and retail cannabis businesses that do not require a permit issued by King County,
296 that received a Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board license to operate in a
297 location within one thousand feet of another licensed retail cannabis business before
298 August 14, 2016, and that King County did not object to within the Washington state
299 Liquor and Cannabis Board cannabis license application process, shall be considered
300 nonconforming and may remain in the business's current location, subject to the
301 provisions of K.C.C. 21A.32.020 through 21A.32.075 for nonconforming uses, except:

302 (1) the time periods identified in K.C.C. 21A.32.045.C. shall be six months;
303 and

304 (2) the gross floor area of a nonconforming retail outlet may be increased up
305 to the limitations in subsection B.27. of this section, subject to K.C.C. 21A.42.190.

306 28. If the agricultural product sales or livestock sales is associated with
307 agricultural activities it will be reviewed in accordance with K.C.C. 21A.08.090.

308 29. Businesses selling firearms that have a storefront, have hours during which
309 it is open for business, and post advertisements or signs observable to passersby that
310 firearms are available for sale shall be located at least five hundred feet or more from any

311 elementary, middle/junior high, and secondary or high school properties. Businesses
312 selling firearms in existence before June 30, 2020, shall be considered nonconforming
313 and may remain in their current location, subject to the provisions of K.C.C. 21A.32.020
314 through 21A.32.075 for nonconforming uses.

315 30. In the urban area, subject to the following:

316 a. Limited to a maximum of one thousand square feet of gross floor area;

317 b. Drive-throughs are prohibited, except for detached buildings for eating and
318 drinking places that do not exceed two hundred square feet and are located at an
319 intersection with an arterial;

320 c. Amplified noise is prohibited;

321 d. The maximum on-site parking ratio shall be two spaces per one thousand
322 square feet and required parking shall not be located between the building and the street;
323 and

324 e. Hours of operation shall be limited to 7:00 a.m. through 10:00 p.m.

325 31. In the urban area, subject to the following:

326 a. Limited to a maximum of two thousand five hundred square feet of gross
327 floor area;

328 b. Drive-throughs are prohibited, except for detached buildings for eating and
329 drinking places that do not exceed two hundred square feet and are located at an
330 intersection with an arterial;

331 c. Amplified noise is prohibited;

332 d. The maximum on-site parking ratio shall be two spaces per one thousand
 333 square feet and required parking shall not be located between the building and the street;
 334 and

335 e. Hours of operation shall be limited to 7:00 a.m. through 10:00 p.m.

336 32. In the urban area, subject to the following:

337 a. Limited to a maximum of five thousand square feet of gross floor area;

338 b. Drive-throughs are prohibited, except for detached buildings for eating and
 339 drinking places that do not exceed two hundred square feet and are located at an
 340 intersection with an arterial;

341 c. Amplified noise is prohibited;

342 d. The maximum on-site parking ratio shall be two spaces per one thousand
 343 square feet and required parking shall not be located between the building and the street;
 344 and

345 e. Hours of operation shall be limited to 7:00 a.m. through 10:00 p.m.

346 SECTION 6. Ordinance 10870, Section 335, as amended, and K.C.C.

347 21A.08.080 are hereby amended to read as follows:

348 A. Manufacturing land uses.

SIC #	SPECIFIC LAND USE	A	F	M	RA	UR	R- 1	R-4 – R- 8	R- 12 – R- 48	NB	CB	RB	O	I (11)
20	Food and Kindred Products (28)									P2	P2	P2 C		P2 C

((*	Winery/Brewery /Distillery Facility I				P32									
*	Winery/Brewery /Distillery Facility II	P3			P3 C30					P17	P17	P29		P31
	Winery/Brewery /Distillery Facility III	C12			C12					C29	C29	C29		C31)
*	Winery/Brewery /Distillery									P17 C29	P17 C29	P29		P31
*	Materials Processing Facility		P13 C	P14 C15	P16 C									P
22	Textile Mill Products													C
23	Apparel and other Textile Products											C		P
24	Wood Products, except furniture	P4 P18	P4 P18		P4 P18 C	P4						C6		P
25	Furniture and Fixtures		P19		P19							C		P
26	Paper and Allied Products													C
27	Printing and Publishing									P7	P7	P7 C	P7 C	P
*	Cannabis Processor I	P20			P27						P21 C22	P21 C22		P25 C26
*	Cannabis Processor II										P23 C24	P23 C24		P25 C26
28	Chemicals and Allied Products													C
*	Petroleum Refining and Related Industries													C
30	Rubber and Misc.													C

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	Plastics Products													
31	Leather and Leather Goods											C		P33 C
32	Stone, Clay, Glass, and Concrete Products										P9	P9		P
33	Primary Metal Industries													C
34	Fabricated Metal Products													P
35	Industrial and Commercial Machinery													P
351-55	Heavy Machinery and Equipment													C
357	Computer and Office Equipment											C	C	P
36	Electronic and other Electric Equipment											C		P
371	Motor Vehicles and Motor Vehicle Equipment													C
374	Railroad Equipment													C
375	Motorcycles, Bicycles, and Parts													P34 C
376	Guided Missile and Space Vehicle Parts													C
379	Miscellaneous Transportation Vehicles													C
38	Measuring and											C	C	P

	Controlling Instruments													
39	Miscellaneous Light Manufacturing											C		P
*	Aircraft, Ship, and Boat Building													P10 C
7534	Tire Retreading											C		P
781- 82	Movie Production/Distribution											P		P

349 B. Development conditions.

350 1. Repealed.

351 2. Except slaughterhouses.

352 3. ~~((a. In the A zone, only allowed on sites where the primary use is SIC Industry~~

353 ~~Group No. 01 Growing and Harvesting Crops or No. 02 Raising Livestock and Small~~

354 ~~Animals;~~

355 ~~b. Only allowed on lots of at least two and one half acres, except that this~~

356 ~~requirement shall not apply on Vashon Maury Island to winery, brewery, or distillery~~

357 ~~business locations in use and licensed to produce by the Washington state Liquor and~~

358 ~~Cannabis Board before January 1, 2019, and that in the RA zone, for sites that contain a~~

359 ~~building designated as historic resource under K.C.C. chapter 20.62, only allowed on lots~~

360 ~~of at least two acres;~~

361 ~~c. The aggregated floor area of structures and areas for winery, brewery,~~

362 ~~distillery facility uses shall not exceed three thousand five hundred square feet, unless~~

363 ~~located in whole or in part in a structure designated as historic resource under K.C.C.~~

364 ~~chapter 20.62, in which case the aggregated floor area of structures and areas devoted to~~

winery, brewery, distillery facility uses shall not exceed seven thousand square feet in the RA zone and five thousand square feet in the A zone. Decks that are not occupied and not open to the public are excluded from the calculation for maximum aggregated floor area;

d. Structures and parking areas for winery, brewery, distillery facility uses shall maintain a minimum distance of seventy five feet from interior property lines adjoining rural area and residential zones, unless located in a building designated as historic resource under K.C.C. chapter 20.62, except that on Vashon Maury Island this setback requirement shall not apply to structures and parking areas in use on December 4, 2019, by existing winery, brewery or distillery business locations licensed to produce by the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board before January 1, 2019;

e. In the A zone, sixty percent or more of the products processed must be grown on site. At the time of the initial application under K.C.C. chapter 6.74, the applicant shall submit a projection of the source of products to be produced;

f. At least two stages of production of wine, beer, cider or distilled spirits, such as crushing, fermenting, distilling, barrel or tank aging, or finishing, as authorized by the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board production license, shall occur on site. At least one of the stages of production occurring on site shall include crushing, fermenting or distilling;

g. In the A zone, structures and area for non agricultural winery, brewery, distillery facility uses shall be located on portions of agricultural lands that are unsuitable for agricultural purposes, such as areas within the already developed portion of such agricultural lands that are not available for direct agricultural production, or areas without

388 ~~prime agricultural soils. No more than one acre of agricultural land may be converted to~~
389 ~~a nonagricultural accessory use;~~

390 ~~h. Tasting and retail sales of products produced on-site may occur only as~~
391 ~~accessory to the primary winery, brewery, distillery production use and may be provided~~
392 ~~in accordance with state law. The area devoted to on-site tasting or retail sales shall be~~
393 ~~limited to no more than thirty percent of the aggregated floor area and shall be included~~
394 ~~in the aggregated floor area limitation in subsection B.3.c. of this section. The limitation~~
395 ~~on tasting and retail sales of products produced on-site shall not apply on Vashon Maury~~
396 ~~Island to winery, brewery, or distillery business locations in use and licensed to produce~~
397 ~~by the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board before January 1, 2019, or on sites~~
398 ~~in the RA zone that contain a building designated as historic resource under K.C.C.~~
399 ~~chapter 20.62. Incidental retail sales of merchandise related to the products produced on-~~
400 ~~site is allowed subject to the restrictions described in this subsection B.3. Hours of~~
401 ~~operation for on-site tasting of products shall be limited as follows: Mondays, Tuesdays,~~
402 ~~Wednesdays and Thursdays, tasting room hours shall be limited to 11:00 a.m. through~~
403 ~~7:00 p.m.; and Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, tasting room hours shall be limited to~~
404 ~~11:00 a.m. through 9:00 p.m.;~~

405 ~~i. Access to the site shall be directly to and from an arterial roadway, except~~
406 ~~that this requirement shall not apply on Vashon Maury Island to winery, brewery,~~
407 ~~distillery facility business locations in use and licensed to produce by the Washington~~
408 ~~state Liquor and Cannabis Board before January 1, 2019;~~

409 ~~j. Off street parking is limited to a maximum of one hundred fifty percent of~~
410 ~~the minimum required for winery, brewery, distillery facilities in K.C.C. 21A.18.030;~~

411 ~~k. The business operator shall obtain an adult beverage business license in~~
412 ~~accordance with K.C.C. chapter 6.74;~~

413 ~~l. Events may be allowed with an approved temporary use permit under K.C.C.~~
414 ~~chapter 21A.32 or in compliance with the exemption in K.C.C. 21A.32.110.E.; and~~

415 ~~m. The impervious surface associated with the winery, brewery, distillery~~
416 ~~facility use shall not exceed twenty-five percent of the site, or the maximum impervious~~
417 ~~surface for the applicable zone as established by this title, whichever is less)) Repealed.~~

418 4. Limited to rough milling and planing of products grown on-site with portable
419 equipment.

420 5. Repealed.

421 6. Limited to uses found in SIC Industry 2434-Wood Kitchen Cabinets and
422 2431-Millwork, excluding planing mills.

423 7. Limited to photocopying and printing services offered to the general public.

424 8. Only within enclosed buildings, and as an accessory use to retail sales.

425 9. Only within enclosed buildings.

426 10. Limited to boat building of craft not exceeding forty-eight feet in length.

427 11. For I-zoned sites located outside the urban area, uses shown as a conditional
428 use in the table of K.C.C. 21A.08.080.A. shall be prohibited, and all other uses shall be
429 subject to the provisions for rural industrial uses in K.C.C. 21A.14.280, as recodified by
430 ~~((this ordinance))~~ Ordinance 19881.

431 ~~12.((a. In the A zone, only allowed on sites where the primary use is SIC~~
432 ~~Industry Group No. 01 Growing and Harvesting Crops or No. 02 Raising Livestock and~~
433 ~~Small Animals;~~

434 b. ~~The aggregated floor area of structures and areas for winery, brewery,~~
435 ~~distillery facility uses shall not exceed a total of eight thousand square feet. Decks that~~
436 ~~are not occupied and not open to the public are excluded from the calculation for~~
437 ~~maximum aggregated floor area;~~

438 c. ~~Only allowed on lots of at least four and one half acres. If the aggregated~~
439 ~~floor area of structures for winery, brewery, distillery uses exceeds six thousand square~~
440 ~~feet, the minimum site area shall be ten acres;~~

441 d. ~~Wineries, breweries, and distilleries shall comply with Washington state~~
442 ~~Department of Ecology and King County board of health regulations for water usage and~~
443 ~~wastewater disposal, and must connect to an existing Group A water system. The~~
444 ~~definitions and limits of Group A water systems are described in K.C.C. 13.24.007, and~~
445 ~~provision of water service is described in K.C.C. 13.24.138, 13.24.140 and 13.24.142;~~

446 e. ~~Structures and parking areas for winery, brewery distillery facility uses shall~~
447 ~~maintain a minimum distance of seventy five feet from interior property lines adjoining~~
448 ~~rural area and residential zones, unless located in a building designated as historic~~
449 ~~resource under K.C.C. chapter 20.62;~~

450 f. ~~In the A Zone, sixty percent or more of the products processed must be~~
451 ~~grown on site. At the time of the initial application under K.C.C. chapter 6.74, the~~
452 ~~applicant shall submit a projection of the source of products to be processed;~~

453 g. ~~At least two stages of production of wine, beer, cider or distilled spirits,~~
454 ~~such as crushing, fermenting, distilling, barrel or tank aging, or finishing, as authorized~~
455 ~~by the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board production license, shall occur on-~~

456 ~~site. At least one of the stages of on-site production shall include crushing, fermenting or~~
457 ~~distilling;~~

458 ~~h. In the A zone, structures and areas for non-agricultural winery, brewery,~~
459 ~~distillery facility uses shall be located on portions of agricultural lands that are unsuitable~~
460 ~~for agricultural purposes, such as areas within the already developed portion of such~~
461 ~~agricultural lands that are not available for direct agricultural production, or areas without~~
462 ~~prime agricultural soils. No more than one acre of agricultural land may be converted to~~
463 ~~a nonagricultural accessory use;~~

464 ~~i. Tasting and retail sales of products produced on-site may occur only as~~
465 ~~accessory to the primary winery, brewery, distillery production use and may be provided~~
466 ~~in accordance with state law. The area devoted to on-site tasting or retail sales shall be~~
467 ~~limited to no more than thirty percent of the aggregated floor area and shall be included~~
468 ~~in the aggregated floor area limitation in subsection B.12.b. and c. of this section.~~

469 ~~Incidental retail sales of merchandise related to the products produced on-site is allowed~~
470 ~~subject to the restrictions described in this subsection. Hours of operation for on-site~~
471 ~~tasting of products shall be limited as follows: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and~~
472 ~~Thursdays, tasting room hours shall be limited to 11:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m.; and~~
473 ~~Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, tasting room hours shall be limited to 11:00 a.m.~~
474 ~~through 9:00 p.m.;~~

475 ~~j. Access to the site shall be directly to and from an arterial roadway;~~

476 ~~k. Off-street parking maximums shall be determined through the conditional~~
477 ~~use permit process, and should not be more than one hundred fifty percent of the~~
478 ~~minimum required for winery, brewery, distillery facilities in K.C.C. 21A.18.030;~~

479 ~~l. The business operator shall obtain an adult beverage business license in~~
480 ~~accordance with K.C.C. chapter 6.74;~~

481 ~~m. Events may be allowed with an approved temporary use permit under~~
482 ~~K.C.C. chapter 21A.32 or in compliance with the exemption in K.C.C. 21A.32.110.E.;~~
483 ~~and~~

484 ~~n. The impervious surface associated with the winery, brewery, distillery~~
485 ~~facility use shall not exceed twenty five percent of the site, or the maximum impervious~~
486 ~~surface for the applicable zone in accordance with this title, whichever is less)) Repealed.~~

487 13. Only on the same lot or same group of lots under common ownership or
488 documented legal control, which includes, but is not limited to, fee simple ownership, a
489 long-term lease, or an easement, and:

490 a. does not include retail sales of processed materials, and

491 b.(1) as accessory to a primary forestry use and at a scale appropriate to
492 process the organic waste generated on the site; or

493 (2) as a continuation of a sawmill or lumber manufacturing use only for that
494 period to complete delivery of products or projects under contract at the end of the
495 sawmill or lumber manufacturing activity.

496 14. Only on the same lot or same group of lots under common ownership or
497 documented legal control, which includes, but is not limited to, fee simple ownership, a
498 long-term lease, or an easement, and:

499 a. does not include retail sales of processed materials; and

500 b.(1) as accessory to a primary mineral use and may only process materials
501 generated from on-site or properties within three miles of the site; or

502 (2) as a continuation of a mineral processing use only for that period to
503 complete delivery of products or projects under contract at the end of mineral extraction.

504 15. Continuation of a materials processing facility after reclamation in
505 accordance with an approved reclamation plan.

506 16. Only a site that is ten acres or greater and in accordance with the following:

507 a. the site does not use local access streets that abut lots developed for
508 residential use;

509 b. the materials processing use meets the requirements of K.C.C. 21A.12.220
510 and K.C.C. chapter 21A.16;

511 c. the materials processing use obtains and maintains an operational grading
512 permit;

513 d. storage of fill material, as defined in K.C.C. chapter 16.82, does not exceed
514 three thousand cubic yards;

515 e. processed fill material, as defined in K.C.C. chapter 16.82, are primarily
516 from the rural area and natural resource lands; and

517 f. Does not include retail sales of processed materials.

518 17.a. The aggregated floor area of structures and areas for a winery, brewery, or
519 distillery (~~((facility uses))~~) shall not exceed three thousand five hundred square feet, unless
520 located in whole or in part in a structure designated as historic resource under K.C.C.

521 chapter 20.62, in which case the aggregated floor area of structures and areas devoted to a
522 winery, brewery, or distillery (~~((facility uses))~~) shall not exceed five thousand square feet.

523 Decks that are not occupied and not open to the public are excluded from the calculation
524 for maximum aggregated floor area;

b. Structures and parking areas for a winery, brewery, or distillery (~~facility~~
~~uses~~)) shall maintain a minimum distance of seventy-five feet from interior property lines
adjoining rural area and residential zones, unless located in a building designated as
historic resource under K.C.C. chapter 20.62;

c. Tasting and retail sale of products produced on-site, and merchandise related
to the products produced on-site, may be provided in accordance with state law. The area
devoted to on-site tasting or retail sales shall be included in the aggregated floor area
limitation in subsection B.17.a. of this section;

d. Off-street parking for the tasting and retail areas shall be limited to a
maximum of one space per fifty square feet of tasting and retail areas; and

~~e. ((The business operator shall obtain an adult beverage business license in
accordance with K.C.C. chapter 6.74; and~~

~~f.))~~ Events may be allowed with an approved temporary use permit under
K.C.C. chapter 21A.32.

18. Limited to:

a. SIC Industry Group 242-Sawmills and SIC Industry 2431-Millwork, as
follows:

(1) If using lumber or timber grown off-site, the minimum site area is four
and one-half acres; and

(2) In the A and RA zones:

(a) The facility shall be limited to an annual production of no more than one
hundred fifty thousand board feet;

547 (b) Structures housing equipment used in the operation shall be located at
548 least one-hundred feet from adjacent properties with R, UR, and RA zoning;

549 (c) Deliveries and customer visits shall be limited to 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
550 on weekdays, and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekends;

551 (d) In the RA zone, the facility's driveway shall have adequate entering sight
552 distance required by the King County Road Design and Construction Standards. An
553 adequate turn around shall be provided on-site to prevent vehicles from backing out on to
554 the roadway that the driveway accesses; and

555 (e) Outside lighting is limited to avoid off-site glare; and

556 b. SIC Industry 2411-Logging.

557 19. Limited to manufacture of custom made wood furniture or cabinets.

558 20.a. Only allowed on lots of at least four and one-half acres;

559 b. Only as an accessory use to a Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board
560 licensed cannabis production facility on the same lot;

561 c. With a lighting plan, only if required by K.C.C. 21A.12.220.A.2.;

562 d. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound
563 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either
564 cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound
565 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products
566 are imported onto the site; and

567 e. Accessory cannabis processing uses allowed under this section are subject to
568 all limitations applicable to cannabis production uses under K.C.C. 21A.08.090.

569 21.a. Only in the CB and RB zones located outside the urban area;

- 570 b. With a lighting plan, only if required by K.C.C. 21A.12.220.A.2.;
- 571 c. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound
- 572 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either
- 573 cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound
- 574 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products
- 575 are imported onto the site;
- 576 d. Per lot, the aggregated total gross floor area devoted to the use of, and in
- 577 support of, processing cannabis together with any separately authorized production of
- 578 cannabis shall be limited to a maximum of two thousand square feet; and
- 579 e. If the two-thousand-square-foot-per-lot threshold is exceeded, each and
- 580 every cannabis-related entity occupying space in addition to the two-thousand-square-
- 581 foot threshold area on that lot shall obtain a conditional use permit as required in
- 582 subsection B.22. of this section.
- 583 22.a. Only in the CB and RB zones located outside the urban area;
- 584 b. Per lot, the aggregated total gross floor area devoted to the use of, and in
- 585 support of, processing cannabis together with any separately authorized production of
- 586 cannabis shall be limited to a maximum of thirty thousand square feet;
- 587 c. With a lighting plan, only if required by K.C.C. 21A.12.220.A.2.; and
- 588 d. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound
- 589 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either
- 590 cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound
- 591 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products
- 592 are imported onto the site.

- 593 23.a. Only in the CB and RB zones located inside the urban area, except the
594 White Center unincorporated activity center;
- 595 b. With a lighting plan, only if required by K.C.C. 21A.12.220.A.2.;
- 596 c. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound
597 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either
598 cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound
599 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products
600 are imported onto the site;
- 601 d. Per lot, the aggregated total gross floor area devoted to the use of, and in
602 support of, processing cannabis together with any separately authorized production of
603 cannabis shall be limited to a maximum of two thousand square feet; and
- 604 e. If the two-thousand-square-foot-per-lot threshold is exceeded, each and
605 every cannabis-related entity occupying space in addition to the two-thousand-square-
606 foot threshold area on that lot shall obtain a conditional use permit as required in
607 subsection B.24. of this section.
- 608 24.a. Only in the CB and RB zones located inside the urban area, except the
609 White Center unincorporated activity center;
- 610 b. With a lighting plan, only if required by K.C.C. 21A.12.220.A.2.;
- 611 c. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound
612 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either
613 cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound
614 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products
615 are imported onto the site; and

d. Per lot, the aggregated total gross floor area devoted to the use of, and in support of, processing cannabis together with any separately authorized production of cannabis shall be limited to a maximum of thirty thousand square feet.

25.a. With a lighting plan, only if required by K.C.C. 21A.12.220.A.2.;

b. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products are imported onto the site; and

c. Per lot, limited to a maximum aggregate total of two thousand square feet of gross floor area devoted to, and in support of, the processing of cannabis together with any separately authorized production of cannabis.

26.a. With a lighting plan, only if required by K.C.C. 21A.12.220.A.2.;

b. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products are imported onto the site; and

c. Per lot, limited to a maximum aggregate total of thirty thousand square feet of gross floor area devoted to, and in support of, the processing of cannabis together with any separately authorized production of cannabis.

27.a. Cannabis processors in all RA zoned areas except for Vashon-Maury Island, that do not require a conditional use permit issued by King County, that receive a

639 Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board license business before October 1, 2016,
640 and that King County did not object to within the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis
641 Board cannabis license application process, shall be considered nonconforming as to
642 subsection B.27.e. of this section, subject to the provisions of K.C.C. 21A.32.020 through
643 21A.32.075 for nonconforming uses;

644 b. Only with a lighting plan that complies with K.C.C. 21A.12.220.A.2.;

645 c. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound
646 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either
647 cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound
648 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products
649 are imported onto the site;

650 d. Only allowed on lots of at least four and one-half acres on Vashon-Maury
651 Island;

652 e. Only allowed in the RA-10 or the RA-20 zone, on lots of at least ten acres,
653 except on Vashon-Maury Island;

654 f. Only as an accessory use to a Washington state Liquor Cannabis Board
655 licensed cannabis production facility on the same lot; and

656 g. Accessory cannabis processing uses allowed under this section are subject to
657 all limitations applicable to cannabis production uses under K.C.C. 21A.08.090.

658 28. If the food and kindred products manufacturing or processing is associated
659 with agricultural activities it will be reviewed in accordance with K.C.C. 21A.08.090.

660 29.a. Tasting and retail sales of products produced on-site, and merchandise
661 related to the products produced on-site, may be provided in accordance with state law;

b. Structures and parking areas for winery, brewery, distillery facility uses shall maintain a minimum distance of seventy-five feet from interior property lines adjoining rural area and residential zones, unless located in a building designated as historic resource under K.C.C. chapter 20.62;

c. For a winery, brewery, or distillery ~~((facility uses))~~ that does not require a conditional use permit, off-street parking for the tasting and retail areas shall be limited to a maximum of one space per fifty square feet of tasting and retail areas. For a winery, brewery, or distillery ~~((facility uses))~~ that ~~((do))~~ requires a conditional use permit, off-street parking maximums shall be determined through the conditional use permit process, and off-street parking for the tasting and retail areas should be limited to a maximum of one space per fifty square feet of tasting and retail areas; and

d. ~~((The business operator shall obtain an adult beverage business license in accordance with K.C.C. chapter 6.74; and~~

e.)) Events may be allowed with an approved temporary use permit under K.C.C. chapter 21A.32.

30.~~((a. Only allowed on lots of at least two and one-half acres;~~

~~b. The aggregated floor area of structures and areas for winery, brewery, distillery facility uses shall not exceed three thousand five hundred square feet, unless located in whole or in part in a structure designated as historic resource under K.C.C. chapter 20.62, in which case the aggregated floor area of structures and areas devoted to winery, brewery, distillery facility uses shall not exceed five thousand square feet. Decks that are not occupied and not open to the public are excluded from the calculation for maximum aggregated floor area;~~

685 e. ~~Structures and parking areas for winery, brewery, distillery facility uses~~
686 ~~shall maintain a minimum distance of seventy five feet from interior property lines~~
687 ~~adjoining rural area and residential zones, unless located in a building designated as~~
688 ~~historic resource under K.C.C. chapter 20.62;~~

689 d. ~~Tasting and retail sales of products produced on site may only occur as~~
690 ~~accessory to the primary winery, brewery, distillery production use and may be provided~~
691 ~~in accordance with state law. The area devoted to on-site tasting or retail sales shall be~~
692 ~~limited to no more than thirty percent of the aggregated floor area and shall be included~~
693 ~~in the aggregated floor area limitation in subsection B.30.b. of this section. Incidental~~
694 ~~retail sales of merchandise related to the products produced on site is allowed subject to~~
695 ~~the restrictions described in this subsection. Hours of operation for on-site tasting of~~
696 ~~products shall be limited as follows: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays,~~
697 ~~tasting room hours shall be limited to 11:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m.; and Fridays,~~
698 ~~Saturdays and Sundays, tasting room hours shall be limited to 11:00 a.m. through 9:00~~
699 ~~p.m.;~~

700 e. ~~Access to the site shall be directly to and from a public roadway;~~

701 f. ~~Off street parking is limited to a maximum of one hundred fifty percent of~~
702 ~~the minimum required for winery, brewery, distillery facilities in K.C.C. 21A.18.030;~~

703 g. ~~The business operator shall obtain an adult beverage business license in~~
704 ~~accordance with K.C.C. chapter 6.74;~~

705 h. ~~Events may be allowed with an approved temporary use permit under~~
706 ~~K.C.C. chapter 21A.32 or in compliance with the exemption in K.C.C. 21A.32.110.E.;~~

707 i. ~~At least two stages of production of wine, beer, cider or distilled spirits, such~~
708 ~~as crushing, fermenting, distilling, barrel or tank aging, or finishing, as authorized by the~~
709 ~~Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board production license, shall occur on-site. At~~
710 ~~least one of the stages of production occurring on-site shall include crushing, fermenting~~
711 ~~or distilling; and~~

712 j. ~~The impervious surface associated with the winery, brewery, distillery~~
713 ~~facility use shall not exceed twenty five percent of the site, or the maximum impervious~~
714 ~~surface for the applicable zone in accordance with this title, whichever is less)) Repealed.~~

715 31.a. Limited to ~~((businesses with non-retail brewery and distillery production~~
716 ~~licenses from the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis board)) brewery or distillery~~
717 ~~uses.~~ Wineries and remote tasting rooms for wineries shall not be allowed;

718 b. Tasting and retail sale of products produced on-site and merchandise related
719 to the products produced on-site may be provided in accordance with state law. The area
720 devoted to on-site tasting or retail sales shall not exceed one thousand five hundred
721 square feet;

722 c. Structures and parking areas for a brewery ~~((and))~~ or distillery ~~((facility~~
723 ~~uses))~~ shall maintain a minimum distance of seventy-five feet from interior property lines
724 adjoining rural area and residential zones, unless located in a building designated as
725 historic resource under K.C.C. chapter 20.62;

726 d. ~~((For brewery and distillery facility uses that do not require a conditional~~
727 ~~use permit, or))~~ Off-street parking for the tasting and retail areas shall be limited to a
728 maximum of one space per fifty square feet of tasting and retail areas. ~~((For brewery and~~
729 ~~distillery facility uses that do require a conditional use permit, off-street parking~~

730 ~~maximums shall be determined through the conditional use permit process, and off-street~~
731 ~~parking for the tasting and retail areas should be limited to a maximum of one space per~~
732 ~~fifty square feet of tasting and retail areas)); and~~

733 ~~e. ((The business operator shall obtain an adult beverage business license in~~
734 ~~accordance with K.C.C. chapter 6.74; and~~

735 ~~f.)) Events may be allowed with an approved temporary use permit under~~
736 ~~K.C.C. chapter 21A.32.~~

737 ~~32.((a. The aggregated floor area of structures and areas for winery, brewery,~~
738 ~~distillery facility uses shall not exceed one thousand five hundred square feet;~~

739 ~~b. Structures and parking areas for winery, brewery, distillery facility uses~~
740 ~~shall maintain a minimum distance of seventy-five feet from interior property lines~~
741 ~~adjoining rural area and residential zones, unless located in a building designated as~~
742 ~~historic resource under K.C.C. chapter 20.62;~~

743 ~~c. One on-site parking stall shall be allowed for the winery, brewery, distillery~~
744 ~~facility I use;~~

745 ~~d. The business operator shall obtain an adult beverage business license in~~
746 ~~accordance with K.C.C. chapter 6.74;~~

747 ~~e. At least two stages of production of wine, beer, cider or distilled spirits, such~~
748 ~~as crushing, fermenting, distilling, barrel or tank aging, or finishing, as authorized by the~~
749 ~~Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board production license, shall occur on-site. At~~
750 ~~least one of the stages of production occurring on-site shall include crushing, fermenting~~
751 ~~or distilling;~~

752 ~~f. No product tasting or retail sales shall be allowed on-site;~~

753 ~~g. Events may be allowed in accordance with K.C.C. 21A.32.120.B.6; and~~
 754 ~~h. The impervious surface associated with the winery, brewery, distillery~~
 755 ~~facility use shall not exceed twenty-five percent of the site or the maximum impervious~~
 756 ~~surface for the applicable zone in accordance with this title, whichever is less)) Repealed.~~

757 33. Except leather tanning and finishing.

758 34. Except gasoline powered motorcycles.

759 SECTION 7. Ordinance 10870, Section 336, as amended, and K.C.C.

760 21A.08.090 are hereby amended to read as follows:

761 A. Resource land uses.

SIC#	SPECIFIC LAND USE	A	F	M	R A	UR	R- 1	R- 4 – R- 8	R- 12 – R- 48	NB	CB	RB	O	I
12	Coal Mining													
13	Oil and Gas Extraction													
*	Anaerobic Digester	P13 C	C		P 1 3 C	C3 1	C3 1	C3 1	C3 1	C3 1	C3 1	C	C	C
	AGRICULTURE:													
01	Growing and Harvesting Crops	P	P		P	P	P	P	P3 0	P3 0	P3 0	P3 0	P3 0	P
02	Raising Livestock and Small Animals (6)	P	P		P	P								P
*	Stable	P32 C			P 3	P32 C	P3 2	P 32						

					2 C		C	C						
*	Agricultural Activities	P24 C	P24 C		P 2 4 C	P24 C	P3 0 C3 0	P3 0 C3 0	P3 0 C3 0	P3 0 C3 0	P3 0 C3 0	P3 0 C3 0	P3 0 C3 0	
*	Agricultural Support Services	P25 C	P25 C		P 2 6 C	P26 C	P2 6 C	P2 6 C		P2 7 C2 8	P2 7 C2 8			
*	Cannabis producer	P15 C22			P 1 6 C 1 7						P1 8 C1 9	P1 8 C1 9		P2 0 C2 1
*	Agriculture Training Facility	C10												
*	Agriculture-related Special Needs Camp	P12												
*	Temporary Farm Worker Housing	P14 a			P 1 4a									
	FORESTRY:													
08	Growing and Harvesting Forest Production	P	P	P7	P	P	P	P						P
*	Forest Research		P		P	P							P2	P
	FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT:													
0921	Hatchery/Fish Preserve	P	P		P	P	C	C						P

	(1)													
0273	Aquaculture (1)	P	P		P	P	C	C						P
*	Wildlife Shelters	P	P		P	P								
	MINERAL:													
10, 14	Mineral Extraction and Processing		P9 C	P C1 1										
2951, 3271, 3273	Asphalt/Concrete Mixtures and Block		P8 C11	P8 C1 1										P
	ACCESSORY USES:													
*	Resource Accessory Uses	P3 P23 P29	P4 P29	P5 P2 9	P 3 P 2 9	P3 P29								P4 P2 9
*	Permanent Farm Worker Housing	P14 b			P 1 4 b									

762 B. Development conditions.

763 1. May be further subject to K.C.C. chapter 21A.25.

764 2. Only forest research conducted within an enclosed building.

765 3. Farm residences in accordance with K.C.C. 21A.08.030.

766 4. Excluding housing for agricultural workers.

767 5. Limited to either maintenance or storage facilities, or both, in conjunction

768 with mineral extraction or processing operation.

769 6. Allowed in accordance with K.C.C. chapter 21A.30.

770 7. Only in conjunction with a mineral extraction site plan approved in
771 accordance with K.C.C. chapter 21A.22.

772 8. Only on the same lot or same group of lots under common ownership or
773 documented legal control, which includes, but is not limited to, fee simple ownership, a
774 long-term lease, or an easement:

775 a. as accessory to a primary mineral extraction use; or

776 b. as a continuation of a mineral processing only for that period to complete
777 delivery of products or projects under contract at the end of a mineral extraction.

778 9. Limited to mineral extraction and processing:

779 a. on a lot or group of lots under common ownership or documented legal
780 control, which includes, but is not limited to, fee simple ownership, a long-term lease, or
781 an easement;

782 b. that are located greater than one-quarter mile from an established residence;
783 and

784 c. that do not use local access streets that abut lots developed for residential
785 use.

786 10. Agriculture training facilities are allowed only as an accessory to existing
787 agricultural uses and are subject to the following conditions:

788 a. The impervious surface associated with the agriculture training facilities
789 shall comprise not more than ten percent of the maximum impervious surface allowed
790 under Ordinance 19881, ((s))Section 227 ((of this ordinance));

791 b. New or the expansion of existing structures, or other site improvements,
792 shall not be located on class 1, 2, or 3 soils;

- 793 c. The director may require reuse of surplus structures to the maximum extent
794 practical;
- 795 d. The director may require new structures to be sited near existing structures;
- 796 e. New structures or other site improvements shall be set back a minimum
797 distance of seventy-five feet from property lines adjoining RA, UR, and R zones;
- 798 f. Bulk and design of structures shall be compatible with the architectural style
799 of the surrounding agricultural community;
- 800 g. New sewers shall not be extended to the site;
- 801 h. Traffic generated shall not impede the safe and efficient movement of
802 agricultural vehicles, nor shall it require capacity improvements to rural roads;
- 803 i. Agriculture training facilities may be used to provide educational services to
804 the surrounding rural/agricultural community or for community events. Property owners
805 may be required to obtain a temporary use permit for community events in accordance
806 with K.C.C. chapter 21A.32;
- 807 j. Use of lodging and food service facilities shall be limited only to activities
808 conducted in conjunction with training and education programs or community events
809 held on-site;
- 810 k. Incidental uses, such as office and storage, shall be limited to those that
811 directly support education and training activities or farm operations; and
- 812 l. The King County agriculture commission shall be notified of and have an
813 opportunity to comment upon all proposed agriculture training facilities during the permit
814 process in accordance with K.C.C. chapter 21A.40.

815 11. Continuation of mineral processing and asphalt/concrete mixtures and block
816 uses after reclamation in accordance with an approved reclamation plan.

817 12.a. Activities at the camp shall be limited to agriculture and agriculture-
818 oriented activities. In addition, activities that place minimal stress on the site's
819 agricultural resources or activities that are compatible with agriculture are allowed.

820 (1) passive recreation;

821 (2) training of individuals who will work at the camp;

822 (3) special events for families of the campers; and

823 (4) agriculture education for youth.

824 b. Outside the camp center, as provided for in subsection B.12.e. of this
825 section, camp activities shall not preclude the use of the site for agriculture and
826 agricultural related activities, such as the processing of local food to create value-added
827 products and the refrigeration and storage of local agricultural products. The camp shall
828 be managed to coexist with agriculture and agricultural activities both on-site and in the
829 surrounding area.

830 c. A farm plan shall be required for commercial agricultural production to
831 ensure adherence to best management practices and soil conservation.

832 d.(1) The minimum site area shall be five hundred acres. Unless the property
833 owner has sold or transferred the development rights as provided in subsection B.12.c.(2)
834 of this section, a minimum of five hundred acres of the site shall be owned by a single
835 individual, corporation, partnership, or other legal entity and shall remain under the
836 ownership of a single individual, corporation, partnership, or other legal entity for the
837 duration of the operation of the camp.

838 (2) Nothing in subsection B.12.d.(1) of this section prohibits the property
839 owner from selling or transferring the development rights for a portion or all of the site to
840 the King County farmland preservation program or, if the development rights are
841 extinguished as part of the sale or transfer, to a nonprofit entity approved by the director;

842 e. The impervious surface associated with the camp shall comprise not more
843 than ten percent of the maximum impervious surface allowed under Ordinance 19881,
844 ~~((s))Section 227 ((of this ordinance))~~;

845 f. Structures for living quarters, dining facilities, medical facilities, and other
846 nonagricultural camp activities shall be located in a camp center. The camp center shall
847 be no more than fifty acres and shall be depicted on a site plan. New structures for
848 nonagricultural camp activities shall be sited near existing structures;

849 g. To the extent practicable, existing structures shall be reused. The applicant
850 shall demonstrate to the director that a new structure for nonagricultural camp activities
851 cannot be practicably accommodated within an existing structure on the site, though
852 cabins for campers shall be allowed only if they do not already exist on-site;

853 h. Camp facilities may be used to provide agricultural educational services to
854 the surrounding rural and agricultural community or for community events. If required
855 by K.C.C. chapter 21A.32, the property owner shall obtain a temporary use permit for
856 community events;

857 i. Lodging and food service facilities shall only be used for activities related to
858 the camp or for agricultural education programs or community events held on-site;

859 j. Incidental uses, such as office and storage, shall be limited to those that
860 directly support camp activities, farm operations, or agricultural education programs;

861 k. New nonagricultural camp structures and site improvements shall maintain a
862 minimum set-back of seventy-five feet from property lines adjoining RA, UR, and R
863 zones;

864 l. Except for legal nonconforming structures existing as of January 1, 2007,
865 camp facilities, such as a medical station, food service hall, and activity rooms, shall be
866 of a scale to serve overnight camp users;

867 m. Landscaping equivalent to a type III landscaping screen, as provided for in
868 K.C.C. 21A.16.040, of at least twenty feet shall be provided for nonagricultural structures
869 and site improvements located within two hundred feet of an adjacent RA, UR, and R
870 zoned property not associated with the camp;

871 n. New sewers shall not be extended to the site;

872 o. The total number of persons staying overnight shall not exceed three
873 hundred;

874 p. The length of stay for any individual overnight camper, not including camp
875 personnel, shall not exceed ninety days during a three-hundred-sixty-five-day period;

876 q. Traffic generated by camp activities shall not impede the safe and efficient
877 movement of agricultural vehicles nor shall it require capacity improvements to rural
878 roads;

879 r. If the site is adjacent to an arterial roadway, access to the site shall be
880 directly onto the arterial unless the county road engineer determines that direct access is
881 unsafe;

882 s. If direct access to the site is via local access streets, transportation
883 management measures shall be used to minimize adverse traffic impacts;

884 t. Camp recreational activities shall not involve the use of motor vehicles
885 unless the motor vehicles are part of an agricultural activity or are being used for the
886 transportation of campers, camp personnel, or the families of campers. Camp personnel
887 may use motor vehicles for the operation and maintenance of the facility. Client-specific
888 motorized personal mobility devices are allowed; and

889 u. Lights to illuminate the camp or its structures shall be arranged to reflect the
890 light away from any adjacent property.

891 13. Limited to digester receiving plant, animal, or other organic waste from
892 agricultural activities, and including electrical generation, as follows:

893 a. the digester shall be included as part of a Washington state Department of
894 Agriculture approved dairy nutrient plan;

895 b. the digester shall process at least seventy percent livestock manure or other
896 agricultural organic material from farms in the vicinity, by volume;

897 c. imported organic waste-derived material, such as food processing waste,
898 may be processed in the digester for the purpose of increasing methane gas production for
899 beneficial use, but shall not exceed thirty percent of volume processed by the digester;
900 and

901 d. the use shall be accessory to an operating dairy or livestock operation.

902 14. Farm worker housing. Either:

903 a. Temporary farm worker housing subject to the following conditions:

904 (1) The housing shall be licensed by the Washington state Department of
905 Health under chapter 70.114A RCW and chapter 246-358 WAC, unless it falls below the
906 threshold for licensing in WAC 246-358-025;

907 (2) Water supply and sewage disposal systems are subject to approval by
908 public health - Seattle & King County;

909 (3) To the maximum extent practical, the housing should be located on
910 nonfarmable areas that are already disturbed and should not be located in the floodplain
911 or in a critical area or critical area buffer; and

912 (4) The property owner shall file with the department of executive services,
913 records and licensing services division, a notice approved by the department identifying
914 the housing as temporary farm worker housing and that the housing shall be occupied
915 only by agricultural employees and their families while employed by the owner or
916 operator or on a nearby farm. The notice shall run with the land; or

917 b. Permanent farmworker housing for agricultural employees who are
918 employed by the owner or operator of the farm year-round as follows:

919 (1) Not more than:

920 (a) one agricultural employee dwelling unit on a site less than twenty acres;

921 (b) two agricultural employee dwelling units on a site of at least twenty
922 acres and less than fifty acres;

923 (c) three agricultural employee dwelling units on a site of at least fifty acres
924 and less than one-hundred acres; and

925 (d) four agricultural employee dwelling units on a site of at least one-
926 hundred acres, and one additional agricultural employee dwelling unit for each additional
927 one hundred acres thereafter;

928 (2) If the primary use of the site changes to a nonagricultural use, all
929 agricultural employee dwelling units shall be removed;

930 (3) The applicant shall file with the department of executive services, records
931 and licensing services division, a notice approved by the department that identifies the
932 agricultural employee dwelling units as accessory and that the dwelling units shall only
933 be occupied by agricultural employees who are employed by the owner or operator year-
934 round. The notice shall run with the land. The applicant shall submit to the department
935 proof that the notice was filed with the department of executive services, records and
936 licensing services division, before the department approves any permit for the
937 construction of agricultural employee dwelling units;

938 (4) An agricultural employee dwelling unit shall not exceed a floor area of
939 one thousand square feet and may be occupied by no more than eight unrelated
940 agricultural employees;

941 (5) To the maximum extent practical, the housing should be located on
942 nonfarmable areas that are already disturbed;

943 (6) One off-street parking space shall be provided for each agricultural
944 employee dwelling unit; and

945 (7) The agricultural employee dwelling units shall be constructed in
946 compliance with K.C.C. Title 16.

947 15. Cannabis production by cannabis producers licensed by the Washington
948 state Liquor and Cannabis Board is subject to the following standards:

949 a. Only allowed on lots of at least four and one-half acres;

950 b. With a lighting plan, only if required by and that complies with K.C.C.

951 21A.12.220.A.2.;

952 c. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound
953 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either
954 cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound
955 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products
956 are imported onto the site;

957 d. Production is limited to outdoor, indoor within cannabis greenhouses, and
958 within structures that are nondwelling unit structures that exist as of October 1, 2013,
959 subject to the size limitations in subsection B.15.e. of this section;

960 e. Per lot, the plant canopy, as defined in WAC 314-55-010, combined with
961 any area used for processing under K.C.C. 21A.08.080 shall be limited to a maximum
962 aggregated total of two thousand square feet and shall be located within a fenced area or
963 cannabis greenhouse that is no more than ten percent larger than that combined area, or
964 may occur in nondwelling unit structures that exist as of October 1, 2013;

965 f. Outdoor production area fencing as required by the Washington state Liquor
966 and Cannabis Board, cannabis greenhouses and nondwelling unit structures shall
967 maintain a minimum street setback of fifty feet and a minimum interior setback of thirty
968 feet; and

969 g. If the two-thousand-square-foot-per-lot threshold of plant canopy combined
970 with area used for processing under K.C.C. 21A.08.080 is exceeded, each and every
971 cannabis-related entity occupying space in addition to the two-thousand-square-foot
972 threshold area on that lot shall obtain a conditional use permit as required in subsection
973 B.22. of this section.

974 16. Cannabis production by cannabis producers licensed by the Washington
975 state Liquor and Cannabis Board is subject to the following standards:

976 a. Cannabis producers in all RA zoned areas except for Vashon-Maury Island,
977 that do not require a conditional use permit issued by King County, that receive a
978 Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board license business before October 1, 2016,
979 and that King County did not object to within the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis
980 Board cannabis license application process, shall be considered nonconforming as to
981 subsection B.16.d. and h. of this section, subject to the provisions of K.C.C. 21A.32.020
982 through 21A.32.075 for nonconforming uses;

983 b. In RA zones, only with a lighting plan that complies with K.C.C.
984 21A.12.220.A.2.;

985 c. Only allowed on lots of at least four and one-half acres on Vashon-Maury
986 Island;

987 d. Only allowed in the RA-10 or the RA-20 zone, on lots of at least ten acres,
988 except on Vashon-Maury Island;

989 e. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound
990 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either
991 cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound
992 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products
993 are imported onto the site;

994 f. Production is limited to outdoor, indoor within cannabis greenhouses, and
995 within nondwelling unit structures that exist as of October 1, 2013, subject to the size
996 limitations in subsection B.16.g. of this section; and

g. Per lot, the plant canopy, as defined in WAC 314-55-010, combined with any area used for processing under K.C.C. 21A.08.080 shall be limited to a maximum aggregated total of two thousand square feet and shall be located within a fenced area or cannabis greenhouse, that is no more than ten percent larger than that combined area, or may occur in nondwelling unit structures that exist as of October 1, 2013;

h. Outdoor production area fencing as required by the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board and cannabis greenhouses shall maintain a minimum street setback of fifty feet and a minimum interior setback of one hundred feet; and a minimum setback of one hundred fifty feet from any existing residence; and

i. If the two-thousand-square-foot-per-lot threshold of plant canopy within fenced areas or cannabis greenhouses is exceeded, each and every cannabis-related entity occupying space in addition to the two-thousand-square-foot threshold area on that lot shall obtain a conditional use permit as required in subsection B.17. of this section.

17. Cannabis production by cannabis producers licensed by the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board is subject to the following standards:

a. Only allowed on lots of at least four and one-half acres on Vashon-Maury Island;

b. Only allowed in the RA-10 or the RA-20 zone, on lots of at least ten acres, except on Vashon-Maury Island;

c. In RA zones, only with a lighting plan that complies with K.C.C. 21A.12.220.A.2.;

d. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either

1020 cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound
1021 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products
1022 are imported onto the site;

1023 e. Production is limited to outdoor and indoor within cannabis greenhouses
1024 subject to the size limitations in subsection B.17.f. of this section;

1025 f. Per lot, the plant canopy, as defined in WAC 314-55-010, combined with
1026 any area used for processing under K.C.C. 21A.08.080 shall be limited to a maximum
1027 aggregated total of thirty thousand square feet and shall be located within a fenced area or
1028 cannabis greenhouse that is no more than ten percent larger than that combined area; and

1029 g. Outdoor production area fencing as required by the Washington state Liquor
1030 and Cannabis Board, and cannabis greenhouses shall maintain a minimum street setback
1031 of fifty feet and a minimum interior setback of one hundred feet, and a minimum setback
1032 of one hundred fifty feet from any existing residence.

1033 18.a. Production is not allowed in the White Center unincorporated activity
1034 center;

1035 b. Production is limited to indoor only;

1036 c. With a lighting plan only as required by and that complies with K.C.C.
1037 21A.12.220.A.2.;

1038 d. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound
1039 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either
1040 cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound
1041 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products
1042 are imported onto the site; and

1043 e. Per lot, the plant canopy, as defined in WAC 314-55-010, combined with
1044 any area used for processing under K.C.C. 21A.08.080, shall be limited to a maximum
1045 aggregated total of two thousand square feet and shall be located within a building or
1046 tenant space that is no more than ten percent larger than the plant canopy and separately
1047 authorized processing area; and

1048 f. If the two-thousand-square-foot-per-lot threshold is exceeded, each and
1049 every cannabis-related entity occupying space in addition to the two-thousand-square foot
1050 threshold area on that parcel shall obtain a conditional use permit as required in
1051 subsection B.19. of this section.

1052 19.a. Production is not allowed in the White Center unincorporated activity
1053 center;

1054 b. Production is limited to indoor only;

1055 c. With a lighting plan only as required by and that complies with K.C.C.
1056 21A.12.220.A.2.;

1057 d. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound
1058 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either
1059 cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound
1060 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products
1061 are imported onto the site; and

1062 e. Per lot, the plant canopy, as defined in WAC 314-55-010, combined with
1063 any area used for processing under K.C.C. 21A.08.080, shall be limited to a maximum
1064 aggregated total of thirty thousand square feet and shall be located within a building or

tenant space that is no more than ten percent larger than the plant canopy and separately authorized processing area.

20.a. Production is limited to indoor only;

b. With a lighting plan only as required by and that complies with K.C.C.

21A.12.220.A.2.;

c. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products are imported onto the site;

d. Per lot, the plant canopy, as defined in WAC 314-55-010, combined with any area used for processing under K.C.C. 21A.08.080, shall be limited to a maximum aggregated total of two thousand square feet and shall be located within a building or tenant space that is no more than ten percent larger than the plant canopy and separately authorized processing area; and

e. If the two-thousand-square-foot-per-lot threshold is exceeded, each and every cannabis-related entity occupying space in addition to the two-thousand-square-foot threshold area on that lot shall obtain a conditional use permit as required in subsection B.21. of this section.

21.a. Production is limited to indoor only;

b. With a lighting plan only as required by and that complies with K.C.C.

21A.12.220.A.2.;

1087 c. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound
1088 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either
1089 cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound
1090 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products
1091 are imported onto the site; and

1092 d. Per lot, the plant canopy, as defined in WAC 314-55-010, combined with
1093 any area used for processing under K.C.C. 21A.08.080, shall be limited to a maximum
1094 aggregated total of thirty thousand square feet and shall be located within a building or
1095 tenant space that is no more than ten percent larger than the plant canopy and separately
1096 authorized processing area.

1097 22. Cannabis production by cannabis producers licensed by the Washington
1098 state Liquor and Cannabis Board is subject to the following standards:

1099 a. With a lighting plan only as required by and that complies with K.C.C.
1100 21A.12.220.A.2.;

1101 b. Only allowed on lots of at least four and one-half acres;

1102 c. Only with documentation that the operator has applied for a Puget Sound
1103 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit. All department permits issued to either
1104 cannabis producers or cannabis processors, or both, shall require that a Puget Sound
1105 Clean Air Agency Notice of Construction Permit be approved before cannabis products
1106 are imported onto the site;

1107 d. Production is limited to outdoor, indoor within cannabis greenhouses, and
1108 within structures that are nondwelling unit structures that exist as of October 1, 2013,
1109 subject to the size limitations in subsection B.22. e. and f. of this section;

1110 e. On lots less than ten acres, per lot, the plant canopy, as defined in WAC
1111 314-55-010, combined with any area used for processing under K.C.C. 21A.08.080 shall
1112 be limited to a maximum aggregated total of five thousand square feet and shall be
1113 located within a fenced area or cannabis greenhouse that is no more than ten percent
1114 larger than that combined area, or may occur in nondwelling unit structures that exist as
1115 of October 1, 2013;

1116 f. On lots ten acres or more, per lot, the plant canopy, as defined in WAC 314-
1117 55-010, combined with any area used for processing under K.C.C. 21A.08.080 shall be
1118 limited to a maximum aggregated total of ten thousand square feet, and shall be located
1119 within a fenced area or cannabis greenhouse that is no more than ten percent larger than
1120 that combined area, or may occur in nondwelling unit structures that exist as of October
1121 1, 2013; and

1122 g. Outdoor production area fencing as required by the Washington state Liquor
1123 and Cannabis Board, cannabis greenhouses and nondwelling unit structures shall
1124 maintain a minimum street setback of fifty feet and a minimum interior setback of one
1125 hundred feet, and a minimum setback of one hundred fifty feet from any existing
1126 residence.

1127 23. The storage and processing of nonmanufactured source separated organic
1128 waste that originates from agricultural operations and that does not originate from the
1129 site, if:

1130 a. agricultural is the primary use of the site;

1131 b. the storage and processing are in accordance with best management
1132 practices included in an approved farm plan; and

1133 c. except for areas used for manure storage, the areas used for storage and
1134 processing do not exceed three acres and ten percent of the site.

1135 24.a. For activities relating to the processing of crops or livestock for
1136 commercial purposes, including associated activities such as warehousing, storage,
1137 including refrigeration, and other similar activities and excluding winery, brewery,
1138 distillery ((~~facility I, II, III~~)), and remote tasting room uses:

1139 (1) limited to agricultural products and sixty percent or more of the products
1140 processed shall be grown in the Puget Sound counties. At the time of initial application,
1141 the applicant shall submit a projection of the source of products to be produced;

1142 (2) in the RA and UR zones, only allowed on sites of at least four and one-
1143 half acres;

1144 (3)(a) as a permitted use, the floor area devoted to all processing shall not
1145 exceed two thousand square feet, unless located in a building designated as an historic
1146 resource under K.C.C. chapter 20.62. The agricultural technical review committee, as
1147 established in K.C.C. 21A.42.300, may review and approve an increase in the processing
1148 floor area as follows: up to three thousand five hundred square feet of floor area may be
1149 devoted to all processing in the RA zones or on farms less than thirty-five acres located in
1150 the A zones or up to seven thousand square feet on farms greater than thirty-five acres in
1151 the A zone; and

1152 (b) as a permitted use, the floor area devoted to all warehousing,
1153 refrigeration, storage, or other similar activities shall not exceed two thousand square
1154 feet, unless located in a building designated as historic resource under K.C.C. chapter
1155 20.62. The agricultural technical review committee, as established in K.C.C.

21A.42.300, may review and approve an increase of up to three thousand five hundred square feet of floor area devoted to all warehousing, storage, including refrigeration, or other similar activities in the RA zones or on farms less than thirty-five acres located in the A zones or up to seven thousand square feet on farms greater than thirty-five acres in the A zone;

(4) in the A zone, structures and areas used for processing, warehousing, refrigeration, storage, and other similar activities shall be located on portions of agricultural lands that are unsuitable for other agricultural purposes, such as areas within the already developed portion of such agricultural lands that are not available for direct agricultural production, or areas without prime agricultural soils; and

(5) structures and areas used for processing, warehousing, storage, including refrigeration, and other similar activities shall maintain a minimum distance of seventy-five feet from property lines adjoining RA, UR, and R zones, unless located in a building designated as historic resource under K.C.C. chapter 20.62.

b. For activities relating to the retail sale of agricultural products, except livestock:

(1) sales shall be limited to agricultural products and locally made arts and crafts;

(2) in the RA and UR zones, only allowed on sites at least four and one-half acres;

(3) as a permitted use, the covered sales area shall not exceed three thousand five hundred square feet, unless located in a building designated as a historic resource under K.C.C. chapter 20.62. The agricultural technical review committee, as

1179 established in K.C.C. 21A.42.300, may review and approve an increase of up to five
1180 thousand square feet of covered sales area;

1181 (4) forty percent or more of the gross sales of agricultural product sold
1182 through the store shall be sold by the producers of primary agricultural products;

1183 (5) sixty percent or more of the gross sales of agricultural products sold
1184 through the store shall be derived from products grown or produced in the Puget Sound
1185 counties. At the time of the initial application, the applicant shall submit a reasonable
1186 projection of the source of product sales;

1187 (6) tasting of products, in accordance with applicable health regulations, is
1188 allowed;

1189 (7) storage areas for agricultural products may be included in a farm store
1190 structure or in any accessory building; and

1191 (8) outside lighting is allowed if there is no off-site glare.

1192 c. Retail sales of livestock is allowed only as accessory to raising livestock.

1193 d. Farm operations, including equipment repair and related facilities, except
1194 that:

1195 (1) the repair of tools and machinery is limited to those necessary for the
1196 operation of a farm or forest;

1197 (2) in the RA and UR zones, only allowed on sites of at least four and one-
1198 half acres;

1199 (3) the size of the total repair use is limited to one percent of the farm size
1200 in the A zone, and up to one percent of the size in other zones, up to a maximum of five

1201 thousand square feet unless located within an existing farm structure, including, but not
1202 limited to, barns, existing as of December 31, 2003; and

1203 (4) Equipment repair shall not be allowed in the Forest zone.

1204 e. The agricultural technical review committee, as established in K.C.C.

1205 21A.42.300, may review and approve reductions of minimum site sizes in the RA, UR,
1206 and R zones and minimum setbacks from RA, UR, and R zones.

1207 25. The department may review and approve establishment of agricultural
1208 support services in accordance with the code compliance review process in K.C.C.

1209 21A.42.300 only if:

1210 a. project is sited on lands that are unsuitable for direct agricultural production
1211 based on size, soil conditions, or other factors and cannot be returned to productivity by
1212 drainage maintenance; and

1213 b. the proposed use is allowed under any Farmland Preservation Program
1214 conservation easement and zoning development standards.

1215 26. The agricultural technical review committee, as established in K.C.C.
1216 21A.42.300, may review and approve establishment of agricultural support services only
1217 if the project site:

1218 a. adjoins or is within six hundred sixty feet of the agricultural production
1219 district;

1220 b. has direct vehicular access to the agricultural production district;

1221 c. except for farm worker housing, does not use local access streets that abut
1222 lots developed for residential use; and

1223 d. has a minimum lot size of four and one-half acres.

- 1224 27. The agricultural technical review committee, as established in K.C.C.
1225 21A.42.300, may review and approve establishment of agricultural support services only
1226 if the project site:
- 1227 a. is outside the urban area;
 - 1228 b. adjoins or is within six hundred sixty feet of the agricultural production
1229 district;
 - 1230 c. has direct vehicular access to the agricultural production district;
 - 1231 d. except for farm worker housing, does not use local access streets that abut
1232 lots developed for residential use; and
 - 1233 e. has a minimum lot size of four and one-half acres.
- 1234 28. Only allowed on properties that are outside the urban area.
- 1235 29. Battery energy storage systems are considered a resource accessory use
1236 when the total system capacity is two megawatts or less, and:
- 1237 a. the system provides electricity for on-site use only, with "on-site use"
1238 including net metering as well as charging of vehicles on-site or in the right-of-way
1239 immediately adjacent to the site; or
 - 1240 b. the system is intended primarily for on-site use, but also participates in load
1241 sharing or another grid-connected electricity-sharing arrangement.
- 1242 30.a. Permitted as a primary use or an accessory use, except in accordance with
1243 subsection B.30.g. of this section;
- 1244 b. A sufficient water supply shall be available to support cultivation practices
1245 on-site;

- 1246 c. The site shall be designed and maintained to prevent water and fertilizer
1247 runoff onto adjacent properties;
- 1248 d. Compost materials shall be stored at least twenty feet from interior lot lines
1249 and in a manner that minimizes odors and is not visible from adjacent properties;
- 1250 e. Raising livestock and small animals, animal mortality management, and on-
1251 site animal waste storage, disposal, and processing is not allowed;
- 1252 f. In the R-1 through R-48 zones:
- 1253 (1) The total lot area devoted to the use shall not exceed four thousand square
1254 feet.
- 1255 (2) Structures used for agricultural activities:
- 1256 (a) shall not exceed one thousand square feet in gross floor area per lot;
- 1257 (b) shall not exceed twelve feet in height, including any pitched roof;
- 1258 (c) shall be limited to raised garden beds, greenhouses, hoop houses, storage
1259 sheds, cold frames, and rain barrel systems; and
- 1260 (d) are also subject to the development standards that would apply to an
1261 accessory structure in the zone, if the use is accessory;
- 1262 (3) Only mechanical equipment designed for household use may be used;
- 1263 (4) Retail sales and all other public use shall begin no earlier than 8:00 a.m.
1264 and end by 7:00 p.m.;
- 1265 (5) Commercial deliveries and pickups are limited to one per day. On-site
1266 sales are not considered commercial pickups;
- 1267 (6) No more than two motor vehicles dedicated to the use shall be stored on-
1268 site, each with a gross vehicle weight of ten thousand pounds or less; and

(7) One identification sign is allowed, not exceeding one-hundred square inches in area; and

g. A conditional use permit is required on properties twenty acres or more in size in the R-1 zone, or to exceed the limitations of subsection B.30.f. of this section in the R-1 through R-48 zones. Conditional use permits shall not be granted for properties with an urban separator land use designation.

31. Digester shall be limited to processing of waste generated on-site only.

32. Covered riding arenas are subject to K.C.C. 21A.30.030 and shall not exceed twenty thousand square feet. Stabling areas, whether attached or detached, shall not be counted in this calculation.

SECTION 8. Ordinance 19881, Section 177, and K.C.C. 21A.xx.xxx are hereby amended to read as follows:

A.1. The required number of off-street parking spaces shall be provided in accordance with the table in this section. If a parking standard for a use is not specified in this chapter, the Director shall establish the minimum parking requirement.

2. Off-street parking ratios shall be based on the usable or net floor area, exclusive of nonoccupied areas. For the purposes of calculating parking, "nonoccupied areas" include, but are not limited to, building maintenance areas, storage areas, closets, or restrooms.

3. If the calculation for determining the number of off-street parking spaces results in a fraction, the number of off-street parking spaces shall be rounded to the nearest whole number with fractions of 0.50 or greater rounded up and fractions below 0.50 rounded down.

LAND USE	White Center Unincorporated Activity Center	Within 1/2 Mile Walkshed or High- Capacity of Frequent Transit Stop as Mapped by the Metro Transit Department	Other Areas of North Highline
RESIDENTIAL (K.C.C. 21A.08.030.A.):			
Inclusionary housing development (K.C.C. chapter 21A.48)	No minimum required	0.5 per dwelling unit	0.8 per dwelling unit
Single detached residence	No minimum required	1.0 per dwelling unit	2.0 per dwelling unit
Duplex, houseplex, or townhouse	No minimum required	1.0 per dwelling unit	1.5 per dwelling unit
Apartment:			
Studio units	No minimum required	0.7 per dwelling unit	1.2 per dwelling unit
One or more bedroom units	No minimum required	1.0 per dwelling unit	1.5 per dwelling unit
Manufactured home community	No minimum required	1.0 per dwelling unit	2.0 per dwelling unit

Cottage housing	No minimum required	0.8 per dwelling unit	1 per dwelling unit
Congregate residence	No minimum required	0.3 per dwelling or sleeping units	1 per two bedrooms
Senior assisted housing	No minimum required	1.0 per 4 dwelling or sleeping units	1 per 2 dwelling or sleeping units
RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL (K.C.C. 21A.08.040.A.):			
Recreation use, if not otherwise specified	(director)	(director)	(director)
Cultural uses, if not otherwise specified	1 per 400 square feet	1 per 300 square feet	1 per 300 square feet
Golf course facility	3 per hole, plus 1 per 400 square feet of club house facilities	3 per hole, plus 1 per 300 square feet of club house facilities	3 per hole, plus 1 per 300 square feet of club house facilities
Golf driving range	.75 per tee	1 per tee	1 per tee
Tennis club	3 per tennis court plus 1 per 500 square feet of clubhouse facility	4 per tennis court plus 1 per 500 square feet of clubhouse facility	4 per tennis court plus 1 per 300 square feet of clubhouse facility
Theater	1 per 5 fixed seats	1 per 4 fixed seats	1 per 3 fixed seats
Bowling center	3 per lane	4 per lane	5 per lane

Paintball range	(director)	(director)	(director)
Conference center	Greater of 1 per 5 fixed seats plus 1 per 75 square feet used for assembly purposes without fixed seats, or 1 per lodging room	Greater of 1 per 3 fixed seats plus 1 per 60 square feet used for assembly purposes without fixed seats, or 1 per lodging room	Greater of 1 per 3 fixed seats plus 1 per 50 square feet used for assembly purposes without fixed seats, or 1 per lodging bedroom, whichever results in the greater number of spaces.
HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND RESIDENTIAL CARE SERVICES ((((subsection A. of)) <u>Ordinance 19881</u>, ((s))<u>Section 162.A.</u> ((of this ordinance)))):			
Health care and residential care services, if not otherwise specified	1 per 400 square feet of office, labs, examination, or patient room	1 per 300 square feet of office, labs, examination, or patient room	1 per 300 square feet of office, labs, examination, or patient room
Hospital	1 per bed	1 per bed	1 per bed
Nursing and personal care facility	1 per 4 beds	1 per 4 beds	1 per 4 beds
Adult family home	2 per home	2 per home	2 per home
Community	1 per 3 bedrooms	1 per 2 bedrooms	1 per 2 bedrooms

residential facilities			
Permanent supportive housing	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 20 dwelling units	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 20 dwelling units	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 20 dwelling units
Recuperative housing	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 10 sleeping unit	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 10 sleeping unit	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 10 sleeping unit
Emergency supportive housing	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 20 sleeping unit	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 20 sleeping unit	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 20 sleeping unit
Microshelter villages	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 20 microshelters	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 20 microshelters	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 20 microshelters
PERSONAL SERVICE AND TEMPORARY LODGING (K.C.C. 21A.08.050.A.):			
Personal service and temporary lodging uses, if not otherwise specified	No minimum required	1 per 400 square feet	1 per 300 square feet
Specialized instruction Schools	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 3 students	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 2 students	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 2 students
Funeral	1 per 65 square feet	1 per 50 square feet of	1 per 50 square feet

home/crematory	of chapel area	chapel area	of chapel area
Daycare I	2 per facility	2 per facility	2 per facility
Daycare II	1.5 per facility, plus 1 space for each 25 children	2 per facility, plus 1 space for each 20 children	2 per facility, plus 1 space for each 20 children
Religious facility	1 per 100 square feet of gross floor area	1 per 75 square feet of gross floor area	1 per 60 square feet of gross floor area
Veterinary clinic	1 per 400 square feet of office, labs, and examination rooms	1 per 300 square feet of office, labs, and examination rooms	1 per 300 square feet of office, labs, and examination rooms
Artist studios	0.7 per 1,000 square feet of area used for studios	0.8 per 1,000 square feet of area used for studios	0.9 per 1,000 square feet of area used for studios
Hotel/motel	0.8 per room	0.9 per room	1 per room
Bed and breakfast guesthouse	1 per guest room	1 per guest room, plus 1 per facility	1 per guest room, plus 2 per facility
Organizational hotel/lodging	0.8 per room	0.9 per room	1 per room
GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATION (((subsection A. of))) <u>Ordinance 19881,</u> ((s))<u>Section 164.A.</u> (((of this ordinance)))):			

Government uses, if not otherwise specified	1 per 400 square feet	1 per 300 square feet	1 per 300 square feet
Public agency or utility yard	1 per 400 square feet of offices, plus 0.7 per 1,000 square feet of indoor storage or repair areas	1 per 300 square feet of offices, plus 0.9 per 1,000 square feet of indoor storage or repair areas	1 per 300 square feet of offices, plus 0.9 per 1,000 square feet of indoor storage or repair areas
Public agency archives	0.7 per 1,000 square feet of storage area, plus 1 per 60 square feet of waiting/reviewing areas	0.9 per 1,000 square feet of storage area, plus 1 per 50 square feet of waiting/reviewing areas	0.9 per 1,000 square feet of storage area, plus 1 per 50 square feet of waiting/reviewing areas
Court	2 per courtroom, plus 1 per 60 square feet of fixed seat or assembly areas	3 per courtroom, plus 1 per 50 square feet of fixed seat or assembly areas	3 per courtroom, plus 1 per 50 square feet of fixed seat or assembly areas
Police facility	(director)	(director)	(director)
Fire facility	(director)	(director)	(director)

Elementary schools	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 60 students	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 50 students	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 50 students
Middle/junior high schools	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 60 students	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 50 students	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 50 students
Secondary or high schools	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 12 students	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 10 students	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 10 students
Secondary or high schools with stadiums	Greater of 1 per classroom plus 1 per 12 students, or 1 per 4 fixed seats in stadium	Greater of 1 per classroom plus 1 per 10 students, or 1 per 3 fixed seats in stadium	Greater of 1 per classroom plus 1 per 10 students, or 1 per 3 fixed seats in stadium
Vocational schools	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 7 students	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 5 students	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 5 students
BUSINESS SERVICES (K.C.C. 21A.08.060.A.):			
Business services uses, if not otherwise specified	1 per 400 square feet	1 per 350 square feet	1 per 300 square feet
Self-service storage	1 per 5,500 square	1 per 4,500 square feet	1 per 3,500 square

	feet of storage area, plus 1 for any resident manager's unit	of storage area, plus 1 for any resident manager's unit	feet of storage area, plus 2 for any resident manager's unit
Outdoor advertising services	1 per 400 square feet of office, plus 0.7 per 1,000 square feet of storage area	1 per 300 square feet of office, plus 0.9 per 1,000 square feet of storage area	1 per 300 square feet of office, plus 0.9 per 1,000 square feet of storage area
Office	1 per 400 square feet	1 per 350 square feet	1 per 300 square feet
Construction and trade	1 per 1,000 square feet of office, plus 1 per 3,000 square feet of storage area	1 per 750 square feet of office, plus 1 per 3,000 square feet of storage area	1 per 500 square feet of office, plus 1 per 3,000 square feet of storage area
Warehousing and wholesale trade	1 per 400 square feet of office, plus 0.5 per 1,000 square feet of storage area	1 per 300 square feet of office, plus 0.6 per 1,000 square feet of storage area	1 per 300 square feet of office, plus 0.7 per 1,000 square feet of storage area
Heavy equipment repair	1 per 400 square feet of office, plus 0.7	1 per 300 square feet of office, plus 0.9 per	1 per 300 square feet of office, plus

	per 1,000 square feet of indoor repair areas	1,000 square feet of indoor repair areas	0.9 per 1,000 square feet of indoor repair areas
RETAIL (K.C.C. 21A.08.070.A.):			
Retail uses, if not otherwise specified	No minimum required	1 per 500 square feet	1 per 300 square feet
Food stores (retail area 1,000 sf or larger)	3 plus 1 per 700 square feet	3 plus 1 per 500 square feet	3 plus 1 per 350 square feet
Food stores (retail area less than 1,000 sf)	No minimum required	No minimum required	1 per 100 square feet in dining or lounge areas
Restaurants (dining or lounge areas 1,000 sf or larger)	No minimum required	1 per 300 square feet in dining or lounge areas	1 per 100 square feet in dining or lounge areas
Restaurants (dining or lounge areas less than 1,000 sf)	No minimum required	No minimum required	1 per 100 square feet in dining or lounge areas
Remote tasting rooms	No minimum required	1 per 400 square feet of tasting and retail areas	1 per 300 square feet of tasting and retail areas
Gasoline service	3 per facility, plus	3 per facility, plus 1	3 per facility, plus 1

stations	.75 per service bay	per service bay	per service bay
MANUFACTURING (K.C.C. 21A.08.080.A.):			
Manufacturing uses, if not specified elsewhere	0.5 per 1,000 square feet	0.7 per 1,000 square feet	0.9 per 1,000 square feet
Winery/brewery/distillery ((facility II and III))	0.9 per 1,000 square feet, plus 1 per 300 square feet of tasting and retail areas	0.9 per 1,000 square feet, plus 1 per 300 square feet of tasting and retail areas	0.9 per 1,000 square feet, plus 1 per 300 square feet of tasting and retail areas
RESOURCES (K.C.C. 21A.08.090.A.):			
Resource uses	(director)	(director)	(director)
REGIONAL (K.C.C. 21A.08.100.A.):			
Regional uses	(director)	(director)	(director)

1292 B. Off-street parking shall comply with the requirements in K.C.C. chapter

1293 21A.18.

1294 SECTION 9. Ordinance 19881, Section 211, and K.C.C. 21A.xx.xxx are hereby

1295 amended to read as follows:

1296 A. The allowed uses in K.C.C. chapter 21A.08 shall apply, except as provided in
1297 this section.

1298 B. Formula businesses are prohibited in the Vashon Rural Town, except that
1299 formula businesses classified as general business service, food stores, or building
1300 materials and hardware stores are allowed as noted in this section.

1301 C. In the CB zone of the Vashon Rural Town, the allowed uses in K.C.C. chapter
1302 21A.08 are replaced with the uses in this subsection. Where one or more development
1303 conditions is identified in a land use table in K.C.C. chapter 21A.08 for a specific use in
1304 the CB zone, they shall also apply to the following uses:

1305 1. Residential land uses:

1306 a. as a permitted use:

1307 (1) townhouses;

1308 (2) apartments;

1309 (3) senior assisted housing; and

1310 (4) home occupations under K.C.C. chapter 21A.30;

1311 2. Recreational and cultural land uses:

1312 a. as a permitted use:

1313 (1) park;

1314 (2) theater;

1315 (3) bowling center;

1316 (4) library;

1317 (5) museum;

1318 (6) arboretum; and

- 1319 (7) conference center;
- 1320 b. as a conditional use:
- 1321 (1) community center;
- 1322 3. Health care services and residential care services land uses:
- 1323 a. as a permitted use:
- 1324 (1) doctor's office/outpatient clinic;
- 1325 (2) medical or dental lab;
- 1326 (3) social services;
- 1327 (4) nursing and personal care facilities;
- 1328 (5) hospital; and
- 1329 (6) community residential facility I and II;
- 1330 4. Personal services and temporary lodging land uses:
- 1331 a. as a permitted use:
- 1332 (1) beauty and barber shops;
- 1333 (2) shoe repair shops;
- 1334 (3) laundry, cleaning, and garment services;
- 1335 (4) drycleaners and garment pressing;
- 1336 (5) carpet and upholstery cleaning;
- 1337 (6) sports club;
- 1338 (7) specialized instruction school;
- 1339 (8) funeral home/crematory;
- 1340 (9) daycare I;
- 1341 (10) daycare II;

- 1342 (11) automotive repair;
- 1343 (12) miscellaneous repair;
- 1344 (13) religious facility;
- 1345 (14) veterinary clinic;
- 1346 (15) commercial kennel;
- 1347 (16) interim recycling facility;
- 1348 (17) hotel/motel;
- 1349 (18) bed and breakfast guesthouse;
- 1350 (19) industrial launderers;
- 1351 (20) drycleaning plants; and
- 1352 (21) theatrical production services;
- 1353 5. Government and education land uses:
- 1354 a. as a permitted use:
- 1355 (1) public agency or utility office;
- 1356 (2) police facility;
- 1357 (3) utility facility;
- 1358 (4) private stormwater management facility;
- 1359 (5) commuter parking lot; and
- 1360 (6) secondary or high school;
- 1361 6. Business services land uses:
- 1362 a. as a permitted use:
- 1363 (1) individual transportation and taxi;
- 1364 (2) trucking and courier service;

- 1365 (3) self-service storage;
- 1366 (4) passenger transportation service;
- 1367 (5) telegraph and other communications (excluding towers);
- 1368 (6) general business service;
- 1369 (7) professional office;
- 1370 (8) miscellaneous equipment rental;
- 1371 (9) automotive parking; and
- 1372 (10) commercial/industrial accessory uses (administrative offices, employee
- 1373 exercise and food service facilities, storage of agricultural raw materials or products
- 1374 manufactured on-site, owner/caretaker residence, grounds maintenance);
- 1375 7. Retail land uses:
- 1376 a. as a permitted use:
- 1377 (1) building materials and hardware stores;
- 1378 (2) retail nursery, garden center, and farm supply stores;
- 1379 (3) department and variety stores;
- 1380 (4) food stores;
- 1381 (5) farmers market;
- 1382 (6) auto supply stores;
- 1383 (7) apparel and accessory stores;
- 1384 (8) furniture and home furnishings stores;
- 1385 (9) eating and drinking places;
- 1386 (10) remote tasting rooms;
- 1387 (11) drug stores;

- 1388 (12) liquor stores;
- 1389 (13) used goods: antiques/secondhand shops;
- 1390 (14) sporting goods and related stores;
- 1391 (15) book, stationery, video, and art supply stores;
- 1392 (16) jewelry stores;
- 1393 (17) hobby, toy, game shops;
- 1394 (18) photographic and electronic shops;
- 1395 (19) photographic and electronic shops;
- 1396 (20) fabric shops;
- 1397 (21) florist shops;
- 1398 (22) personal medical supply stores;
- 1399 (23) pet shops; and
- 1400 (24) cannabis retailer;
- 1401 8. Manufacturing land uses:
- 1402 a. as a permitted use:
- 1403 (1) cannabis processor I;
- 1404 (2) printing and publishing; and
- 1405 (3) winery/brewery/distillery; and
- 1406 9. Regional land uses:
- 1407 a. as a permitted use:
- 1408 (1) wastewater treatment facility.
- 1409 D. In the I zone of the Vashon Rural Town, the allowed uses in K.C.C. chapter
- 1410 21A.08 are replaced with the uses in this subsection. Where one or more development

1411 conditions is identified in a land use table in K.C.C. chapter 21A.08 for a specific use in
1412 the I zone, they shall also apply to the following uses.

1413 1. Recreational and cultural land uses:

1414 a. as a permitted use:

1415 (1) Park;

1416 (2) Trails;

1417 (3) Campgrounds;

1418 (4) Theater;

1419 (5) Bowling Center;

1420 (6) Amusement and recreation services; and

1421 (7) Museum;

1422 2. Health care services and residential care services land uses:

1423 a. as a permitted use:

1424 (1) doctor's office/outpatient clinic; and

1425 (2) medical or dental lab;

1426 3. Personal services and temporary lodging land uses:

1427 a. as a permitted use:

1428 (1) specialized instruction school;

1429 (2) beauty and barber shops;

1430 (3) shoe repair shops;

1431 (4) laundry, cleaning and garment services;

1432 (5) drycleaners and garment pressing;

1433 (6) carpet and upholstery cleaning;

- 1434 (7) daycare I;
- 1435 (8) daycare II;
- 1436 (9) veterinary clinic, subject to K.C.C. 21A.08.050.B.10.;
- 1437 (10) automotive repair;
- 1438 (11) automotive service;
- 1439 (12) miscellaneous repair;
- 1440 (13) animal specialty services;
- 1441 (14) dog training facilities;
- 1442 (15) artist studios; and
- 1443 (16) interim recycling facility;
- 1444 4. Government and education land uses:
- 1445 a. as a permitted use:
- 1446 (1) public agency or utility office;
- 1447 (2) public agency or utility yard;
- 1448 (3) public agency archives;
- 1449 (4) police facility;
- 1450 (5) fire facility;
- 1451 (6) utility facility;
- 1452 (7) commuter parking lot;
- 1453 (8) private stormwater management facility;
- 1454 (9) vector waste receiving facility;
- 1455 (10) vocational school; and
- 1456 (11) school district support facility;

- 1457 5. Business services land uses:
- 1458 a. as a permitted use:
- 1459 (1) individual transportation and taxi;
- 1460 (2) self-service storage;
- 1461 (3) farm product warehousing, refrigeration, and storage;
- 1462 (4) communication offices;
- 1463 (5) telegraph and other communications;
- 1464 (6) general business service;
- 1465 (7) professional office;
- 1466 (8) outdoor advertising service;
- 1467 (9) automotive rental and leasing;
- 1468 (10) automotive parking;
- 1469 (11) off-street required parking lot;
- 1470 (12) construction and trade;
- 1471 (13) warehousing and wholesale trade;
- 1472 (14) log storage;
- 1473 (15) transportation service;
- 1474 (16) trucking and courier service;
- 1475 (17) freight and cargo service;
- 1476 (18) miscellaneous equipment rental;
- 1477 (19) research, development, and testing;
- 1478 (20) heavy equipment and truck repair;

1479 (21) commercial/industrial accessory uses (administrative offices, employee
1480 exercise and food service facilities, storage of agricultural raw materials or products
1481 manufactured on-site, owner/caretaker residence, grounds maintenance); and

1482 (22) helistop, as a conditional use;

1483 6. Retail land uses:

1484 a. as a permitted use:

1485 (1) food stores;

1486 (2) agricultural product sales;

1487 (3) farmers market;

1488 (4) motor vehicles and boat dealers;

1489 (5) auto supply stores;

1490 (6) gasoline service stations;

1491 (7) eating and drinking places;

1492 (8) sporting goods and related stores;

1493 (9) fuel dealers;

1494 (10) auction houses; and

1495 (11) livestock sales;

1496 7. Manufacturing land uses:

1497 a. as a permitted use:

1498 (1) food and kindred products;

1499 (2) winery/brewery/distillery ~~((facility II;))~~

1500 (3) ~~((winery/brewery/distillery facility III;~~

1501 ~~(4)))~~ materials processing facility;

- 1502 ~~((5))~~ (4) textile mill products;
- 1503 ~~((6))~~ (5) apparel and other textile products;
- 1504 ~~((7))~~ (6) wood products, except furniture;
- 1505 ~~((8))~~ (7) furniture and fixtures;
- 1506 ~~((9))~~ (8) paper and allied products, limited to ten thousand square feet;
- 1507 ~~((10))~~ (9) printing and publishing;
- 1508 ~~((11))~~ (10) cannabis processor ii;
- 1509 ~~((12))~~ (11) leather and leather goods, limited to ten thousand square feet;;
- 1510 ~~((13))~~ (12) stone, clay, glass, and concrete products, limited to ten thousand
- 1511 square feet;
- 1512 ~~((14))~~ (13) fabricated metal products;
- 1513 ~~((15))~~ (14) industrial and commercial machinery;
- 1514 ~~((16))~~ (15) computer and office equipment;
- 1515 ~~((17))~~ (16) electronic and other electric equipment;
- 1516 ~~((18))~~ (17) measuring and controlling instruments;
- 1517 ~~((19))~~ (18) miscellaneous light manufacturing; and
- 1518 ~~((20))~~ (17) aircraft, ship, and boat building, limited to small boats under 30
- 1519 feet length;
- 1520 8. Resource land uses:
- 1521 a. as a permitted use:
- 1522 (1) growing and harvesting crops;
- 1523 (b) raising livestock and small animals, excluding feed lots and auctions;
- 1524 (c) cannabis producer;

- 1525 (d) growing and harvesting forest production;
1526 (e) forest research;
1527 (f) hatchery/fish preserve;
1528 (g) aquaculture; and
1529 (h) resource accessory uses;
- 1530 9. Regional land uses:
- 1531 a. as a permitted use:
- 1532 (1) public agency animal control facility;
1533 (2) public agency training facility;
1534 (3) renewable energy generation facility;
1535 (4) communication facility;
1536 (5) municipal water production;
1537 (6) airport/heliport, limited to heliports only;
1538 (7) rural public infrastructure maintenance facility;
1539 (8) transit bus base;
1540 (9) transit comfort facility;
1541 (10) school bus base; and
1542 (11) fairground.
- 1543 2. Uses shall not require substantial investments in infrastructure, such as water,
1544 sewers, or transportation, or facilities that generate substantial volumes of heavy gross-
1545 weight truck trips.
- 1546 3. Developments shall maintain rural character through site and building design,
1547 buffering, and compatible commercial and industrial uses as follows:

- 1548 a. All uses occurring outside an enclosed building shall be screened from
1549 adjoining residential uses in RA zones;
- 1550 b. The landscaping standards in K.C.C. chapter 21A.16 are modified as
1551 follows:
- 1552 (1) Twenty-foot-wide Type II landscaping shall be provided along exterior
1553 streets;
- 1554 (2) Twenty-foot-wide Type I landscaping shall be provided along property
1555 lines adjacent to RA or R zoned areas; and
- 1556 (3) Fifteen-foot-wide Type II landscaping shall be provided along lines
1557 adjacent to nonresidential zoned areas;
- 1558 c. Outdoor lighting shall be focused downward and configured to minimize
1559 intrusion of light into surrounding RA or R-zoned areas;
- 1560 d. Refuse collection, recycling, and loading or delivery areas shall be located at
1561 least one hundred feet from RA, UR, and R zones and screened with a solid view-
1562 obscuring barrier;
- 1563 e. Off-street parking shall be no less than one space for every one thousand
1564 square feet of floor area and no greater than one space for every five hundred square feet
1565 of floor area;
- 1566 f. Sign are allowed as follows:
- 1567 (1) Signs shall not exceed an area of sixty-four square feet per sign;
- 1568 (2) Pole signs are prohibited; and
- 1569 (3) Signs shall not be internally illuminated; and

1570 g. The director shall approve building design, materials, and color. Buildings
1571 shall be designed and use accent materials such as wood and brick, nonreflective glass,
1572 and muted colors to be compatible with rural character.

1573 SECTION 10. Ordinance 10870, Section 407, as amended, and K.C.C.

1574 21A.18.030 are hereby amended to read as follows:

1575 A.1. The required number of off-street parking spaces shall be provided in
1576 accordance with this title. If a parking ratio is not specified in K.C.C. chapters 21A.xx,
1577 21A.xx, 21A.xx, 21A.xx, or 21A.xx (the chapters created by Ordinance 19881,
1578 ~~((s))Sections 170, 195, 203, 209, 217, and 224 ((of this ordinance)))~~), special district
1579 overlay, or property-specific development conditions, parking shall be provided using the
1580 table in subsection A.4. of this section.

1581 2. Off-street parking ratios shall be based on the usable or net floor area,
1582 exclusive of nonoccupied areas. For the purposes of this section, "nonoccupied areas"
1583 include, but are not limited to, building maintenance areas, storage areas, closets, or
1584 restrooms.

1585 3. If the calculation for determining the number of off-street parking spaces
1586 results in a fraction, the number of off-street parking spaces shall be rounded to the
1587 nearest whole number with fractions of 0.50 or greater rounded up and fractions below
1588 0.50 rounded down.

1589 4. Minimum Required Parking Spaces.

LAND USE	MINIMUM PARKING SPACES REQUIRED
RESIDENTIAL (K.C.C. 21A.08.030.A.):	

Any residential use within a 1/2 mile watershed of a high-capacity or frequent transit stop as mapped by the Metro Transit Department	1.2 per dwelling unit or the minimum required for the use, whichever is lower
Inclusionary housing (K.C.C. chapter 21A.48)	Per K.C.C. 21A.48.050
Single detached residence/Townhouse	2.0 per dwelling unit
Duplex or Houseplex	1.5 per dwelling unit
Apartment:	
Studio units	1.2 per dwelling unit
One bedroom units	1.5 per dwelling unit
Two bedroom units	1.7 per dwelling unit
Three bedroom units or larger	2.0 per dwelling unit
Manufactured home community	2.0 per dwelling unit
Senior assisted housing	1 per 2 dwelling or sleeping units
Congregate residence	1 per 2 dwelling or sleeping units
Cottage housing	1 per dwelling unit
HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND RESIDENTIAL CARE SERVICES ((subsection A. of) <u>Ordinance 19881</u>, ((s))<u>Section 162.A</u>, ((of this ordinance)))	
Health care and residential care	1 per 300 square feet of office, labs, examination

services, if not otherwise specified	or patient room
Hospital	1 per bed
Nursing and personal care facility	1 per 4 beds
Adult family home	2 per home
Community residential facilities	1 per 2 bedrooms
Permanent supportive housing	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 20 dwelling units
Recuperative housing	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 10 sleeping unit
Emergency supportive housing	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 20 sleeping unit
Microshelter villages	1 per 2 employees plus 1 per 20 microshelters
RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL (K.C.C. 21A.08.040.A.):	
Recreational and cultural uses, if not otherwise specified	1 per 300 square feet
Bowling center	5 per lane
Golf course	3 per hole, plus 1 per 300 square feet of club house facilities
Tennis Club	4 per tennis court plus 1 per 300 square feet of clubhouse facility
Golf driving range	1 per tee
Park/playfield/paintball	(director)
Theater	1 per 3 fixed seats
Conference center	Greater of 1 per 3 fixed seats plus 1 per 50 square feet used for assembly purposes without fixed

	seats, or 1 per hotel room.
PERSONAL SERVICES AND TEMPORARY LODGING (K.C.C. 21A.08.050.A.):	
Personal services and temporary lodging, if not otherwise specified	1 per 300 square feet
Specialized instruction schools	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 2 students
Funeral home/Crematory	1 per 50 square feet of chapel area
Daycare I	2 per facility
Daycare II	2 per facility, plus 1 space for each 20 children
Religious facility	1 per 5 fixed seats, plus 1 per 50 square feet of gross floor area without fixed seats used for assembly purposes
Veterinary clinic	1 per 300 square feet of office, labs, and examination rooms
Hotel/motel	1 per room
Organizational hotel/lodging	1 per room
Bed and breakfast guesthouse	1 per guest room, plus 2 per facility
GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATION (((subsection A. of)) <u>Ordinance</u>, ((s))<u>Section 164.A.</u> (((of this ordinance)))):	
Government uses, if not otherwise specified	1 per 300 square feet
Public agency yard	1 per 300 square feet of offices, plus 0.9 per

	1,000 square feet of indoor storage or repair areas
Public agency archives	0.9 per 1,000 square feet of storage area, plus 1 per 50 square feet of waiting/reviewing areas
Courts	3 per courtroom, plus 1 per 50 square feet of fixed seat or assembly areas
Police facility	(director)
Fire facility	(director)
Elementary schools	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 50 students
Middle/junior high schools	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 50 students
Secondary or high schools	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 10 students
Secondary or high schools with stadiums	Greater of 1 per classroom plus 1 per 10 students, or 1 per 3 fixed seats in stadium
Vocational schools	1 per classroom, plus 1 per 5 students
Artist Studios	0.9 per 1,000 square feet of area used for studios
BUSINESS SERVICES (K.C.C. 21A.08.060.A.):	
Business services uses, if not otherwise specified	1 per 300 square feet
Construction and trade	1 per 300 square feet of office, plus 1 per 3,000 square feet of storage area
Warehousing and storage	1 per 300 square feet of office, plus 0.9 per 1,000 square feet of storage area
Self-service storage	1 per 3,500 square feet of storage area, plus 2 for

	any resident director's unit
Outdoor advertising services	1 per 300 square feet of office, plus 0.9 per 1,000 square feet of storage area
Heavy equipment repair	1 per 300 square feet of office, plus 0.9 per 1,000 square feet of indoor repair areas
Office	1 per 300 square feet
RETAIL (K.C.C. 21A.08.070.A.):	
Retail uses, if not otherwise specified	1 per 300 square feet
Food stores, less than 15,000 square feet	3 plus 1 per 350 square feet
Gasoline service stations without grocery	3 per facility, plus 1 per service bay
Gasoline service stations with grocery, no service bays	1 per facility, plus 1 per 300 square feet of store
Restaurants	1 per 75 square feet in dining or lounge areas
Remote tasting rooms	1 per 300 square feet of tasting and retail areas
Wholesale trade uses	0.9 per 1000 square feet
MANUFACTURING (K.C.C. 21A.08.080.A.):	
Manufacturing uses	0.9 per 1,000 square feet
Winery/Brewery/Distillery (Facility II and III)	0.9 per 1,000 square feet, plus 1 per 300 square feet of tasting and retail areas

RESOURCES (K.C.C. 21A.08.090.A.):	
Resource uses	(director)
REGIONAL (K.C.C. 21A.08.100.A.):	
Regional uses	(director)

1590 B. An applicant may request a modification of the minimum required number of
1591 parking spaces by demonstrating that parking demand can be met with a reduced parking
1592 requirement. In such cases, the director may approve a reduction of up to fifty percent of
1593 the minimum required number of spaces.

1594 C. When the county has received a shell building permit application, off-street
1595 parking requirements shall be based on the possible tenant improvements or uses
1596 authorized by the zoning classification and compatible with the limitations of the shell
1597 permit. When the range of possible uses result in different parking requirements, the
1598 director will establish the amount of parking based on a likely range of uses.

1599 D. Where other provisions of this code stipulate maximum parking allowed or
1600 reduced minimum parking requirements, those provisions shall apply.

1601 E.1. In any development required to provide six or more parking spaces, bicycle
1602 parking shall be provided. Bicycle parking shall be bike racks or locker-type parking
1603 facilities unless otherwise specified.

1604 2. At least one bicycle parking space for every twelve required parking spaces
1605 except as follows:

1606 a. The director may reduce bicycle parking facilities for patrons when it is
1607 demonstrated that bicycle activity will not occur at that location.

1608 b. The director may require additional spaces when it is determined that the
1609 use or its location will generate a high volume of bicycle activity. Such a determination
1610 will include, but not be limited to, the following uses:

1611 (1) Park/playfield;

1612 (2) Marina;

1613 (3) Library/museum/arboretum;

1614 (4) Elementary/secondary school;

1615 (5) Sports club; or

1616 (6) Retail business (when located along a developed bicycle trail or
1617 designated bicycle route).

1618 3. Bicycle parking for patrons shall be located within 100 feet of the building
1619 entrance and shall be designed to allow either a bicycle frame or wheels to be locked to a
1620 structure attached to the pavement.

1621 4. All bicycle parking and storage shall be located in safe, visible, and well-lit
1622 areas that do not impede pedestrian or vehicle traffic flow.

1623 5. When more than ten people are employed on-site, enclosed locker-type
1624 parking facilities for employees shall be provided. The director shall allocate the
1625 required number of parking spaces between bike rack parking and enclosed locker-type
1626 parking facilities.

1627 6. One indoor bicycle storage space shall be provided for every two dwelling
1628 units in townhouses and apartments, unless individual garages are provided for every

unit. The director may reduce the number of bicycle parking spaces if indoor storage facilities are available to all residents.

SECTION 11. Ordinance 10870, Section 536, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.30.080 are hereby amended to read as follows:

In the R, UR, NB, CB, and RB zones, residents of a dwelling unit may conduct one or more home occupations as accessory activities, as follows:

A. The total floor area of the dwelling unit devoted to all home occupations shall not exceed twenty percent of the floor area of the dwelling unit;

B. Areas within garages and storage buildings shall not be considered part of the dwelling unit and may be used for activities associated with the home occupation;

C. All the activities of the home occupation or occupations shall be conducted indoors, except for those related to growing or storing of plants used by the home occupation or occupations;

D. The dwelling unit shall be the primary residence of the owner of the home occupation business. A home occupation or occupations is not limited in the number of employees that remain off-site. No more than one nonresident employee shall be allowed to work on-site for the home occupation or occupations;

E. The following uses, by the nature of their operation or investment, tend to increase beyond the limits allowed for home occupations. Therefore, the following shall not be allowed as home occupations:

1. Automobile, truck, and heavy equipment repair;
2. Auto body work or painting;
3. Parking and storage of heavy equipment;

- 1652 4. Storage of building materials for use on other properties;
- 1653 5. Hotels, motels, or organizational lodging;
- 1654 6. Dry cleaning;
- 1655 7. Towing services;
- 1656 8. Trucking, storage, or self service, except for parking or storage of one
- 1657 commercial vehicle used in home occupation;
- 1658 9. Veterinary clinic;
- 1659 10. Recreational cannabis processor, recreational cannabis producer, or
- 1660 recreational cannabis retailer; and
- 1661 11. Winery, brewery, distillery ((facility I, II and III)), and remote tasting
- 1662 room((, except that home occupation adult beverage businesses operating under an active
- 1663 Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board production license issued for their current
- 1664 location before December 31, 2019, and where King County did not object to the location
- 1665 during the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board license application process, shall
- 1666 be considered legally nonconforming and allowed to remain in their current location
- 1667 subject to K.C.C. 21A.32.020 through 21A.32.075 if the use is in compliance with this
- 1668 section as of December 31, 2019. Such nonconforming businesses shall remain subject
- 1669 to all other requirements of this section and other applicable state and local regulations.
- 1670 The resident operator of a nonconforming winery, brewery or distillery home occupation
- 1671 shall obtain an adult beverage business license in accordance with K.C.C. chapter 6.74))
- 1672 uses;
- 1673 F. In addition to required parking for the dwelling unit, on-site parking is
- 1674 provided as follows:

- 1675 1. One stall for each nonresident employed by the home occupations; and
1676 2. One stall for patrons when services are rendered on-site;
- 1677 G. Sales are limited to:
- 1678 1. Mail order sales;
- 1679 2. Telephone, Internet, or other electronic commerce sales with off-site delivery;
- 1680 and
- 1681 3. Items accessory to a service provided to patrons who receive services on the
1682 premises;
- 1683 H. On-site services to patrons are arranged by appointment;
- 1684 I. The home occupation or occupations use or store a vehicle for pickup of
1685 materials used by the home occupation or occupations or the distribution of products
1686 from the site, only if:
- 1687 1. No more than one such a vehicle is allowed; and
- 1688 2. The vehicle is not stored within any required setback areas of the lot or on
1689 adjacent streets; and
- 1690 3. The vehicle does not exceed an equivalent licensed gross vehicle weight of
1691 one ton;
- 1692 J. The home occupation or occupations do not:
- 1693 1. Use electrical or mechanical equipment that results in a change to the
1694 occupancy type of the structure or structures used for the home occupation or
1695 occupations; or

2. Cause visual or audible interference in radio receivers, television receivers, or electronic equipment located off-premises, or cause fluctuations in line voltage off-premises;

K. There shall be no exterior evidence of a home occupation, other than growing or storing of plants under subsection C. of this section or an allowed sign, that would cause the premises to differ from its residential character. Exterior evidence includes, but is not limited to, lighting and the generation or emission of noise, fumes, or vibrations as determined by using normal senses from any lot line or on average increase vehicular traffic by more than four additional vehicles at any given time;

L. Customer visits and deliveries shall be limited to 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on weekdays, and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekends; and

M. Uses not allowed as home occupations may be allowed as a home industry under K.C.C. 21A.30.090.

SECTION 12. Ordinance 15606, Section 20, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.30.085 are hereby amended to read as follows:

In the A, F, and RA zones, residents of a dwelling unit may conduct one or more home occupations as accessory activities, as follows:

A. The total floor area of the dwelling unit devoted to all home occupations shall not exceed twenty percent of the dwelling unit;

B. Areas within garages and storage buildings shall not be considered part of the dwelling unit and may be used for activities associated with the home occupation;

C. Total outdoor area of all home occupations shall be as follows:

1. For any lot less than one acre: Four hundred forty square feet; and

- 1719 2. For lots one acre or greater: One percent of the area of the lot, up to a
1720 maximum of five thousand square feet;
- 1721 D. Outdoor storage areas and parking areas related to home occupations shall be:
- 1722 1. No less than twenty-five feet from any property line; and
- 1723 2. Screened along the portions of such areas that can be seen from an adjacent
1724 parcel or roadway by the:
- 1725 a. planting of Type II landscape buffering; or
- 1726 b. use of existing vegetation that meets or can be augmented with additional
1727 plantings to meet the intent of Type II landscaping;
- 1728 E. The dwelling unit shall be the primary residence of the owner of the home
1729 occupation business. A home occupation or occupations is not limited in the number of
1730 employees that remain off-site. Regardless of the number of home occupations, the
1731 number of nonresident employees is limited to no more than three who work on-site at
1732 the same time;
- 1733 F. In addition to required parking for the dwelling unit, on-site parking is
1734 provided as follows:
- 1735 1. One space for each nonresident employed on-site; and
- 1736 2. One space for patrons when services are rendered on-site;
- 1737 G. Sales are limited to:
- 1738 1. Mail order sales;
- 1739 2. Telephone, Internet, or other electronic commerce sales with off-site delivery;
- 1740 3. Items accessory to a service provided to patrons who receive services on the
1741 premises;

- 1742 4. Items grown, produced, or fabricated on-site; and
- 1743 5. On sites five acres or larger, items that support agriculture, equestrian, or
- 1744 forestry uses except for the following:
- 1745 a. motor vehicles and parts (SIC Major Group 55);
- 1746 b. electronics and appliances (SIC Industry Groups and Industries 504, 506,
- 1747 5731, 5734, 5722, and 5946); and
- 1748 c. building material and garden equipment and supplies (SIC Major Group 52);
- 1749 H. The home occupation or occupations do not:
- 1750 1. Use electrical or mechanical equipment that results in a change to the
- 1751 occupancy type of the structure or structures used for the home occupation or
- 1752 occupations;
- 1753 2. Cause visual or audible interference in radio or television receivers, or
- 1754 electronic equipment located off-premises or fluctuations in line voltage off-premises; or
- 1755 3. Increase average vehicular traffic by more than four additional vehicles at any
- 1756 given time;
- 1757 I. Customer visits and deliveries shall be limited to 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on
- 1758 weekdays, and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekends;
- 1759 J. The following uses, by the nature of their operation or investment, tend to
- 1760 increase beyond the limits allowed for home occupations. Therefore, the following shall
- 1761 not be allowed as home occupations:
- 1762 1. Hotels, motels, or organizational lodging;
- 1763 2. Dry cleaning;

1764 3. Automotive towing services, automotive wrecking services, and tow-in
1765 parking lots;

1766 4. Recreational cannabis processor, recreational cannabis producer, or
1767 recreational cannabis retailer; and

1768 5. Winery, brewery, distillery ((~~facility I, II and III~~)), and remote tasting
1769 room(~~(s, except that home occupation adult beverage businesses operating under an~~
1770 ~~active Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board production license issued for their~~
1771 ~~current location before December 31, 2019, and where King County did not object to the~~
1772 ~~location during the Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board license application~~
1773 ~~process, shall be considered legally nonconforming and allowed to remain in their current~~
1774 ~~location subject to K.C.C. 21A.32.020 through 21A.32.075 if the use is in compliance~~
1775 ~~with this section as of December 31, 2019. Such nonconforming businesses shall remain~~
1776 ~~subject to all other requirements of this section and all applicable state and local~~
1777 ~~regulations. The resident operator of a nonconforming home occupation winery, brewery~~
1778 ~~or distillery shall obtain an adult beverage business license in accordance with K.C.C.~~
1779 ~~chapter 6.74)) uses;~~

1780 K. Uses not allowed as home occupation may be allowed as a home industry
1781 under K.C.C. chapter 21A.30; and

1782 L. The home occupation or occupations may use or store vehicles, as follows:

1783 1. The total number of vehicles for all home occupations shall be:

1784 a. for any lot five acres or less: two;

1785 b. for lots greater than five acres: three; and

1786 c. for lots greater than ten acres: four;

1787 2. The vehicles are not stored within any required setback areas of the lot or on
1788 adjacent streets; and

1789 3. The parking area for the vehicles shall not be considered part of the outdoor
1790 storage area provided for in subsection C. of this section.

1791 SECTION 13. Ordinance 10870, Section 537, as amended, and K.C.C.

1792 21A.30.090 are hereby amended to read as follows:

1793 A resident of a dwelling unit may establish a home industry as an accessory
1794 activity, as follows:

1795 A. The site area is one acre or greater;

1796 B. The area of the dwelling unit used for the home industry does not exceed fifty
1797 percent of the floor area of the dwelling unit;

1798 C. Areas within attached garages and storage buildings shall not be considered
1799 part of the dwelling unit for purposes of calculating allowable home industry area but
1800 may be used for storage of goods associated with the home industry;

1801 D. The dwelling unit shall be the primary residence of the owner of the home
1802 occupation business. No more than six nonresidents who work on-site at the time;

1803 E. In addition to required parking for the dwelling unit, on-site parking is
1804 provided as follows:

1805 1. One space for each nonresident employee of the home industry; and

1806 2. One space for customer parking;

1807 F. Additional customer parking shall be calculated for areas devoted to the home
1808 industry at the rate of one stall per:

1809 1. One thousand square feet of building floor area; and

1810 2. Two thousand square feet of outdoor work or storage area;

1811 G. Sales are limited to items produced on-site, except for items collected, traded,

1812 and occasionally sold by hobbyists, such as coins, stamps, and antiques;

1813 H. Ten feet of Type I landscaping are provided around portions of parking and

1814 outside storage areas that are otherwise visible from adjacent properties or public rights-

1815 of-way;

1816 I. The department ensures compatibility of the home industry by:

1817 1. Limiting the type and size of equipment used by the home industry to those

1818 that are compatible with the surrounding neighborhood;

1819 2. Providing for setbacks or screening as needed to protect adjacent residential

1820 properties;

1821 3. Specifying hours of operation;

1822 4. Determining acceptable levels of outdoor lighting; and

1823 5. Requiring sound level tests for activities determined to produce sound levels

1824 that may be in excess of those in K.C.C. chapter 12.88;

1825 J. Recreational cannabis processors, recreational cannabis producers, and

1826 recreational cannabis retailers shall not be allowed as home industry; and

1827 K. Winery, brewery, distillery (~~((facility I, II and III))~~), and remote tasting room

1828 uses shall not be allowed as home industry(~~((, except that home industry adult beverage~~

1829 ~~businesses that have, in accordance with K.C.C. 20.20.070, a vested conditional use~~

1830 ~~permit application before December 31, 2019, shall be considered legally nonconforming~~

1831 ~~and allowed to remain in their current location subject to K.C.C. 21A.32.020 through~~

1832 ~~21A.32.075. Such nonconforming businesses remain subject to all other requirements of~~

~~this section and all applicable state and local regulations. The resident operator of a nonconforming winery, brewery or distillery home industry shall obtain an adult beverage business license in accordance with K.C.C. chapter 6.74)).~~

SECTION 14. Ordinance 10870, Section 547, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.32.100 are hereby amended to read as follows:

Except as provided by K.C.C. 21A.32.110, a temporary use permit shall be required for any of the following:

A. A use not otherwise permitted in the zone that can be made compatible for a period of up to sixty days a year; or

B. The expansion of an established use that :

1. Is otherwise allowed in the zone;
2. Is not inconsistent with the original land use approval;
3. Exceeds the scope of the original land use approval; and
4. Can be made compatible with the zone for a period of up to sixty days a year(~~;~~or

~~C. Events at a winery, brewery, distillery facility or remote tasting room that include one or more of the following activities:~~

- ~~1. Exceeds the permitted building occupancy;~~
- ~~2. Utilizes portable toilets;~~
- ~~3. Utilizes parking that exceeds the maximum number of spaces allowed by this title on-site or utilizes off-site parking;~~
- ~~4. Utilizes temporary stages;~~
- ~~5. Utilizes temporary tents or canopies that require a permit;~~

1856 ~~6. Requires traffic control for public rights of way; or~~
1857 ~~7. Extends beyond allowed hours of operation)).~~

1858 SECTION 15. Ordinance 10870, Section 548, as amended, and K.C.C.
1859 21A.32.110 are hereby amended to read as follows:

1860 A. The following uses shall be exempt from requirements for a temporary use
1861 permit when located in the RB, CB, NB, O₂ or I zones for the time period specified
1862 below:

1863 1. Uses not to exceed a total of thirty days each calendar year:

1864 a. Christmas tree lots; and

1865 b. Produce stands.

1866 2. Uses not to exceed a total of fourteen days each calendar year:

1867 a. Amusement rides, carnivals, or circuses;

1868 b. Community festivals; and

1869 c. Parking lot sales.

1870 B. Any use not exceeding a cumulative total of two days each calendar year shall
1871 be exempt from requirements for a temporary use permit.

1872 C. Any community event held in a park and not exceeding a period of seven days
1873 shall be exempt from requirements for a temporary use permit.

1874 D. Christmas tree sales not exceeding a total of thirty days each calendar year
1875 when located on Rural Area (RA) zoned property with legally established non-residential
1876 uses shall be exempt from requirements for a temporary use permit.

1877 ~~((E.1. Events at a winery, brewery, distillery facility II or III shall not require a~~
1878 ~~temporary use permit if:~~

1879 a. ~~The business is operating under an active Washington state Liquor and~~
1880 ~~Cannabis Board production license issued for their current location before December 31,~~
1881 ~~2019, and where King County did not object to the location during the Washington state~~
1882 ~~Liquor and Cannabis Board license application process;~~

1883 b. ~~The parcel is at least eight acres in size;~~

1884 c. ~~The structures used for the event maintain a setback of at least one hundred~~
1885 ~~fifty feet from interior property lines;~~

1886 d. ~~The parcel is located in the RA zone;~~

1887 e. ~~The parcel has access directly from and to a principal arterial or state~~
1888 ~~highway;~~

1889 f. ~~The event does not use amplified sound outdoors before 12:00 p.m. or after~~
1890 ~~8:00 p.m.~~

1891 2. ~~Events that meet the provisions in this subsection E. shall not be subject to~~
1892 ~~the provisions of K.C.C. 21A.32.120, as long as the events occur no more frequently than~~
1893 ~~an annual average of eight days per month.))~~

1894 SECTION 16. Ordinance 10870, Section 549, as amended, and K.C.C.
1895 21A.32.120 are hereby amended to read as follows:

1896 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter or in K.C.C. chapter 21A.45,
1897 temporary use permits shall be limited in duration and frequency as follows:

1898 A. The temporary use permit shall be effective for one year from the date of
1899 issuance and may be renewed annually as provided in subsection D. of this section;

1900 B. ~~((1-))~~ The temporary use shall not exceed a total of sixty days in any three-
1901 hundred-sixty-five-day period. For a winery in the A or RA zones, the temporary use

1902 shall not exceed a total of two events per month and all parking for the events must be
1903 accommodated on site. This subsection B.((1-)) applies only to the days that the event or
1904 events actually take place((-

1905 2. ~~For a winery, brewery, distillery facility II and III in the A zone, the~~
1906 ~~temporary use shall not exceed a total of two events per month and all event parking must~~
1907 ~~be accommodated on-site or managed through a parking management plan approved by~~
1908 ~~the director. This subsection B.2. applies only to the days that the event or events~~
1909 ~~actually take place.~~

1910 3. ~~For a winery, brewery, distillery facility II and III in the RA zone, the~~
1911 ~~temporary use shall not exceed a total of twenty four days in any three hundred sixty~~
1912 ~~five day period and all event parking must be accommodated on-site or managed through~~
1913 ~~a parking management plan approved by the director. This subsection B.3. applies only~~
1914 ~~to the days that the event or events actually take place.~~

1915 4. ~~For a winery, brewery, distillery facility II in the A or RA zones, in addition~~
1916 ~~to all other relevant facts, the department shall consider building occupancy and parking~~
1917 ~~limitations during permit review, and shall condition the number of guests allowed for a~~
1918 ~~temporary use based on those limitations. The department shall not authorize attendance~~
1919 ~~of more than one hundred fifty guests.~~

1920 5. ~~For a winery, brewery, distillery facility III in the A or RA zones, in addition~~
1921 ~~to all other relevant facts, the department shall consider building occupancy and parking~~
1922 ~~limitations during permit review, and shall condition the number of guests allowed for a~~
1923 ~~temporary use based on those limitations. The department shall not authorize attendance~~
1924 ~~of more than two hundred fifty guests.~~

1925 6. ~~Events for any winery, brewery, distillery facility I in the RA zone, any~~
1926 ~~nonconforming winery, brewery, distillery facility home occupation, or any~~
1927 ~~nonconforming winery, brewery, distillery facility home industry shall be limited to two~~
1928 ~~per year, and limited to a maximum of fifty guests. If the event complies with this~~
1929 ~~subsection B.6., a temporary use permit is not required for a special event for a winery,~~
1930 ~~brewery, distillery facility I in the RA zone, a nonconforming home occupation winery,~~
1931 ~~brewery, distillery facility or a nonconforming home industry winery, brewery, distillery~~
1932 ~~facility.~~

1933 7. ~~For a winery, brewery, distillery facility II and III in the RA zone, events~~
1934 ~~exempted under K.C.C 21A.32.110.E. from the requirement to obtain a temporary use~~
1935 ~~permit shall not be subject to the provisions of this section));~~

1936 C. The temporary use permit shall specify a date upon which the use shall be
1937 terminated and removed; and

1938 D. A temporary use permit may be renewed annually for up to a total of five
1939 consecutive years as follows:

1940 1. The applicant shall make a written request and pay the applicable permit
1941 extension fees for renewal of the temporary use permit at least seventy days before the
1942 end of the permit period;

1943 2. The department must determine that the temporary use is being conducted in
1944 compliance with the conditions of the temporary use permit;

1945 3. The department must determine that site conditions have not changed since
1946 the original temporary permit was issued; and

1947 4. At least forty-five days before the end of the permit period, the department
1948 shall notify property owners within five hundred feet of the property boundaries that a
1949 temporary use permit extension has been requested and contact information to request
1950 additional information or to provide comments on the proposed extension.

1951 SECTION 17. Ordinance 13623, Section 37, as amended, and K.C.C. 23.32.010
1952 are hereby amended to read as follows:

1953 A.1. Civil fines and civil penalties for civil code violations shall be imposed for
1954 remedial purposes and shall be assessed for each violation identified in a citation, notice
1955 and order, voluntary compliance agreement₂ or stop work order pursuant to the following
1956 schedule:

 a. citations, except for winery, brewery, distillery₂ (~~facility~~
~~I, II and III~~)) and remote tasting room uses:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| (1) with no previous similar code violations | \$100 |
| (2) with no previous code violations of K.C.C. chapter
12.86 within the past twelve months | \$125 |
| (3) with one previous code violation of K.C.C. chapter
12.86 within the past twelve months | \$250 |
| (4) with one or more previous similar code violations, or
with two previous code violations of K.C.C. chapter 12.86
within the past twelve months | \$500 |
| (5) with two or more previous violations of K.C.C. Title
10, or three or more previous code violations of K.C.C. chapter | Double the
rate of the |

12.86 within the past twelve months

previous
penalty

b. citations for violations of winery, brewery, distillery,
((~~facility I, II and III~~)) and remote tasting room use zoning
conditions, including but not limited to unapproved events;

(1) with no previous similar code violations within the past
twelve months; \$500

(2) with one or more previous similar code violations
within the past twelve months; \$1,000

c. violation of notice and orders and stop work orders:

(1) stop work order basic penalty \$500

(2) voluntary compliance agreement and notice and order
basic penalty \$25

(3) additional initial penalties may be added in the
following amounts for violations where there is:

(a) public health risk \$15

(b) environmental damage risk \$15

(c) damage to property risk \$15

(d) one previous similar code violation \$25

(e) two previous similar code violations \$50

(f) three or more previous similar code violations \$75

(g) economic benefit to person responsible for violation \$25

d. cleanup restitution payment: as specified in K.C.C.

23.02.140.

e. reinspection following the issuance of a notice and order,
if the violation has not been abated in accordance with the
notice and order:

(1) first reinspection, which shall occur no sooner than the \$150
day following the date compliance is required by the notice and
order

(2) second reinspection, which shall occur no sooner than \$300
fourteen days following the first reinspection

(3) third reinspection, which shall occur no sooner than \$450
fourteen days following the second reinspection

(4) reinspection after the third reinspection, which shall \$450
only be conducted immediately preceding an administrative or
court ordered abatement or at the direction of the prosecuting
attorney for the purpose of presenting evidence in the course of
litigation or administrative hearing against the person
responsible for code compliance

1957 2. For the purposes of this section, previous similar code violations that can
1958 serve as a basis for a higher level of civil penalties include violations of the same chapter
1959 of the King County Code. Any citation, stop work order, or notice and order previously
1960 issued by the department shall not constitute a previous code violation for the purposes of

1961 this section if that stop work order or notice and order was appealed and subsequently
1962 reversed.

1963 B. The penalties assessed pursuant to this section for any failure to comply with a
1964 notice and order or voluntary compliance agreement shall be assessed daily, according to
1965 the schedule in subsection A of this section, for the first thirty days following the date the
1966 notice and order or voluntary compliance agreement required the code violations to have
1967 been cured. If after thirty days the person responsible for code compliance has failed to
1968 satisfy the notice and order or voluntary compliance agreement, penalties shall be
1969 assessed daily at a rate of double the rate for the first thirty days. Penalties may be
1970 assessed daily until the person responsible for code compliance has fully complied with
1971 the notice and order.

1972 C. Penalties based on violation of a stop work order shall be assessed, according
1973 to the schedule in subsection A. of this section, for each day the department determines
1974 that work or activity was done in violation of the stop work order.

1975 D. Citations and cleanup restitution payments shall only be subject to a one-time
1976 civil penalty.

1977 E. The director may suspend the imposition of additional civil penalties if the
1978 person responsible for code compliance has entered into a voluntary compliance
1979 agreement. If the person responsible for code compliance enters into a voluntary
1980 compliance agreement and cures the code violations, the director may also waive all or
1981 part of the accrued civil penalties in accordance with K.C.C. 23.32.050. Penalties shall
1982 begin to accrue again pursuant to the terms of the voluntary compliance agreement if any

1983 necessary permits applied for are denied, canceled, or not pursued, or if corrective action
1984 identified in the voluntary compliance agreement is not completed as specified.

1985 F. The civil penalties in this section are in addition to, and not in lieu of, any
1986 penalties, sanctions, restitution, or fines provided for in any other provisions of law.

1987 SECTION 18. Map Amendment #1 is hereby adopted, as shown in Attachment A
1988 to this ordinance.

1989 SECTION 19. The following are hereby repealed:

1990 A. Ordinance 19030, Section 3;

1991 B. Ordinance 19030, Section 4, and K.C.C. 6.74.010;

1992 C. Ordinance 19030, Section 5, and K.C.C. 6.74.020;

1993 D. Ordinance 19030, Section 6, and K.C.C. 6.74.030;

1994 E. Ordinance 19030, Section 7, and K.C.C. 6.74.040;

1995 F. Ordinance 19030, Section 8, and K.C.C. 6.74.050;

1996 G. Ordinance 19030, Section 9, and K.C.C. 6.74.060;

1997 H. Ordinance 19030, Section 10, and K.C.C. 6.74.070;

1998 I. Ordinance 19030, Section 11, and K.C.C. 6.74.080;

1999 J. Ordinance 19030, Section 14, and K.C.C. 21A.06.1427A;

2000 K. Ordinance 19030, Section 15, and K.C.C. 21A.06.1427B;

2001 L. Ordinance 19030, Section 16, and K.C.C. 21A.06.1427C;

2002 M. Ordinance 19030, Section 28;

2003 N. Ordinance 19030, Section 29, and K.C.C. 21A.55.110; and

2004 O. Ordinance 19030, Section 32.

2005 SECTION 20. This ordinance takes effect on the latter of the following dates:

2006 A. Sixty-one days after the date of publication of notice of adoption of this
2007 ordinance, as provided in RCW 36.70A.290; or
2008 B. If a petition for review challenging adoption of this ordinance is timely filed with
2009 the growth management hearings board, then thirty-one business days after issuance of the
2010 board's final order of compliance in accordance with RCW 30.70A.300.
2011 SECTION 21. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or its application.

2012 to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the
2013 application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, ____.

Shannon Braddock, County Executive

Attachments: A. Map Amendment #1 - Remote Tasting Room Demonstration Project A Repeal

**Map Amendment # 1- Remote Tasting Room Demonstration Project A
Repeal**

Sammamish Valley near the City of Woodinville

AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY ZONING ATLAS

Amend Sections 14 and 23, Township 26, Range 5, as follows:

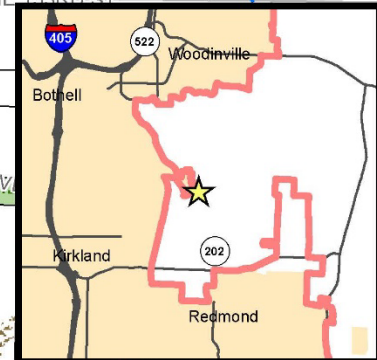
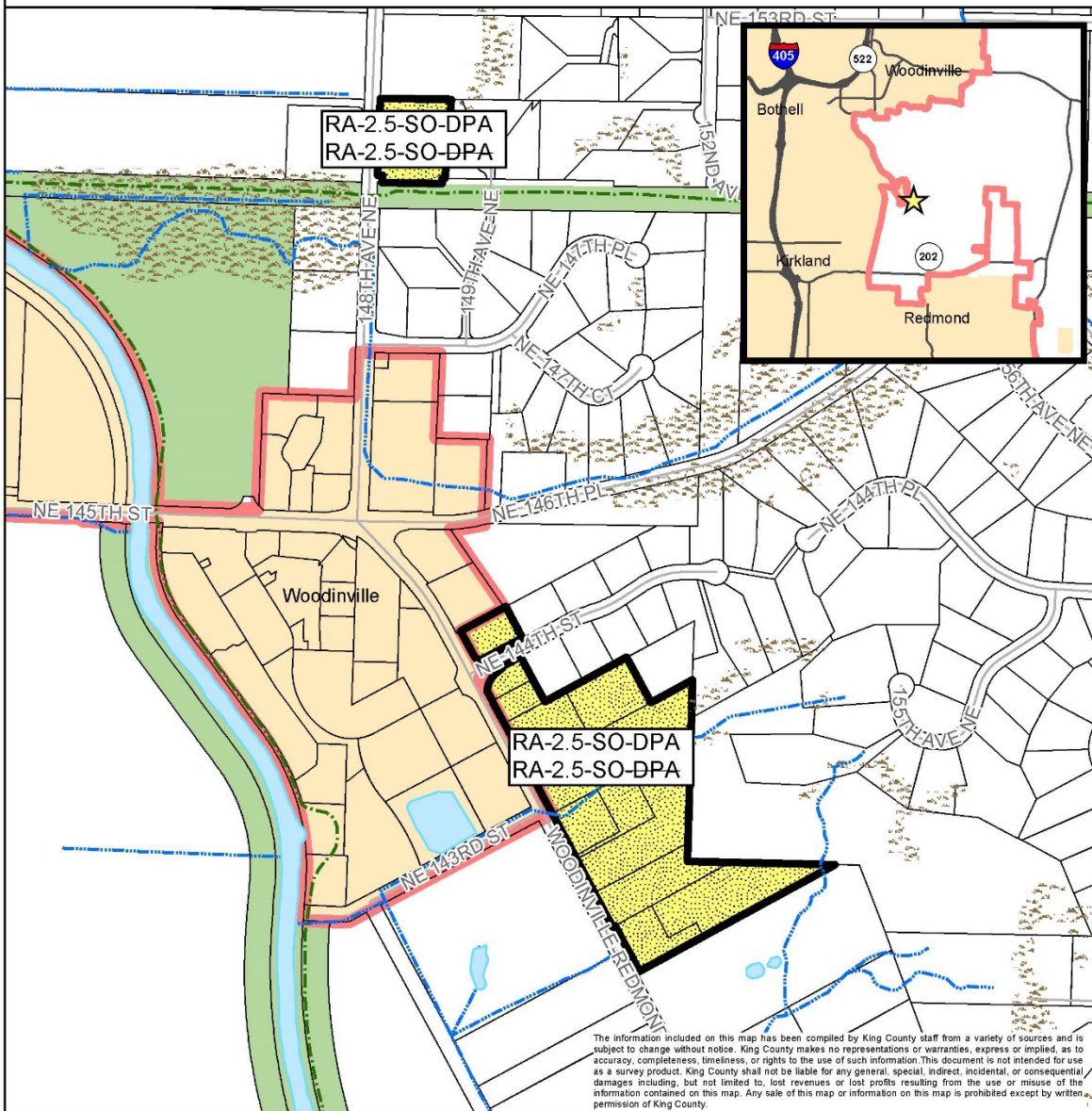
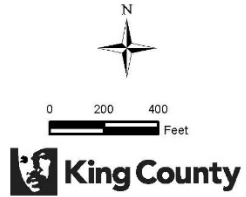
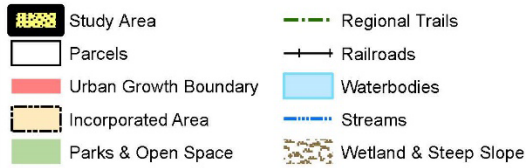
ZONING

Repeal the Demonstration Project (-DPA) established in Ordinance 19030, Section 28 and 29, and remove the -DPA designation from the following parcels. Make no other changes to the land use designation or zoning:

Parcel	Current Zoning	Area
2481600120	RA-2.5	Sammamish Valley
3404700026	RA-2.5	Sammamish Valley
3404700027	RA-2.5	Sammamish Valley
3404700030	RA-2.5-SO	Sammamish Valley
3404700031	RA-2.5-SO	Sammamish Valley
3404700035	RA-2.5-SO	Sammamish Valley
3404700040	RA-2.5-SO	Sammamish Valley
3404700041	RA-2.5-SO	Sammamish Valley
3404700043	RA-2.5-SO	Sammamish Valley
3404700050	RA-2.5-SO	Sammamish Valley
3404700055	RA-2.5-SO	Sammamish Valley
3404700057	RA-2.5-SO	Sammamish Valley
3407700006	RA-2.5-SO	Sammamish Valley

Effect: Amends the zoning atlas to repeal the Remote Tasting Room Demonstration Project A to all or a portion of 13 parcels within the Sammamish Valley near the City of Woodinville.

Map Amendment #1 - Remote Tasting Room Demonstration Project Overlay A Repeal



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King County

Metropolitan King County Council Committee of the Whole

REVISED STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:		Name:	Erin Auzins
Proposed No.:	2024-0387	Date:	

COMMITTEE ACTION

Proposed Substitute Ordinance 2024-0387.2, which would amend regulations for wineries, breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms, passed out of committee on February 25, 2025, with a “Do Pass” recommendation. The Proposed Ordinance was amended in committee with Striking Amendment S1 to which updated the definition of remote tasting rooms and engrossed changes made by other ordinances.

SUBJECT

Proposed Ordinance 2024-0387 would amend regulations for wineries, breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms.

SUMMARY

Ordinance 19030 was adopted in December 2019 after a years-long process to review and update the development regulations for wineries, breweries, and distilleries (WBDs), and remote tasting rooms, in unincorporated King County. After a lengthy litigation process, on September 19, 2024, the Washington State Supreme Court published an opinion reinstating a January 2022 order from the Growth Management Hearings Board that invalidated Ordinance 19030, Sections 12 through 29, Section 31, and Map Amendments 1 and 2.

Proposed Ordinance 2024-0387 would be adopted to comply with the Supreme Court's decision, as well as an evaluation by the King County Hearing Examiner that the licensing system for WBDs was preempted by RCW 66.08.120.

At today's meeting, the Committee is scheduled to take action on the Proposed Ordinance. Striking Amendment S1 is included, which would update the definition for remote tasting rooms and engross changes made by other Ordinances adopted since this Proposed Ordinance was introduced.

BACKGROUND

Prior to Ordinance 19030. Wineries and breweries have been uses listed in the permitted use tables since at least the 1993 Zoning Code.¹ Prior to Ordinance 19030, the development conditions had not changed since 2003,² when standards relating to minimum lot size, maximum building size, special event limitations, and product content were first adopted.³ Distilleries were first recognized as a land use in 2013.⁴ Wineries, breweries, and distilleries were considered the same land use category under the code, and for each zone in which they were allowed (either outright as a permitted use, or with a conditional use permit), they had the same development conditions.

Starting around 2015, neighbors of wineries and tasting rooms within the Sammamish Valley filed a number of code enforcement complaints with the Permitting Division against some of those businesses, alleging they were operating in violation of the zoning code and some of them for construction activity without required permits.

During deliberations on a previous WBD ordinance, Executive staff provided information that outlines their concerns with enforcement of the code that was in place prior to Ordinance 19030 (references to "current code" mean the code in place prior to Ordinance 19030):

After deliberation at the County Council, Executive staff was asked to provide context for what would happen if the county were to abandon the proposed code update and just enforce the current code. Below is an attempt to catalogue ambiguities in the current code and the problems that would remain unsolved if a code update was not implemented:

Product Content Requirement:

The current code requires that any winery, brewery, or distillery must make 60% of their product content with products grown in Puget Sound Counties.

As of today, only a small handful of known businesses are meeting that requirement. Many wineries in the unincorporated areas ship their grapes in from areas in eastern Washington where grapes can be grown more easily.

Although most businesses would not be able to comply with code, enforcing the product content rule would be difficult, because tracking and proving product content would often require processes outside of Permitting staff's capabilities and implicates the interstate commerce clause in its enforceability.

Home Occupation/Home Industry:

Current code as it relates to home occupation and home industries is very vague and does not address wineries, breweries, or distilleries whatsoever. The home occupation code as written did not anticipate these types of businesses and therefore

¹ Ordinance 10870.

² Ordinance 14781.

³ There were some changes in 2007 with Ordinance 15974, and allowances for WBDs in commercial zones was added in 2010 with Ordinance 16950.

⁴ Ordinance 17539.

did not contemplate issues of tastings and eating and drinking establishments. Because of this ambiguity, code enforcement has found over the years that many winery, brewery, and/or distillery businesses operating as home occupations are not legally established, meaning no one is actually living on-site. Constitutional limits on enforcement and search of residences adds to the enforcement challenges for home occupations and home industries.

Conversely, residents who want to start a winery, brewery, or distillery business find the code vague and confusing to comply with, leading to businesses having to go to the hearing examiner for clarity on what exactly the code means and does in relation to their specific business model. If current code were to be enforced, the loopholes and challenges for well-meaning business owners would remain unresolved.

Fines:

According to Title 23, fines for when a winery, brewery, or distillery business violates the current code are very low. For businesses that cannot come into compliance with the current code and/or businesses that violate the county's code governing the operation of WBDs, it is often cheaper for them to just pay the fine than do the work with Permitting to become a lawful business.

If the current code were to be enforced, fines for businesses that violate county code would remain low and would not incentivize businesses to work to become compliant or relocate. Conversely, businesses who have invested the time and resources to become compliant with code had to work harder and pay more money than those who choose to remain in violation of the code, leaving a major equity issue unaddressed.

Impacts of these businesses on surrounding communities:

Currently, the code is unclear about the hours a winery or adult beverage business can conduct tastings and/or hold events. The current code is also unclear about whether or not a winery or adult beverage business can operate on a private driveway shared with other neighbors, within a cul-de-sac in a residential zone, and how many people are allowed for special events like concerts, weddings, and fundraisers. Because the code lacks specificity in these areas, the impacts on surrounding communities have been and remain significant. If current code were to be enforced businesses located in these areas may continue to operate at a size and scale that is not appropriate for the rural and agriculturally zoned areas. In the same vein, businesses seeking to operate legally would be stuck with the same ambiguity that makes it difficult to do just that.

Agricultural Production Districts (APD):

One of the main recommendations that came out of the stakeholder group process was to maintain protections for the APD by not changing current code OR creating more restrictive code for winery and adult beverage businesses looking to locate on agricultural land. The current code allows for 60% of product content to be grown in Puget Sound Counties, rather than on the agricultural land itself. The current code also allows for home occupations and home industries to be located on APD properties. If current code were to be enforced, businesses could continue to locate

on agricultural land with no incentive to actually put the land into production. These businesses could also act as home occupations or home industries, which the King County Agricultural Commission and many farmers and environmental organizations do not support.

Processing Requirements:

Current code does not address or define processing requirements for winery and adult beverage businesses, meaning that no actual production is required to happen on-site. If current code were to be enforced, winery and adult beverage businesses would not be required to conduct any stage of production for their product on-site, allowing a number of businesses to essentially operate as urban-scale event venues.

Business License:

Current code does not require a winery or adult beverage business to get a county business license, making it difficult for Permitting to track the number of businesses that have proliferated in the over 15 years since the current code was written. Because we have a complaint-based model for code-enforcement, it remains challenging for our code enforcement officers to track where and when new businesses are beginning to operate. If current code were to be enforced, a winery and/or adult beverage business in King County would need to obtain a liquor license from the LCB, but no license for land use purposes. It is also worth noting that the LCB's practice is to issue state licenses over the objections of the local jurisdiction based on zoning, further complicating enforcement.

One additional note on the former code: for home occupations in the RA zone, there is no minimum lot size or 75-foot setback requirement, meaning nearly any property could establish a home occupation WBD. Additionally, outbuildings are not limited in size. Although there are some limitations on traffic generation, a home occupation WBD could have the size and intensity of a larger facility with fewer restrictions.

Due to these concerns, the Executive formed a stakeholder group of Sammamish Valley wineries, agricultural interests, and the Cities of Woodinville and Redmond. The consultant performed stakeholder interviews and held five meetings with the stakeholders to review the goals and priorities, agricultural industry needs and issues, wine industry needs and issues, the issues with the existing development regulations, transportation issues, and potential policy changes and infrastructure improvements. The consultant also held an open public meeting and used an online public comment tool. The stakeholder group and consultant provided a series of policy recommendations in their final report, issued in September 2016.⁵

Between September 2016 and April 2018, the Executive worked on a series of proposed policy changes that would apply to the entire unincorporated area, not just the Sammamish Valley. A public review draft of the Executive's proposed countywide regulations was issued in June 2017, outlining an initial proposal for public comment. After reviewing and considering the feedback on the public review draft, the Executive transmitted a final report and [Proposed Ordinance 2018-0241](#) (enacted as Ordinance

⁵ Link to report: <https://www.kingcounty.gov/~media/depts/executive/performance-strategy-budget/regional-planning/Sammamish-Study-Area/CAISammValleyWineBeverageStudyFINAL-091216.ashx?la=en>.

19030) to the Council in April 2018.

During deliberations on Ordinance 19030, there was a list of WBD businesses known to be located in the unincorporated area that was cited in a Council staff report that stated that only 4 of 45 were legally established. This was incorrect information based on an incomplete understanding of the landscape. While four businesses did have permits from the County, that is not the only path to providing a nonconformance. Many known businesses are/were home occupations or were established in existing structures, neither of which necessarily require a permit from the County.

Ordinance 19030. Ordinance 19030 was adopted in December 2019, after seven Committee meetings, a town hall meeting, and two public hearings at full Council. Ordinance 19030 substantively modified the regulations for WBDs in several ways, including:

- Establishing a county business license to aid in enforcement of the land use regulations.
- Changing the structure of the regulations from a two-tiered approach to a three-tiered approach. The former code regulated WBDs as either a permitted use or a conditional use, while Ordinance 19030 adopted regulations for production WBD I (very small), WBD II (small), and WBD III. Establishing WBD I, II, and IIIs in the Manufacturing Land Uses permitted use table with varying development conditions for each zone and size of facility; more stringent conditions were adopted for the A and RA zones to reflect the need to protect those lands as required by the King County Comprehensive Plan and Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA). In general, the development conditions in the A and RA zone:
 - Maintained, reduced, and established minimum lot sizes
 - Maintained or reduced maximum building sizes
 - Specified additional limitations on on-site tasting and retail sales
 - Required water hookup for WBD IIIs
 - Required access to an arterial or public roadway
 - Established an on-site grow requirement for products in the A zone and eliminated a requirement in the RA zone for sourcing in Puget Sound counties.
 - Established minimum on-site production requirements
 - Established requirements for locating facilities on agricultural lands
 - Modified parking minimums and maximums
 - Maintained and added parking areas to setbacks from Rural Area and Residential zones
 - Established maximum impervious surfaces
- Establishing a new "remote tasting room" use to mirror state licensing in the CB and RB zones, including within the CB zone of the Vashon and Fall City Rural Towns.
- Establishing a 3-year demonstration project to test whether remote tasting rooms could be an allowed use in the Rural Area zone.
- Prohibiting WBDs and remote tasting rooms as home occupations and home industries.
- Modifying temporary use permits (TUP) for WBD-related events, with stricter limits

in the A and RA zone than for other zones, such as limiting events for breweries and distilleries to 2 per month (A zone) or 24 per year (RA) zone, and setting a maximum guest size that did not exist previously. Adding triggers for Permitting to easily identify when a TUP is required. Establishing an exemption from TUP requirements for certain existing WBDs in the RA zone including those that had at least 8 acres in lot size and had access to a principal arterial or state highway, and where the County did not object to issuance of the state liquor license.

- Increasing citation penalties for code violations by WBDs and remote tasting rooms.

Litigation on Ordinance 19030. Ordinance 19030 was challenged on SEPA and GMA grounds by petitioners that included Friends of Sammamish Valley, Futurewise, and other farming interests (FOSV, et al.) to the Central Puget Sound Growth Management Hearings Board (Board). On January 3, 2022, the Growth Management Hearing's Board issued its Final Decision and Order for Case No. 20-3-0004c (Board's January 2022 Order), which granted the petitioners' appeal and invalidated Ordinance 19030 Sections 12 through 30, and map amendments 1 and 2, which were Attachments A and B to Ordinance 19030. These sections included definitions, zoning conditions, parking requirements, temporary use permit clarifications, home occupation and home industry limitations, and a demonstration project. The Board's January 2022 order also remanded Ordinance 19030 to the County. The Board named thirteen issues that led to the invalidity order, including issues with the April 2019 SEPA checklist, insufficient protection of agricultural lands, noncompliance with the County's Comprehensive Plan policies, and incompatibility of remote tasting room demonstration project overlay A.

After a lengthy litigation process, on September 19, 2024, the Washington State Supreme Court published an opinion reinstating the Board's January 2022 Order. The County is required to comply with this Order.

The Board held a status conference on November 25, 2024, and subsequently issued a schedule with a June 23, 2025, compliance deadline.

Hearing Examiner Opinion. While the Board did not invalidate the adult beverage business license requirement, and there has been no court decision on this issue, the King County Hearing Examiner considered several preemption-based challenges to the licensing provisions. Although the Hearing Examiner determined that he was unable to resolve the core constitutional issues because it was beyond his jurisdiction, he engaged in a lengthy analysis of applicable authorities. The Hearing Examiner concluded that a local license for alcohol-related sales, distribution and premises "...sounds like the local power the State explicitly withdrew in RCW 66.08.120."

ANALYSIS

Proposed Ordinance 2024-0387 Summary. Proposed Ordinance 2024-0387 would make substantive changes to the regulations for wineries, breweries, distilleries (WBDs), and remote tasting rooms, including:

- Repealing the requirement for an adult beverage business license.

- Modifying the definition of winery, brewery, and distillery to match those in state law.
- Allowing a remote tasting room in the CB and RB zone, with a development condition setting a maximum parking ratio of 1 space per 50 sf of tasting and retail area.
- Prohibiting WBDs in the A and RA zones.
- Allowing a WBD in the NB and CB zones, as a Permitted use, with a development condition:
 - Limiting the size to 3,500 sf, or in an historic building to 5,000 sf;
 - Setting a 75' setback on interior lot lines from the RA, UR, and R zones;
 - Allowing on-site tasting and retail sales, consistent with state law;
 - Setting a maximum parking ratio of 1 space per 50 sf of tasting and retail area; and
 - Allowing events with a Temporary Use Permit (TUP).
- Allowing a WBD in the NB and CB zones, with a Conditional Use Permit (CUP), with a development condition:
 - Allowing on-site tasting and retail sales, consistent with state law;
 - Setting a 75' setback on interior lot lines from the RA, UR, and R zones;
 - Setting a maximum parking ratio of 1 space per 50 sf of tasting and retail area, or as set by the CUP; and
 - Allowing events with a TUP.
- Allowing a WBD in the RB zone, as a Permitted use, with a development condition:
 - Allowing on-site tasting and retail sales, consistent with state law;
 - Setting a 75' setback on interior lot lines from the RA, UR, and R zones;
 - Setting a maximum parking ratio of 1 space per 50 sf of tasting and retail area; and
 - Allowing events with a TUP.
- Allowing a WBD in the I zone, as a Permitted use, with a development condition:
 - Prohibiting wineries and remote tasting rooms for wineries;
 - Allowing on-site tasting and retail sales, consistent with state law;
 - Setting a 75' setback on interior lot lines from the RA, UR, and R zones;
 - Setting a maximum parking ratio of 1 space per 50 sf of tasting and retail area; and
 - Allowing events with a TUP.
- Prohibiting WBDs and remote tasting rooms as home occupations and home industries.
- Temporary Use Permit changes include:
 - Removes the triggers for when an event at a WBD or remote tasting rooms require a TUP;
 - Removes an exemption from TUP requirements for certain WBDs in the RA zone; and
 - Removes duration, frequency, and maximum attendee requirements for WBD uses in the A and RA zones. Returns to prior condition for temporary uses at wineries in the A and RA zone, limiting them to two per month and requiring all parking to be accommodated on-site.

- Repeals remote tasting room demonstration project, removes the zoning condition from impacted parcels, and removes a reference in the Retail Land Uses permitted use table.
- Repeals the efficacy report required by Ordinance 19030.
- Adds an effective date that is 61 days after notice of adoption, or 31 days after the final decision is issued by the Board, if an appeal is filed.

SEPA Review. Proposed Ordinance 2024-0387 is subject to nonproject SEPA review. Council staff continue to work with the SEPA Responsible Official on the necessary SEPA review for this Proposed Ordinance. SEPA review is expected to be completed prior to the public hearing for this Proposed Ordinance.

Impacts to Existing Businesses. Councilmembers have expressed interest in how this Proposed Ordinance would impact existing businesses. While Proposed Ordinance 2024-0387 is prospective and would prohibit any new WBD or remote tasting room in the A or RA zones, there are existing businesses in those zones that this Proposed Ordinance may impact.

There are 47 known WBDs⁶ (those that have a state liquor license) in the A and RA zones in unincorporated King County. Of those, 9 have applied for a state liquor license since 2020 – the County objected to issuance of those licenses, as there was a moratorium in place that prevented establishment of new WBDs. Permitting also reports that they have communicated to these businesses that operating would create an enforcement risk; it is not known if each one is currently operating at locations in unincorporated King County.

Table 1 shows the breakdown of those existing businesses by Community Service Area.

Table 1. Existing WBD Businesses

Community Service Area	Number of WBDs
Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River	A zones: 0 RA zones: 2
SE King County	A zones: 1 RA zones: 3
Bear Creek/Sammamish	A zones: 0 RA zones: 16 ⁷
Four Creeks/Tiger Mountain Area	A zones: 0 RA zones: 3
Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River Area	A zones: 0 RA zones: 4
Snoqualmie Valley/NE King County Area	A zones: 1 RA zones: 7
Vashon-Maury Island Area	A zones: 0 RA zones: 10
Total	A zones: 2 RA zones: 45

⁶ There are an additional 25 WBDs that were open when Ordinance 19030 was under consideration, that are now closed or have moved.

⁷ Six of these are within the remote tasting room demonstration project area.

If Proposed Ordinance 2024-0387 is adopted, these businesses (plus any others unknown to the County) will either need to prove conformance with the code in place when they were established (either as a permitted use or as a home occupation), modify their operations to conform, or close their current location.

For the 9 WBDs that applied for state liquor licenses starting in 2020, if they are operating, they will likely need to close their current location, as they will not have any nonconforming rights under the County's code. This is also true for any WBD that were licensed by the state as remote tasting rooms in the A and RA zones.

For the other businesses, the impacts of this Proposed Ordinance are unknown. Code enforcement will be site-specific and based on several factors, including:

- When the liquor license was issued by the state and whether the County objected to its issuance;
- Whether there are any facts or evidence that indicate the business was legally established, such interaction with government agencies;
- Whether the business can prove the development conditions for a Permitted use were met (minimum lot size, product content, setbacks, etc.); and/or
- Whether the business met the requirements for a home occupation.

It could be that many existing WBD businesses have a legal nonconformance, as many of them, across the County, have been in place for decades. It could also be that many existing WBD businesses have a legal nonconformance for part of their operations, but not other parts (for example, a nonconformance for the production spaces and a small tasting room, but not for an expanded tasting room that draws a lot of vehicle traffic.) In this second case, a WBD may not be required to close, but to scale back their operations.

Schedule. The published schedule for review of this ordinance is included in Table 2.

Table 2. Council Review Schedule

Action	Date
Requests for striking amendment due to Chair's office	February 7, 2025
Direction for striking amendment due	February 18, 2025
Striking amendment released	February 20, 2025
Direction for line amendments due	February 21, 2025
Committee of the Whole action	February 25, 2025
Direction for amendment concepts for the public hearing	February 28, 2025
Public hearing notice issued	March 7, 2025
Direction for striking amendment due	April 1, 2025
Striking amendment released	April 3, 2025
Direction for line amendments due	April 4, 2025
Council hearing/action	April 8, 2025
Post-adoption notice issued (with expedited signatures)	April 18, 2025
Effective date (if no appeal)	June 18, 2025

Ordinance 19865, was adopted by the Council on November 26, 2024, and extended an existing moratorium on WBD uses through June 23, 2025. To avoid extending the moratorium, Council would need to act on Proposed Ordinance 2024-0387 no later than April 22, 2025.

AMENDMENTS

Striking Amendment S1 would make substantive and technical changes to the Proposed Ordinance. Changes include:

- Modifying the definition of remote tasting room to reflect changes made in state law that allow for remote tasting rooms for distilleries.
- Engrossing the changes made in other adopted Ordinances.

Title Amendment T1 is also included in the packet; it would conform the title to the changes made in Striking Amendment S1.



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2025-0054.2

Sponsors Dembowski

1 AN ORDINANCE authorizing the execution of a new lease
2 to support the operation of local services and transit.

3 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

4 For the lease from Vashon Properties, LLC, located at 17141 Vashon
5 Highway SW, Suite 114, Vashon, within council district eight, the
6 facilities management division determined that there was not an
7 appropriate county-owned option and successfully negotiated to lease
8 space.

9 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

10 SECTION 1. The executive is authorized to execute a lease for the property
11 located at 17141 Vashon Highway SW, Suite 114, Vashon, with Vashon Properties, LLC,

- 12 substantially in the form of Attachment A to this proposed Ordinance, and to take all
13 actions necessary to implement the terms of the lease.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, ____.

Shannon Braddock, County Executive

Attachments: A. Lease Agreement dated March 5, 2025

LEASE AGREEMENT

This lease agreement (“Lease”) dated September 1, 2024 (for reference purposes only) is entered between VASHON PROPERTIES LCC, formerly Island Property Group LLC, (“Lessor”), and KING COUNTY, a home rule charter county and political subdivision of the State of Washington, (“Lessee”) (individually a “Party” and collectively the “Parties”).

RECITALS

1. The Parties entered into that certain agreement for the King County Department of Local Services to lease the Premises (as described below) beginning on September 1, 2019 and expiring August 31, 2024 (“2019 Lease”). Lessee anticipates entering holdover status following the expiration of the 2019 Lease.
2. The Parties desire to enter into this new Lease agreement for a five-year term with two options to renew for an additional five years each. This new Lease will also permit King County Metro Transit (“Metro”) to move into the Premises as well.

AGREEMENT

1. BUILDING: The “Building” is located on a portion of real property that is situated at 17141 Vashon Highway SW, Vashon, WA, 98070, and is more particularly described in Exhibit A (“Real Property”).
2. PREMISES:
 - a. Lessor hereby leases that office space located in Suite #114 of the Building and as depicted in Exhibit B (“Premises”) to Lessee for the term of this Lease. Lessor also grants Lessee a nonexclusive license to use those portions of the Building made available from time to time by Lessor for the common use and enjoyment of Lessee, Lessor, and other lessees of the Building and their guests and invitees (the “Common Areas”). Lessor shall have the right to do and perform all such acts in and to the Common Areas as Lessor shall determine in its reasonable discretion, including without limitation reconfiguring and temporarily closing the same from time to time, so long as Lessor does not adversely affect Lessee’s use and enjoyment of the Premises.
 - b. Lessor shall allocate three (3) parking spaces in the Building’s parking lot for Lessee’s exclusive use to park Metro Access vehicles at any time of the day (“Metro Parking”). Lessor shall make Metro Parking available upon the Metro Move-in Date, as defined below, until the expiration of this Lease.
3. TERM:

- a. Commencement Date: This Lease shall commence on the first day of the month following execution by both Parties (“Commencement Date”), which shall be confirmed in writing.
- b. Expiration Date: This Lease shall expire five (5) years after the Commencement Date.
- c. Extension Options(s): Provided Lessee is not in default under this Lease on the date that an option is exercised and as of the last day of the preceding term, Lessee shall have two separate options to extend the term of this Lease for sixty (60) months each (the “Extended Term(s)”). This option to extend may be exercised by Lessee only by giving Lessor written notice no more than twelve (12) months and no less than three (3) months prior to the last day of the then-existing term. Lessee’s extension option shall apply to all of the Premises then leased by Lessee under this Lease, as well as the parking spaces. From and after the commencement of the Extended Term(s), all of the terms, covenants, and conditions of this Lease shall continue in full force and effect as written and the Rent and the Parking Fee for each Extended Term(s) shall increase annually pursuant to Section 4.e.

4. RENT, PARKING FEE:

- a. Rent: The Lessee shall pay rent in the amount of Five Hundred Seventy-Nine and 63/100 Dollars (\$579.63) per month (“Rent”), as provided for within the terms of this Lease, due and payable in full each month in advance on or before the first day of each month. A late charge of one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the rent due will be charged if the rent is not received by the fifth day of the month, with a minimum charge of Twenty-Five and 0/100 Dollars (\$25.00).
- b. Parking Fee: The Lessee shall pay a parking fee in the amount of One Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) for each of the three spaces during each month of the Term of this Lease (“Parking Fee”). Lessee shall begin paying the Parking Fee upon the “Metro Move-in Date,” defined as the first day of the month following written notice by Lessee that Metro will be moving into the Premises.
- c. Additional Consideration: The Parties agree that as additional consideration for the execution of this Lease, Lessee shall pay Lessor Sixteen Dollars and 88/100 (\$16.88) for each month that passes between the August 31, 2024 expiration of the 2019 Lease and the Commencement Date of this Lease. This sum is the difference between the rent under the 2019 Lease and the Rent under this new Lease. Lessee shall pay these amounts as a one-time lump sum payment within ten (10) days of the Commencement Date of this Lease.
- d. Payment: The Rent and the Parking Fee shall be paid to Lessor at Lessor’s notice address set forth in Section 27.

- e. Annual Rent and Parking Fee Increase: The Rent will be increased annually on the first day of September by three percent (3%) over the then-current year's rent. The Parking Fee will be increased annually on the anniversary of the "Metro Move-in Date" by three percent (3%) over the then-current year's fee. These annual increases shall also apply to any Extended Term(s) pursuant to Section 3.c.
5. OPERATING EXPENSES: Lessor will provide electricity, gas, water, sewer, garbage, standard internet (some limits to bandwidth will apply), common area janitorial service, and landscape maintenance at Lessor's sole expense. Lessor shall pay all applicable real estate taxes. Lessee shall pay no operating costs as part of this Lease. This agreement is a full-service lease, meaning that the cost of all services, utilities, maintenance, and repairs are included in the Rent. Lessee will provide phone and janitorial service in the Premises.
6. DEPOSIT: The Parties agree that Lessee has previously deposited the sum of Five Hundred Dollars and 0/100 (\$500.00) ("Deposit") with the Lessor. Lessor shall continue to hold the Deposit as: (a) a deposit that shall be forfeited to the Lessor as some or all of any liquidated damages if the Lessee terminates the tenancy prior to the completion of the term of this Lease or any Extended Term; (b) a security deposit to secure the Lessor against damage or loss to the Premises, its equipment or grounds, caused by the Lessee or its guests, and any unpaid rent; (c) a cleaning deposit to pay for cleaning the Premises if Lessee fails to do so before the end of the Lease. The Parties agree that a non-refundable charge of One Hundred Dollars and 0/100 (\$100.00) will be deducted from the Deposit for carpet cleaning at the end of the tenancy. The Deposit will be refunded to Lessee, less the amount for carpet cleaning, at the completion of the tenancy if all conditions and terms of this Lease are met.
7. PERMITTED USE: The Premises shall not be used for any purpose other than as an office and meeting space for the Department of Local Services ("DLS") and King County Metro. Lessor approval is required prior to the use of the Premises by any King County agency other than DLS and King County Metro. Lessee will not engage in any activity or maintain any materials in violation of any laws.
8. TERMINATION: This Lease may be unilaterally terminated by the Lessor or Lessee for any reason whatsoever upon 30 days' written notice to the other Party.
9. INDEMNITY AND HOLD HARMLESS: Lessee accepts the Premises and the Building in its present condition, and all personal property in the Premises, Building, or parking area shall be the risk of Lessee. Each Party shall defend, indemnify, and hold the other Party harmless from and against any claims, suits, causes of action, judgments, damage, loss, or liability, including claims for injuries to persons or property (collectively, "Claims") to the extent caused by the negligent acts or omissions of their respective agents, officers, and employees acting in the scope of their employment. Where such Claims result from the concurrent negligence of the Parties, the indemnity provisions provided herein shall be valid and enforceable only to the extent of each Party's negligence. Each of the Parties agrees that its obligations under this Section 9 extend to any Claim brought by, or on behalf of, any of its employees or agents. For

this purpose, each of the Parties, by mutual negotiation, hereby waives, with respect to the other Party only, any immunity that would otherwise be available against such claims under the industrial insurance provisions of Title 51 RCW. In the event that either Party incurs any judgment, award, and/or cost arising therefrom, including attorneys' fees, expenses, and costs shall be recoverable from the responsible Party to the extent of that Party's negligence.

10. INSURANCE:

- a. Lessee's Insurance. Lessor acknowledges that Lessee, a home-rule charter county under the Constitution of the State of Washington, maintains a fully funded self-insurance program as defined in King County Code Chapter 2.21 for the protection and handling of the Lessee's liabilities, including injuries to persons and damage to property. Lessee shall, at its own expense, maintain, through its self-funded program, coverage sufficient for all of its liability exposures for this Lease. Lessee shall provide Lessor with at least thirty (30) days' prior written notice of any material change in Lessee's self-funded program and shall provide Lessor with a certificate of self-insurance as proof of coverage. Lessor further acknowledges that Lessee does not maintain a commercial General Liability Insurance policy and is a self-insured government entity; therefore, Lessee does not have the ability to add Lessor as an additional insured to such policy. If Lessee cease self-insuring its liability exposure and purchase a Commercial General Liability Insurance Policy, then Lessee shall add Lessor as an additional insured to such policy. Lessee shall at all times maintain its self-funded program or a Commercial General Liability Insurance Policy, each in an amount sufficient to cover its liability exposure under this Lease.
- b. Lessor's Insurance. Lessor shall maintain throughout the term of this Lease commercially reasonable policies of property insurance covering loss of or damage to the Building (including Lessee improvements and subsequent alterations) in the full amount of its replacement cost with endorsement to cover code changes.
- c. Each Party hereby waives and releases any right of recovery (including by way of subrogation) against the other Party, its officers, employees and agents, for any loss or damage sustained by such Party with respect to the Building or Premises or any portion thereof or the contents of the same or any operation therein, to the extent such loss or damage is actually insured against or is required hereunder to be insured against via "All Risk" property insurance coverage.

11. HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES:

- a. Lessor acknowledges, warrants, and fully discloses to the extent of Lessor's knowledge that the Premises contain no Hazardous Substances as defined by applicable law. Upon the execution of this Lease, if Lessor or Lessee subsequently discover the existence of Hazardous Substances on the Premises or Building, the Parties shall disclose to each other this material fact and act within full compliance of all applicable laws, regulations, and safety practices governing Hazardous Substances. Each Party agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the other Party, its appointed and elected officials, employees, from and against any and all claims,

liabilities, damages, and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, asserted against the indemnified Party, including without limitation, any agency or instrumentality of the federal government, state or local government, for bodily injury, including death of a person, physical damage to or loss of use of property, or clean-up activities (including but not limited to investigation, study, response, remedial action, or removal), fines or penalties arising out of or relating to the presence, release, or threat of release of a Hazardous Substance existing or emanating from the Premises or the Building, to the extent arising out of or caused by the indemnifying Party's act or omission, or the act or omission of that Party's own agent or contractor. The Parties' obligations under this Section 11 shall survive the expiration or other termination of this Lease.

- b. "Hazardous Substances" as defined in this Lease means:
 - i. Any toxic substances or waste, sewage, petroleum products, radioactive substances, medicinal, bacteriological, or disease—producing substances; or
 - ii. Any dangerous waste, hazardous waste, or hazardous substance as defined in:
 - 1. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as now or hereinafter amended (42 U.S.C. S 9601 et seq.);
 - 2. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as now or hereafter amended (42 U.S. C. S 6901 et seq.);
 - 3. Washington Model Toxics Control Act, as now or hereinafter amended (R.C.W. Chs. 70. 105, 70. 105A and 70.105D); or
 - iii. Any pollutants, contaminants, or substances posing a danger or threat to public health or welfare, or to the environment, which are regulated or controlled by any federal, state or local law or regulation, as now or hereafter amended.
12. ALTERATIONS: Lessee agrees to do no alterations, including painting, in the space or any part thereof without written consent of the Lessor, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
13. ASSIGNMENT: Lessee may not assign this Lease or sublet the Premises or any part thereof without the written consent of the Lessor, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
14. GOVERNMENTAL REGULATIONS: Lessee shall comply with all the laws, ordinances, public rules and governmental regulations applicable to the Premises or the Building or Lessee's use thereof.
15. DISPUTE RESOLUTION:
- a. The Parties agree to negotiate in good faith to resolve any disputes arising under this Lease so that the purposes of this Lease are not frustrated. The Parties agree to exhaust each of these procedural steps before seeking to resolve disputes in a court

of law or any other forum. The Parties shall designate representatives for purposes of managing this Lease and the dispute resolution process under this Section 15. The Parties' Designated Representatives shall be the persons identified in Section 16, or such other persons as they may designate in writing from time to time by giving notice. The Parties' Designated Representatives shall communicate regularly to discuss the status of the Lease and to prevent disputes from arising. Except as otherwise provided in this Lease, the Parties' Designated Representatives shall confer and attempt to resolve any disputes within ten (10) business days of written notification by either Party.

- b. Neither Party may seek relief in a court of law until and unless the steps in Section 15 (a) above are completed in good faith.
- c. If the Parties cannot resolve the dispute utilizing the process in Section 15(a), the Parties may, by agreement, submit the matter to non-binding mediation. The Parties shall share equally in the cost of the mediation. If additional parties participate in the mediation, then each participant shall pay a share of the cost of the mediation, such share to be calculated by dividing the total cost of the mediation by the number of parties participating. Mediation shall not be a prerequisite to litigation.
- d. During the course of the conflict or dispute resolution efforts, the Parties agree to continue to diligently perform their respective responsibilities under this Lease.

16. DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. Lessor's Designated Representative shall be Greg Vornbrock.
- b. Lessee's Designated Representative shall be Amanda Tran.
- c. Parties may designate new Representatives. Notice shall be provided through procedure set forth in Section 27.

17. COST AND ATTORNEYS' FEES: In the event of disagreement or litigation regarding the performance of the terms and provisions of this Lease by either Party hereto, the prevailing party shall be entitled to the payment of their costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

18. GOVERNING LAW; VENUE: This Lease shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Washington without reference to its choice of law rules or conflicts of law provisions. Venue for any lawsuit under this Lease shall be in King County.

19. NON-WAIVER OF BREACH AND SEVERABILITY: The failure of the Lessor to insist upon strict performance of any of the covenants and agreements of this Lease, or to exercise any option herein conferred in any one or more instances, shall not be construed to be a waiver or relinquishment of any such, or any other covenants or agreements, and the same shall be and remain in full force and effect. All parts, portions, and provisions of this Lease shall be deemed separate and severable. In the event of the invalidity of any part, portion or provision, the rest

of this Lease, which with such part, portion, or provisions deleted, shall be given full force and effect.

20. CONDUCT: Lessee agrees to abide by the "Office Policies" attached as Exhibit C hereto.
21. PARKING: Other than the Metro Parking described in Section 2, parking shall be in common with other lessees and their guests at the designated parking area for the Building at no additional charge to Lessee. Lessor reserves the right to limit the number of vehicles stored on the Real Property.
22. MAINTENANCE: Lessor shall clean and maintain, repair, and replace, if necessary, the Building, all Building systems, and all common areas. Lessee shall clean and maintain the Premises.
23. DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION: If the Premises are damaged to such an extent as to render them unleaseable in whole or in part and Lessor elects to repair or rebuild, then the work shall be prosecuted without unnecessary delay. Rent shall be abated while such work is in progress, in the same ratio that the portion of the leased Premises that is unfit for occupancy shall bear to the whole of the Building. If, after a reasonable time the Lessor fails to proceed to repair or rebuild, then Lessee may declare this Lease terminated by written notice served on the Lessor. If the Building is destroyed or damaged to such extent that, in the opinion of the Lessor, it is not practical to repair or rebuild, then Lessor may terminate this Lease by written notice to Lessee within thirty (30) days' after such damage or destruction.
24. CONDEMNATION: If any portion of the Premises, Building, or Real Property (including, without limitation, any parking areas associated with the Premises and/or Building) which is necessary, in Lessee's sole judgment, for Lessee's occupancy or intended use of the Premises, or fifty percent (50%) or more of the rentable area of the Building, is made unleaseable by eminent domain or conveyed under a threat of condemnation, this Lease may terminate at the option of either Lessee or Lessor as of the earlier of the date title vests in the condemning authority or the condemning authority first has possession of the Premises or the portion of the underlying real property taken by the condemning authority. All rents and other payments shall be paid to that date. If the condemning authority takes a portion of the Premises, Building, or the Real Property necessary for Lessee's occupancy or intended use that does not render them, in Lessee's sole judgment, unleaseable, then this Lease shall continue in full force and effect and the rent shall be proportionately reduced based on the percentage by which the floor area of the Premises is reduced. The reduction in rent shall be effective on the earlier of the date the condemning authority first has possession of such portion or title vests in the condemning authority. If the Lessee, in its sole judgment, determines that the condemnation has rendered the Premises unsuitable for its intended use, then Lessee may terminate this Lease upon thirty (30) days' advance written notice to Lessor. Lessor shall be entitled to the entire award from the condemning authority attributable to the value of the Premises or the Building and Lessee shall make no claim for the value of its leasehold. Lessee shall be permitted to make a separate claim

against the condemning authority for moving expenses if Lessee terminates the Lease under this Section 24, provided that in no event shall Lessee's claim reduce Lessor's award.

25. SIGNAGE: Lessee signage shall require the written consent of Lessor, which shall not be unreasonably withheld. Shared sign standard will be provided by Lessor.

26. ACCESS BY LESSOR: Lessor reserves the right of access to the Lessee's space for the purpose of:

- a. Repairs, alterations, or improvements.
- b. Inspection.
- c. To exhibit or display the space to prospective or actual purchasers, mortgagees, Lessees, workmen or contractors. Access shall be at reasonable times except in cases of emergency or abandonment.

27. NOTICES: Notices under this Lease must be mailed with postage prepaid or emailed to the following addresses:

a. If to Lessee:
King County Real Estate Services Section
500 Fourth Avenue,
Suite 830 Seattle, WA
98104-3279
Email: atran@kingcounty.gov

b. If to Lessor:
Vashon Properties LLC
9014 45th Ave SW, #17
Seattle, WA 98136
Email: vpropllc@hotmail.com

Such addresses may be changed from time to time by either Party by providing notice as set forth above. Notices mailed in accordance with the above provisions shall be deemed received on the third day after mailing.

28. NON-DISCRIMINATION: Lessor and Lessee, for themselves, their successors, and assigns as a part of the consideration hereof, do hereby covenant and agree to comply with all civil rights and anti-discrimination requirements of federal, state, and local laws applicable to the Premises, including, without limitation, Chapter 49.60 RCW. Lessor and Lessee shall not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, marital status, national origin, religious affiliation, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, status as a family caregiver, military status or status as a veteran who was honorably discharged or who was discharged solely as a result of the person's sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, or age except by minimum age and retirement provisions, unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification, in the employment or application for employment or in

the administration or delivery of services or any other benefits under King County Code Chapter 12.16, as now codified and as hereafter amended. Lessor and Lessee shall comply fully with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, executive orders, and regulations that prohibit such discrimination. These laws include, but are not limited to, King County Charter Section 840, Chapter 49.60 RCW, and Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Any violation of this provision shall be considered a default of this Lease and shall be grounds for cancellation, termination, or suspension, in whole or in part, of this Lease and may result in ineligibility for further agreements between the Parties.

29. FORCE MAJEURE: Time periods for either Party's performance under any provisions of this Lease (excluding payment of rent) shall be extended for periods of time during which the Party's performance is prevented due to circumstances beyond such Party's control, including without limitation, fires, floods, earthquakes, lockouts, strikes, embargoes, governmental regulations, acts of God, public enemy, war or other strife.
30. OFFICE POLICIES: Lessee hereby acknowledges receipt of a copy of this contract and accompanying "Office Policies," attached as Exhibit C hereto.
31. AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE: The signatories to this Lease represent that the Party they represent has the full right and authority to enter into and perform this Lease, and that by entering into or performing this Lease, such Party is not in violation of any law, regulation, or agreement by which it is bound or to which it is subject. Each signatory to this Lease represents that the execution, delivery, and performance of this Lease has been duly authorized by all requisite corporate action, that such signatory is authorized to sign this Lease, and that upon approval, the joinder or consent of any other party, including a court or trustee or referee, is not necessary to make valid and effective the execution, delivery, and performance of this Lease.
32. HEIRS AND ASSIGNS: This Lease shall apply to and be binding upon Lessor and Lessee and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns.
33. ADDENDA/EXHIBITS: The following Exhibits are made a part of this Lease. The terms of any Addendum to Lease and the Exhibits shall control over any inconsistent provision in this Lease:
- Exhibit A: Legal Description of the Real Property
Exhibit B: Diagram of the Premises
Exhibit C: Lessor's Office Policies
34. ENTIRE AGREEMENT: This Lease contains all of the covenants and agreements between Lessor and Lessee relating to the Premises. No prior or contemporaneous agreements or understandings pertaining to the Lease shall be valid or of any force or effect and the covenants

and agreements of this Lease shall not be altered, modified, or amended except in writing, signed by Lessor and Lessee.

LESSOR
VASHON PROPERTIES LLC

LESSEE
KING COUNTY

BY: _____

BY: _____

NAME: Greg Vornbrock

NAME: Drew Zimmerman

TITLE: Partner/Member

TITLE: Acting Director, Facilities Management
Division

DATE: _____

DATE: _____

Approved as to Form:

By _____
Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

APPROVED BY CUSTODIAL AGENCY

By:
Title:
Date:

NOTARY BLOCKS APPEAR ON NEXT PAGE

NOTARY BLOCK FOR VASHON PROPERTIES LLC

STATE OF WASHINGTON)) SS
COUNTY OF KING)

On this _____ day of _____, 2024, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of Washington, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared GREG VORNBROCK, to me known to be the Partner/member of Vashon Properties LLC who executed the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that HE was authorized to execute said instrument for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

WITNESS my hand and official seal hereto affixed the day and year in this certificate above written.

Notary Public in and for the
State of Washington, residing

Printed Name
at _____
City and State
My appointment expires _____

NOTARY BLOCK FOR KING COUNTY

STATE OF
WASHINGTON)
) SS
COUNTY OF KING)

On this _____ day of _____, 2024, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of Washington, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared DREW ZIMMERMAN, to me known to be the Acting Director of the Facilities Management Division of the King County Department of Executive Services, and who executed the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that HE was authorized to execute said instrument on behalf of KING COUNTY for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

WITNESS my hand and official seal hereto affixed the day and year in this certificate above written.

Notary Public in and for the
State of Washington, residing

Printed Name
at _____
City and State
My appointment expires _____

EXHIBIT A
LEGAL DESCRIPTION

THE SOUTH ½ OF THE SOUTH ½ OF THE NORTHEAST ¼ OF THE SOUTHEAST ¼ OF SECTION 30, TOWNSHIP 23 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST, W.M., EXCEPT THE EAST 30 FEET THEREOF CONEYED TO KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON.

PARCEL NUMBER 3023039096

EXHIBIT B
DIAGRAM OF PREMISES

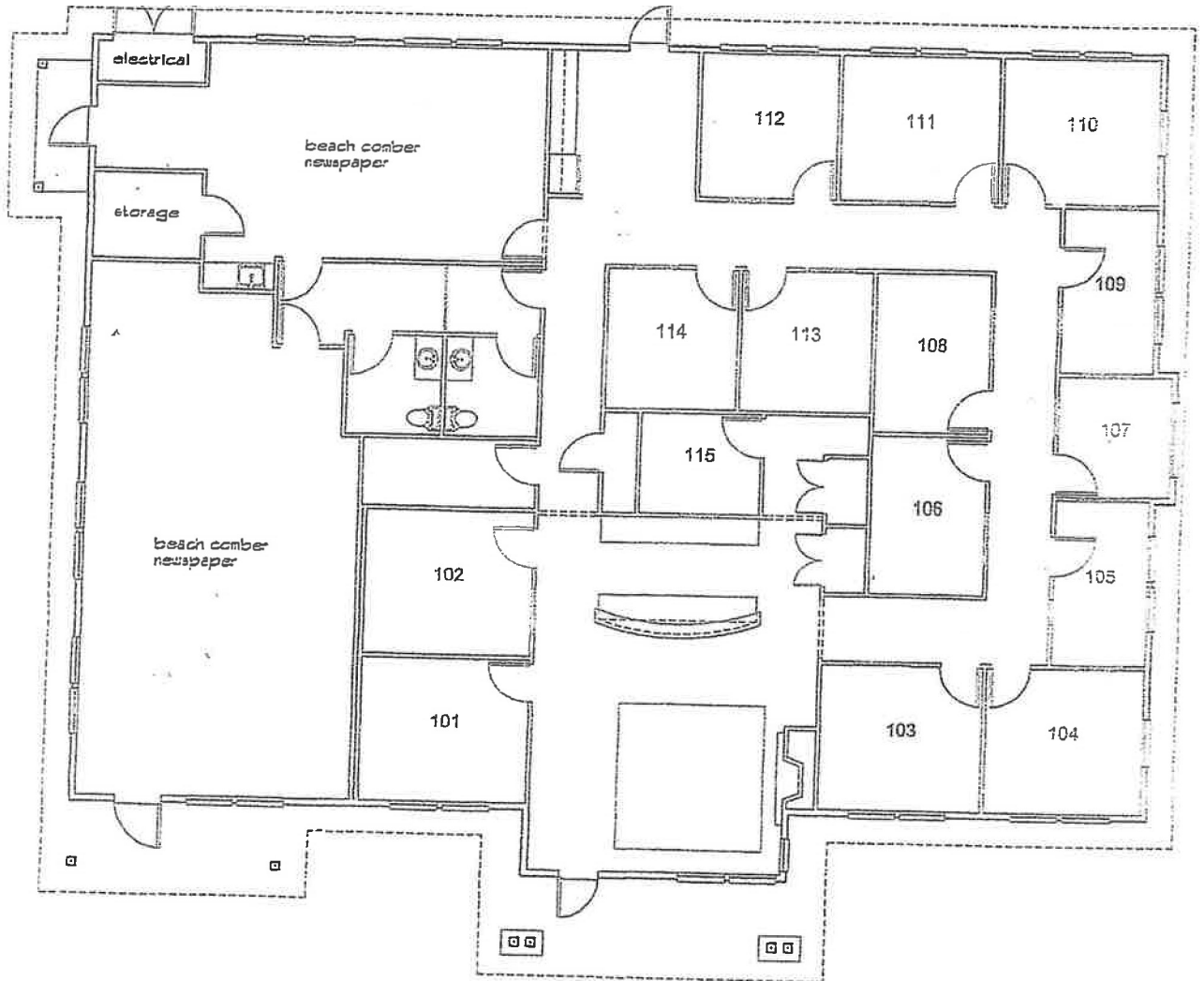


EXHIBIT C

OFFICE POLICIES

1. Professional Image: Each Lessee is responsible to maintain a clean, presentable environment. Any displayed items in windows or common areas require prior written consent from Lessor or Lessor's agent.
2. Noise: Lessee and their guests shall respect the peace and comfort of other occupants of the building.
3. Shared Space: Lessor will provide weekly janitorial in common spaces. Lessee shall clean after their use of common areas. Perishable food stuff, together with food containers, left in kitchen or refrigerator between 5 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. Monday may be disposed of by common area janitorial.

The lobby is intended to serve a dual purpose, Chamber of Commerce visitor center and also as a self-directed access to, and waiting area for, your office. Signage in the lobby will assist your visitors in finding you. The Chamber of Commerce personnel are not receptionists, please advise your visitors. Additionally, please be aware the Chamber of Commerce hosts the annual Strawberry Festival which will result in additional activity within the common areas of the building on Festival weekend each year.

4. Exterior door locks, certain common area lights, and HVAC temperature settings will be programmed for agreed days and hours. Should off day/ hour use by Lessee require altering these settings please reestablish.
5. This is a non-smoking building.
6. This is a fragrance-free building.
7. No Domestic animals are allowed in the Building without consent from Lessor or Lessor's agent or as provided by law for licensed service animals.



King County

Metropolitan King County Council Budget and Fiscal Management Committee

REVISED STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	5	Name:	Gene Paul
Proposed No.:	2025-0054	Date:	March 26, 2025

COMMITTEE ACTION

Proposed Substitute Ordinance 2025-0054.2, which would authorize the execution of a lease on Vashon Island for use by the Department of Local Services and Metro Transit Department, passed out of committee on March 26, 2025, with a “Do Pass” recommendation. The Proposed Ordinance was amended in committee with Amendment 1 to replace the original lease attachment with an amended version that makes a technical correction for the annual rent and parking fee increases.

SUBJECT

An ordinance to authorize the execution of a lease on Vashon Island for use by the Department of Local Services (DLS) and Metro Transit Department (Metro).

SUMMARY

Proposed Ordinance 2025-0054 would authorize the Executive to execute a new lease agreement for the office space DLS currently occupies, with the addition of three designated parking spots for Metro Access vehicles, at 17141 Vashon Highway SW. The lease would allow DLS to continue utilizing the existing office space while also permitting Metro to vacate its office elsewhere on Vashon Island and move into that same office space. DLS has occupied the space since September 2019.

The annual cost for the lease is \$10,760 for 100 square feet of office space and three designated parking spots. Metro would pay for 70% of the office rent and all of the parking costs. DLS would pay for 30% of the office rent. Both the rent and parking fee would increase by 3% annually. The lease provisions also contain a one-time payment that would provide the difference in rent for each month from DLS's prior lease that expired in August 2024 with the new lease. No supplemental budget authorization is necessary, and no General Fund dollars would be used for the lease.

The agreement would commence on the first day of the month following execution by both parties. The lease would expire five years after commencement but there are two options to extend the term of the lease by five years for each option.

BACKGROUND

The King County Department of Local Services (DLS) leased a 100-square foot office space at 17141 Vashon Highway SW in September 2019. According to lease attachments, the building also houses the Vashon Island Chamber of Commerce and the Vashon-Maury Island Beachcomber newspaper. That 2019 lease allowed DLS to host in-person office hours to provide information, technical assistance, notary services, and other support to residents of the Vashon Island community. The 2019 lease expired on August 31, 2024, and DLS has been continuing to occupy the space on a month-to-month basis at the original rent rate.

The King County Metro Transit Department's (Metro) Access Transportation Program operates a network of accessible vans for anyone who finds it difficult to ride traditional transit because of their disability.¹ According to the property summary, Metro's Access Transportation Program currently leases office space with designated parking for Access vehicles on a month-to-month basis approximately one mile north of the DLS office. According to Executive staff, Metro's current landlord has proposed a 200% rent increase, for a new monthly rent of \$1,500, with three to six percent annual increases, and a 15-year lease term for Metro to continue to occupy its current location.

ANALYSIS

Proposed Ordinance 2025-0054 would authorize the Executive to execute a new lease agreement for the office space DLS currently occupies with the addition of three designated parking spots for Metro Access vehicles at 17141 Vashon Highway SW. The lease would allow DLS to continue utilizing the existing office space while also permitting Metro to move into that same office space. The lease agreement also includes shared use of common areas in the building. No tenant improvements are needed for the combined use of the office space.

This agreement would commence on the first day of the month following execution by both parties. The lease would expire five years after commencement but there are two options to extend the term of the lease by five years for each option. Table 1 below summarizes the lease terms.

Table 1. Summary of the Lease Terms of Proposed Ordinance 2025-0054

Category	Terms
Square Footage	100 square feet (sf) of office space / three parking spaces
Cost per Square Foot (Base Rent)	\$5.80 per sf per month for office space / \$150 per parking space per month. Rent and parking fee increase annually by three percent.

¹ "Accessible Services," Metro Website ([Link](#)).

Category	Terms
Operating Costs	King County is not responsible for operating costs
Term	Five years with two options to renew for five years each
Other Considerations	One time payment of the difference in rent between 2019 lease and proposed lease for each month DLS has occupied office since the expiration of prior lease in August 2024
Lease Effective Date	First day of month following execution by both parties

The monthly rent for the new lease is \$579.63 for the office space. Executive staff have indicated that both Metro and DLS would pay for the rent with Metro paying for 70% and DLS paying for 30% of the total. This means Metro would be responsible for \$405.74 and DLS would be responsible for \$173.89 of each month's rent. Metro would also pay for the entire parking fee, which would be \$450 total for the three parking spaces. The total monthly cost to the County would be \$1,029.63. The monthly rent and parking fee would increase by three percent annually.

Besides the rent and parking fee, the lease also includes a one-time additional payment. For each month between August 31, 2024, and the commencement of the new lease, the County would pay \$16.88. This sum is the difference between the rent under the 2019 lease and the new lease. If the lease were to commence on May 1, 2025, this one-time additional consideration payment would be approximately \$135.

Table 2 below estimates the financial impacts of the proposed lease for the current year and future biennia. As indicated in the revised fiscal note from February 2025, the cost of the proposed lease was included in the current budget, so no supplemental appropriation is required. Executive staff have also indicated that no General Fund dollars would be used to pay for the lease.

Table 2. Fiscal Impacts of Proposed Ordinance 2025-0054

	2025	2026-2027	2028-2029
2025-0054	\$10,760	\$25,870	\$27,446

The proposed lease and its amendment were reviewed by Council's legal counsel.

AMENDMENT

Amendment 1 would replace the original lease attachment to the proposed ordinance with an amended version that makes a technical correction for the annual rent and parking fee increases.



Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2025-0070.4

Sponsors Dembowski and Zahilay

1 AN ORDINANCE providing for the submission to the
2 qualified electors of King County at a special election to be
3 held in King County on August 5, 2025, of a proposition
4 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the levy
5 limitation contained in chapter 84.55 RCW for a period of
6 six consecutive years, at a total rate of not more than
7 \$0.2329 per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation in
8 the first year and limiting annual levy increases by the King
9 County inflation plus population index published by the
10 King County office of economic and financial analysis, or
11 the chapter 84.55 RCW limitation, whichever is greater in
12 years two through six for the purpose of maintaining and
13 operating King County's open space system; improving
14 parks, recreation, access, and mobility in King County by
15 acquiring lands and continuing to develop and support
16 parks, recreation facilities, and regional trails; improving
17 parks and trails in and acquiring lands by metropolitan
18 parks districts, towns and cities in King County; funding
19 environmental education, maintenance and conservation
20 programs at the Woodland Park Zoo; funding

environmental education, maintenance and conservation programs at the Seattle Aquarium; funding development, maintenance, and programming for Seattle's Waterfront park; funding environmental and climate stewardship and education at Pacific Science Center; funding a capital project at Memorial Stadium; and funding capital improvements at public pools, for all King County residents.

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

1. King County owns and operates a system of regional and local parks and trails that consists of thirty-two thousand acres of parklands and more than one hundred eighty-five miles of regional trails. The county provides regional trails, regional recreational facilities, regional natural areas, regional parks, and local parks in unincorporated areas. Examples of regional and local county parks and trails include Marymoor park, Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland park, Steve Cox Memorial park, Dick Thurnau Memorial park, the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center, and the Sammamish River trail.

2. Parks, natural areas, and trails contribute to a high quality of life. A robust system of parks and trails provides: physical, social, and mental health benefits to individuals; economic opportunity through recreation and tourism; economic growth for private businesses that must attract and retain skilled workers; increased climate resilience; environmental benefits

44 like clean water and healthy habitat; and cultural resource protection
45 through open space conservation. King County's open space system
46 provides all these benefits to King County residents and businesses.

47 3. Provision of urban green space, through parks or other investments
48 such as street trees, is particularly important to achieve the benefits listed
49 above. The addition of trees and plants to concrete-dominated urban areas
50 can help reduce the higher ambient temperatures in those areas, which are
51 anticipated to worsen as anthropogenic climate change progresses. That
52 contributes to health and quality of life for nearby residents, in addition to
53 providing additional capacity to sequester planet-warming greenhouse
54 gases.

55 4. The 2002 Parks Business Transition Plan, adopted by the King County
56 council and enacted by Ordinance 14509, became the blueprint for
57 establishing the regional open space system we have today. Building on
58 that blueprint, the county has adopted open space plans, which have
59 provided the framework guiding King County in the acquisition, planning,
60 development, stewardship, maintenance, and management of its complex
61 system of parks, regional trails, and acres of open space. The latest open
62 space plan was updated in 2022 and adopted by Ordinance 19501.

63 5. In implementing the open space plan, the parks and recreation division
64 of the department of natural resources and parks has successfully focused
65 its lines of business on regional parks and trails, backcountry trails, natural
66 areas, and local parks in unincorporated King County and has

67 implemented business practices that generate revenue from park system
68 assets by implementing or increasing user fees and establishing corporate
69 and community partnerships that enhance park amenities and leverage
70 public and private dollars to improve parks and increase access to parks.

71 6. Consistent with the recommendations of past parks-related task forces
72 and community advisory committees, the county has sought voter-
73 approved levies on four prior occasions: in 2003, enacted by Ordinance
74 14586, to provide maintenance and operating funding for the parks and
75 recreation division for 2004 through 2007; in 2007, enacted by Ordinance
76 15759, to provide funding for maintenance and operations as well as
77 funding for open space acquisition, regional trail development, the
78 Woodland Park Zoo and for King County towns and cities for use in their
79 open space acquisition and trail projects for 2008 through 2013; in 2013,
80 enacted by Ordinance 17568, to provide funding for maintenance and
81 operations as well as for open space acquisition, asset maintenance and
82 improvement, parks and trails projects, the Woodland Park Zoo and for
83 King County towns and cities to use for their parks and recreation for
84 2014 through 2019; and in 2019, enacted by Ordinance 18890, to provide
85 funding for maintenance and operations as well as for open space
86 acquisition, asset maintenance and improvement, parks and trails projects,
87 the Woodland Park Zoo, the Seattle Aquarium, aquatic facilities, and for
88 King County towns and cities to use for their parks and recreation for
89 2020 through 2025. Voters approved the funding measures on all four

occasions that they were on the ballot. The voter-approved levies have helped keep the open space system clean, safe, and open.

7. Tribal nations are comanagers with the county in managing our shared public lands, waters, and resources. The county recognizes that this relationship is informed and guided by the treaty rights, which many tribes exercise within King County. The department of natural resources and parks has undertaken many actions with tribes as comanagers in an effort to foster mutual respect, and establish regular and meaningful communication, cooperation, and consultation with tribal officials in developing and executing state and King County policies that have tribal implications. The county has an ongoing goal to strengthen the government-to-government relationship with tribes that share territory with and have interests in King County

8. The 2020 through 2025 voter-approved parks, trails, and open space replacement levy provides approximately eighty-five percent of the operating budget of the parks and recreation division, with approximately fifteen percent generated through business activities and entrepreneurial efforts. King County general fund support to the parks and recreation division was eliminated as of 2011.

9. The community partnerships and grants program enacted by Ordinance 14509 enhances parks amenities by partnering with parks and recreation organizations. Since the inception of the community partnership and grant program in 2003, more than seventy projects representing more than

113 seventy million dollars' worth of new, enhanced, or preserved public
114 recreation facilities have been completed, with only twenty-two million
115 dollars of King County capital investment.

116 10. The Woodland Park Zoo received distributions from the past three
117 voter-approved levies to supplement zoo operating revenue for education
118 and conservation programs, horticulture and maintenance, and capital
119 improvements. Levy proceeds distributed to the zoo provided
120 environmental education, programming and transportation focusing on
121 accessibility for underserved areas, supported thousands of students-
122 annually, and benefitted residents throughout King County. Levy
123 proceeds also provided conservation and animal care for threatened
124 Pacific Northwest species.

125 11. The Seattle Aquarium received distributions from the past voter-
126 approved levy for capital costs for the Ocean Pavilion project to amplify
127 the aquarium's existing global conservation efforts by bringing visitors
128 face-to-face with tropical species native to the Coral Triangle and by
129 housing approximately three thousand five hundred sustainably sourced
130 tropical fish and invertebrates, including rays, sharks, mangroves, and up
131 to thirty species of coral.

132 12. The Memorial Stadium project will create an innovative multi-
133 purpose student and community events facility at Seattle Center. That
134 transformative project will be led by Seattle Public Schools and the city of

135 Seattle, providing an improved venue for local and regional sports and
136 events.

137 13. The removal of the Alaskan Way Viaduct provided an unprecedented
138 opportunity to create new green space in the heart of Seattle. The
139 resulting waterfront park is a twenty-acre public space stretching from
140 Belltown to Pioneer Square, providing the entire region lasting economic,
141 social, and environmental benefits. Seattle's Waterfront park will link
142 iconic attractions including Olympic Sculpture park, Pike Place Market,
143 the Seattle Aquarium, the Colman Dock ferry terminal, Pioneer Square,
144 stadiums, and surrounding neighborhoods.

145 14. King County towns and cities received funding from the past three
146 voter-approved levies. In 2008 through 2013, towns and cities could use
147 levy proceeds for open space and natural lands acquisition and
148 development of town or city trail projects that supported connections to
149 the regional trail system with distributions being contingent upon an equal
150 or greater contribution of matching moneys from the recipient town or city
151 for the same project. In the 2014 through 2019 and the 2020 through 2025
152 levies, types of uses for the distribution to King County towns and cities
153 were broadened to provide flexibility and better meet the parks and
154 recreation needs of cities.

155 15. Parks levy oversight committees were established to monitor the
156 expenditures of the proceeds from the 2004 through 2007, 2008 through
157 2013, 2014 through 2019, and 2020 through 2025 levies. Annual

committee review has concluded that the county has complied with all
levy requirements.

16. During the 2008 through 2013, 2014 through 2019, and 2020 through
2025 levy periods, the process for developing, reviewing, and
recommending potential conservation futures tax and parks levy
acquisition projects has maximized acquisitions for open space, natural
lands, and regional trail rights of way due to the similar objectives for the
conservation futures tax and parks levy acquisition programs. Parks levy
open space funding distributed to King County is a critical component of
match for county applications for conservation futures tax funding. The
process for conservation futures tax outlined in K.C.C. 26.12.010
maintains transparency, accessibility, and consistency of the distribution
of conservation futures tax and parks levy acquisition funds for the public,
stakeholder groups, government agencies, and officials.

17. King County is growing rapidly as a region. In 2024, King County's
population increased by more than thirty thousand people; over the next
ten years, the county is expected to grow by another two hundred fifty
thousand people. Recent trend reports indicate that participation in
outdoor recreation continues to grow, increasing by more than four
percent nation-wide in 2023. More and more people are using King
County parks and trails, which puts greater pressure on the system. As
development increases to accommodate population growth, the risk of
losing open space lands, including urban greenspaces throughout the

181 county grows. Those valuable lands contribute to King County residents'
182 high quality of life. The cost of land to accommodate this growth and
183 preserve open spaces is also increasing. Today is the opportune time to
184 address future needs of residents by investing in our parks and trails and
185 accelerating conservation of open space.

186 18. In King County, many communities have experienced a history of
187 inequitable and limited regional investments in parks, recreation, and open
188 space, limiting the ability of residents to lead healthy lives.

189 Approximately five hundred thousand King County residents live without
190 ready access to parks, recreation, and open spaces. There is a need to
191 address disparities in access to parks, recreation, and open space for
192 traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with
193 disabilities. This ordinance provides an opportunity to address parks and
194 recreation needs of these traditionally underserved areas and communities,
195 including people with disabilities.

196 19. Recognizing growth in population, increased use of parks and trails
197 and the need to address disparities, to prepare the 2026 through 2031 levy,
198 the parks and recreation division conducted outreach to obtain feedback on
199 the current park system and future parks and recreation needs for all King
200 County residents. In March and April 2024, parks and recreation division
201 staff conducted twenty-one in-person and virtual community engagement
202 events and hosted two online surveys across eight languages. Participants
203 represented all geographic areas of the county including towns and cities,

204 business, recreation, community, and environmental interests. More than
205 four thousand eight hundred people across all nine King County Council
206 districts participated in the surveys. Parks and recreation division staff
207 also met with towns and cities, parks districts, and key partners to receive
208 additional feedback about the levy.

209 20. Feedback from engagement events, online surveys, and meetings
210 showed support for the King County open space system and defined
211 measures of success. Four themes emerged as top priorities: safety and
212 belonging; new parks, trails, recreation, and infrastructure; equity,
213 representation, inclusion, and access; and maintenance, repairs, and
214 staffing. Feedback supported funding for King County towns' and cities'
215 parks and recreation programs; expansion of the regional trails system;
216 and natural lands conservation.

217 21. From January through July 2024, parks and recreation division staff
218 convened a Community Advisory Committee tasked with recommending
219 how to preserve King County's open space system of parks, trails, and
220 natural areas and resource lands after the 2019 through 2025 levy expires.
221 The Community Advisory Committee also advised staff about how best to
222 meet the growing parks and recreation needs in King County and the
223 region. Representing King County Boards, cities, non-profit
224 organizations, community and environmental interests, businesses, and
225 sports, the Community Advisory Committee met nine times to provide
226 guidance on developing the 2026 through 2031 levy.

227 22. The King County executive took into consideration information
228 obtained from this engagement, the region's growing population, increased
229 use of parks and trails across King County, and the lack of parks,
230 recreation, and open space in some communities, and has put forth this
231 ordinance that acknowledges the changing landscape and the need to grow
232 the open space system to keep up with regional demand. This ordinance is
233 also consistent with the goals and priorities of past levy task forces.

234 23. This proposal would exempt low-income seniors, disabled veterans,
235 and other people with disabilities from the regular property tax increase on
236 their residences resulting from a levy authorized by this ordinance if they
237 have been approved for an exemption under RCW 84.36.381.

238 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

239 SECTION 1. Definitions. The definitions in this section apply throughout this
240 ordinance unless the context clearly requires otherwise. For those definitions herein that
241 contain terms not defined but include a reference to the 2022 Open Space Plan adopted
242 by Ordinance 19501, or the provisions of the Growth Management Act, chapter 36.70A
243 RCW , then the definition or categorization found in the referenced document shall apply.

244 A. "Aquatic facilities grants program" means the program through which King
245 County provides moneys to publicly owned pools for: capital improvement projects,
246 including planning, feasibility studies, preconstruction and design, and construction; and
247 major maintenance repair or replacement projects.

248 B. "Ballfield access and preservation grant program" means the program through
249 which King County provides moneys to eligible entities to increase public access to
250 ballfields.

251 C. "Community partnerships and grants program" means the program through
252 which King County provides moneys to recreation-oriented groups, sports associations,
253 and community-based organizations to undertake any combination of developing,
254 operating, or maintaining a recreation facility or public park in unincorporated King
255 County and King County towns and cities for public benefit.

256 D. "Conservation" means protection of natural areas, as defined in the county's
257 open space plan, natural resource lands, categorized in RCW 36.70A.170, from
258 development through fee or easement acquisition, restoration of natural functions, and
259 administration of incentives for landowners that voluntarily preserve open space.

260 E. "Conservation futures tax program" means the program defined in K.C.C.
261 chapter 26.12.

262 F. "Educational and civic venues" means the Woodland Park Zoo, Seattle
263 Aquarium, Memorial Stadium, Seattle's Waterfront park, and Pacific Science Center.

264 G. "Get active/stay active grant program" means the program through which the
265 King County council provides councilmanic grant awards for youth or amateur sport
266 activities or facilities.

267 H. "Healthy community and parks grants program" means the program through
268 which King County provides moneys to eligible entities in order to achieve equitable
269 opportunities and access to parks and recreation for traditionally underserved areas and

communities, including people with disabilities, located in unincorporated King County and King County towns and cities.

I. "Levy" means the levy of regular property taxes for the specific purposes and term provided in this ordinance and authorized by the electorate in accordance with state law.

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

K. "Limit factor" means the most recent published King County office of economic and financial analysis King County inflation plus population index, or the limitation contained in chapter 84.55 RCW, whichever is greater.

L. "Open space system" means the categories of King County's open space system of parks, including recreation and multiuse sites, regional trails, natural areas, and natural resource lands. "Open space system" also includes structures or buildings owned or otherwise under the jurisdiction of the parks and recreation division of the department of natural resources.

M. "Open space" means any land defined as part of the open space system or a parks district, town, or city parks system.

N. "Parks district" means the active metropolitan park districts under chapter 35.61 RCW and parks and recreation service areas under chapter 36.68 RCW in King County.

O. "Town or city parks system" means any building or other structure related to parks or recreation; parks, trails, natural areas, natural resource lands, and other parks or

recreation property owned or otherwise under the jurisdiction of a town or city within King County.

SECTION 2. Levy submittal to voters. To provide necessary moneys for the purposes identified in section 4 of this ordinance, the King County council shall submit to the qualified electors of the county a proposition authorizing a regular property tax levy in excess of the levy limitation contained in chapter 84.55 RCW for six consecutive years, with collection commencing in 2026, at a rate not to exceed \$0.2329 per one thousand dollars of assessed value in the first year of the levy period. The dollar amount of the levy in the first year shall be the base upon which the levy amounts in year two through six shall be calculated. In accordance with RCW 84.55.050, this levy shall be a regular property tax levy subject to the limit factor.

SECTION 3. Deposit of levy proceeds. The levy proceeds shall be deposited into a dedicated subfund of the parks and recreation fund, or its successor.

SECTION 4. Eligible expenditures. If approved by the qualified electors of the county, levy proceeds shall be used for the following purposes:

A. Costs incurred by the county that are attributable to the special election called for in section 5 of this ordinance as well as future parks, recreation, trails, and open space levy elections;

B. Distributions to educational and civic venues, limited to the following facilities:

1. Up to forty million dollars for distribution to the Woodland Park Zoological Society which shall be used solely for: environmental education with an emphasis on accessibility to traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with

316 disabilities; horticulture and maintenance of buildings and grounds; conservation of
317 threatened species; and development of conservation and education strategies to mitigate
318 impacts to animals and habitats from climate change;

319 2. Up to twelve million dollars for distribution to the Seattle Aquarium which
320 shall be used solely for: environmental education with an emphasis on accessibility to
321 traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities;
322 maintenance of buildings and grounds; conservation of threatened species; and
323 development of conservation and education strategies to mitigate impacts to animals and
324 habitats from climate change;

325 3. Up to two million five-hundred thousand dollars for distribution to the city of
326 Seattle, which shall be used solely for capital costs for the Memorial Stadium project;

327 4. Up to six million dollars for distribution to the Pacific Science Center, which
328 shall be used solely for capital or operations and maintenance purposes relating to
329 environmental and climate stewardship and education; and

330 5. Up to six million dollars for distribution to the 501(c)(3) organization,
331 registered with the Washington secretary of state under number 1133863 and known as
332 Friends of Waterfront Park or its successor 501(c)(3) organization registered with the
333 Washington secretary of state, which shall be used solely at Seattle's Waterfront park, and
334 which shall be used solely for: accessibility to the park for traditionally underserved
335 areas and communities, including people with disabilities; support for a clean and safe
336 environment; free arts, culture, wellness, and recreation programming to all visitors; and
337 development of inclusive community partnerships;

338 C. Twenty-five million twenty-five thousand dollars for a municipal parks capital
339 and open space pass through distribution to towns and cities in King County for their
340 town or city parks system operations and capital improvement projects. These moneys
341 shall be distributed based on 2025 population and presence of opportunity areas as
342 defined in K.C.C. 26.12.003.J.1., as follows:

- 343 1. Algona and Pacific – two hundred fifty thousand dollars each;
- 344 2. Enumclaw – five hundred thousand dollars;
- 345 3. Tukwila, SeaTac, Des Moines, and Burien – one million dollars each;
- 346 4. Auburn, Federal Way, Renton, and Kent – one million nine-hundred fifty
347 thousand dollars each;
- 348 5. Seattle – two million eight-hundred thousand dollars;
- 349 6. Skykomish, Beaux Arts Village, Hunts Point, Yarrow Point, Milton,
350 Carnation, Medina, Clyde Hill, Normandy Park, Black Diamond, North Bend, and Duvall
351 – one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars each;
- 352 7. Lake Forest Park, Newcastle, Woodinville, and Snoqualmie – two hundred
353 fifty thousand dollars each;
- 354 8. Covington, Kenmore, Mercer Island, Maple Valley, Bothell, Issaquah,
355 Shoreline, and Sammamish – five hundred thousand dollars each; and
- 356 9. Redmond, Kirkland, and Bellevue – nine hundred seventy-five thousand
357 dollars each.

358 D. Up to sixty-eight million dollars for aquatic facilities, limited to the following:

- 359 1. Up to forty-six million dollars for the aquatic facilities grant program; and

360 2. Up to twenty-two million dollars for the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic
361 Center for major maintenance capital projects;

362 E. Up to ten million dollars for the Get Active/Stay Active grant program, to be
363 divided evenly among the nine council districts;

364 F. At least thirty million dollars for distribution to eligible entities for the healthy
365 communities and parks grant program;

366 G. Up to twelve million five-hundred thousand dollars for distribution to eligible
367 entities for the community partnerships and grants program;

368 H. Up to thirteen million five-hundred thousand dollars for distribution to eligible
369 entities for the ballfield access and preservation grant program;

370 I. The remainder of levy proceeds for the following purposes:

371 1. forty percent of levy proceeds for maintenance and operations of King
372 County's open space system;

373 2. fifty percent of levy proceeds for:

374 a. Acquisition, conservation, and stewardship of additional open space,
375 including urban greenspaces, natural areas, natural resource lands, and rights of way for
376 regional trails;

377 b. Acquisition of rights of way for and development of regional and other
378 publicly owned trails; and

379 c. Capital improvement projects and major maintenance repair or replacement
380 of open space system infrastructure, town and city parks system infrastructure, and
381 recreation facilities owned or operated by a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization;

382 3. Ten percent of levy proceeds for distribution to towns, cities, and parks
383 districts in King County for their town or city parks system operations and capital
384 improvement projects, of which amount:

385 a. Seventy-five thousand dollars shall be distributed annually to each town and
386 city, and to each of the following parks districts that predominantly serve unincorporated
387 King County: Fall City Metropolitan Park District; Si View Metropolitan Park District;
388 and Vashon Park District;

389 b. An additional fifty-thousand dollars shall be distributed annually to each
390 town and city with a population of over four thousand; and

391 c. Of the remainder of levy proceeds, after the distributions made in
392 accordance with subsection E.3.a. of this section, sixty percent shall be distributed in
393 proportion to each town or city's population and forty percent shall be distributed in
394 proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city;

395 4. Of the levy proceeds distributed to entities other than King County, a portion
396 shall be retained by the county to be used for expenditures related to administration of the
397 distribution of levy proceeds. Eligible administrative expenditures shall include all costs
398 and charges to the parks and recreation division or the county associated with or
399 attributable to the purposes listed in this section as well as sections 6 and 7 of this
400 ordinance.

401 **SECTION 5. Call for special election.** In accordance with RCW 29A.04.321,
402 the King County council hereby calls for a special election to be held in conjunction with
403 the primary election on August 5, 2025, to consider a proposition authorizing a regular
404 property tax levy for the purposes described in this ordinance. The King County director

of elections shall cause notice to be given of this ordinance in accordance with the state constitution and general law and to submit to the qualified electors of the county, at the said special county election, the proposition hereinafter set forth. The clerk of the council shall certify that proposition to the King County director of elections in substantially the following form, with such additions, deletions or modifications as may be required for the proposition listed below by the prosecuting attorney:

King County

Proposition No. 1

Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Levy

The King County council adopted Ordinance _____ replacing the expiring parks levy.

If approved, this proposition supports county, city, park district, and town parks, open space, and trails; recreation; public pools; and educational and civic venues. It authorizes an additional six-year property tax beginning in 2026 at \$0.2329 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, uses the 2026 levy amount to compute annual increases in 2027-2031 by the King County inflation plus population index or chapter 84.55 RCW limitation, whichever is greater, and exempts qualifying seniors, veterans, and disabled persons under RCW 84.36.381. Should this proposition be:

Approved? _

Rejected? _

SECTION 6. Distributions. Before distribution of levy proceeds to an entity other than King County, the receiving entity and the county shall have fully executed a contract setting forth the terms and conditions, including the applicable eligible purpose

427 or purposes identified in section 4 of this ordinance, under which the entity is receiving a
428 distribution of levy proceeds.

429 **SECTION 7. Parks levy oversight board established.**

430 A. If the proposition in section 5 of this ordinance is approved by the qualified
431 electors of King County, a parks levy oversight board shall be appointed by the
432 executive. The board shall consist of nine members. By March 31, 2026, each
433 councilmember shall nominate a candidate for the board who resides in the
434 councilmember's district. If, by March 31, 2026, the executive does not appoint the
435 person nominated by a councilmember, the executive must request that the
436 councilmember should, by June 30, 2026, nominate another candidate for appointment.
437 Members shall be confirmed by the council. Members may not be elected or appointed
438 officials of any unit of government, except that individuals serving in a civic capacity on
439 a local board or commission would be eligible to serve on the parks levy oversight board.

440 B. The board shall review the allocation of levy proceeds and progress on
441 achieving the purposes of this proposition. On or before December 31, 2027, the board
442 shall review and report to the King County executive, the King County council and the
443 regional policy committee on the expenditure of levy proceeds for 2026. Thereafter, the
444 board shall review and report to the King County executive, the King County council and
445 the regional policy committee annually. Each report shall include an accounting of levy
446 spending by King County council district and ZIP Code, grouped by purposes described in
447 section 4.B. through I.2. of this ordinance. Any report to the King County council under
448 this section shall be electronically filed with the clerk of the council, who will retain an

449 electronic copy and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers, the council chief
450 of staff, and the chief policy officer. The board expires December 31, 2032.

451 SECTION 8. Exemption. The additional regular property taxes authorized by
452 this ordinance shall be included in any real property tax exemption authorized by RCW
453 84.36.381.

454 SECTION 9. Ratification. Certification of the proposition by the clerk of the
455 King County council to the director of elections in accordance with law before the
456 election on August 5, 2025, and any other acts consistent with the authority and before
457 the effective date of this ordinance are hereby ratified and confirmed.

458 SECTION 10. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or its application

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

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, ____.

Shannon Braddock, County Executive

Attachments: None

General Requirements for King County Parks Levy Grant Programs

Any project funded by parks levy proceeds must allow for regular public access. To receive parks levy funds for eligible projects, the eligible entities will be required to enter into contracts with King County.

1. Parks Capital and Open Space Grant Program Guidelines

Purpose

This provides guidelines for the use of parks levy proceeds for the parks capital and open space grant program to:

1. Develop new and/or improve existing parks, trails, open space, and recreation facilities; and/or
2. Acquire park land.

Eligible Entities

1. King County cities and towns;
2. Metropolitan park districts geographically located in King County; and/or
3. Public entities that serve unincorporated King County.

Eligible Projects

Parks levy funding received for capital projects to develop new and/or improve existing parks, trails, open space, and recreation facilities are for the following purposes:

1. Feasibility study;
2. Planning and design; and/or
3. Construction.

Lands acquired using parks levy funding are for the following purposes:

1. Active recreational uses (e.g., athletic fields, sports courts, ballfield turf projects, etc.);
 2. Passive recreational uses (e.g., hiking, mountain biking, birdwatching, etc.);
 3. Local trails; and/or
 4. Open space lands, except if the land is primarily in agricultural use. Agriculture can be one of multiple uses allowed on lands funded by parks levy proceeds (e.g., community garden, p-patch), as long as the primary use allows public recreation and access.
-

2. Aquatic Facilities Grant Program Guidelines

Purpose

This provides guidelines for the use of parks levy proceeds for the aquatic facilities grant program, which provides funding opportunities to develop new and/or improve existing aquatic facilities in King County.

Eligible Entities

1. King County towns and cities;
2. Metropolitan park districts;
3. Public Schools districts;
4. Nonprofits that operate public aquatic facilities; and/or

5. Other public entities that own public aquatic facilities.

Eligible Projects

Parks levy funding received by eligible entities to develop new and/or improve existing aquatics facilities are for the following purposes:

1. Land acquisition;
2. Feasibility study;
3. Planning and design; and/or
4. Construction.

3. Healthy Communities and Parks Fund Program Guidelines

Purpose

This provides guidelines for the use of parks levy proceeds for the Healthy Communities and Parks Fund grant program, which provides funding opportunities to increase access to and use of parks, open space and public recreation facilities in traditionally underserved areas and communities, as well as to build internal capacities of community-based partners who provide recreation to these areas and communities.

Funding is for the following purposes:

1. Develop new and/or improve existing parks, trails, and recreation facilities; and/or
2. Provide programs focusing on recreation, sports, play, and physical activity.

Eligible Entities

1. Non-profit organizations;
2. Small or emerging community organizations without a 501c3 status, through a partnership with a fiscal agent;
3. Tribes or tribal organizations serving residents of King County;
4. King County towns and cities; and/or
5. Metropolitan park districts.

Eligible Projects

Parks levy funding received by eligible entities to develop new and/or improve existing parks, trails, and recreation facilities are for the following purposes:

1. Land acquisition;
2. Feasibility study;
3. Planning and design; and/or
4. Construction.

Parks levy funding received by eligible entities to provide programs are to be focused on recreational programming (e.g., swim programs, youth sports leagues, etc.).

Open Space, Natural Lands, and Urban Green Space Acquisition Guidelines

The overall approach for funding allocation and coordination with the Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) program for the acquisition of open space and natural lands through the countywide parks levy is as follows:

1. Early each calendar year, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) will set a proposed allocation for open space from levy funds for the following fiscal year.
2. Staff will generate proposals for the use of these funds, taking into account opportunities to leverage resources with funding from Conservation Futures, as well as from other local, state, and federal funding sources.
3. An overall proposal allocating the open space funds to specific projects will be developed and discussed with the Conservation Futures Advisory Committee (CFAC) that is responsible for developing CFT funding recommendations. These discussions are expected to occur in the spring, the same timeframe during which the CFAC annually reviews CFT project proposals. This will create an opportunity for the CFAC to provide an advisory recommendation regarding allocation of these parks levy funds.
4. Taking the CFAC's recommendations into account, DNRP will develop a proposed budget for these parks levy funds.
5. The DNRP proposed budget for parks levy funding will be reviewed by the County Executive, and ultimately County Council, as part of the overall budget process for the following year.



King County

Metropolitan King County Council Regional Policy Committee

REVISED STAFF REPORT

Agenda Items:	5-6	Name:	Sherrie Hsu Jake Tracy Brandi Paribello
Proposed No.:	2025-0070 2025-0077	Date:	April 9, 2025

COMMITTEE ACTION

Proposed Substitute Ordinance 2025-0070.2 passed out of the Budget and Fiscal Management committee on March 26, 2025, with a “Do Pass” recommendation. Amendments at BFM are summarized in the “Summary of BFM Adopted Amendments” section at the end of this staff report.

Proposed Substitute Ordinance 2025-0070.3 passed out of the Regional Policy Committee on April 3, 2025, with a “Do Pass” recommendation.

The Proposed Ordinance was amended in committee with:

- ***Amendment 0.5 to change the Parks Capital and Open Space grant program to a Municipal Parks Capital and Open Space Passthrough and establishing an allocation formula.***
- ***Amendment 0.7b to reduce the levy rate by 0.22 cents to 23.29 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value.***
- ***Amendment 1 to make a technical correction.***
- ***Amendment 1.5 to would change the city, town, and metropolitan parks passthrough funding formula to be \$75k annually per city, town, and park district; an additional \$50k annually to each city and town with a population over 4,000, and the remainder allocated on a 60/40 split based on population and assessed value.***
- ***Amendment 2 to require reporting by zip code and distribution category.***
- ***Title Amendment T1b to conform the title with amendment 0.7b.***

On April 9, 2025, the Regional Policy Committee considered a motion to amend Proposed Ordinance 2025-0070.3. Proposed Ordinance 2025-0070.3 was amended with Amendments 0.5 and 1, which made changes to the amount and distributions for the Municipal Parks Capital and Open Space passthrough. This amended version received a “Do Pass” recommendation.

Proposed Substitute Motion 2025-0077.2 passed out of the Budget and Fiscal Management committee on March 26, 2025, with a “Do Pass” recommendation. These are summarized in the “Summary of BFM Adopted Amendments” section at the end of this staff report.

Proposed Substitute Motion 2025-0077.3 passed out of the Regional Policy Committee on April 3, 2025, with a “Do Pass” recommendation.

The Proposed Motion was amended in committee on April 3, 2025 with:

- ***Amendment 0.5 requesting statements of fact on the shovel-readiness of capital projects at time of allocation in 2026-2028, and a comprehensive review of shovel-readiness in 2029, with recommendations on allocations.***
- ***Amendment 1 to change the Parks Capital and Open Space grant program to a Municipal Parks Capital and Open Space Passthrough.***
- ***Amendment 2 to require an equity report.***
- ***Amendment 2.5b to reduce levy spending by \$13.5 million and require that \$10 million of Healthy Communities and Parks Grants funding be reserved for cities and towns.***
- ***Amendment 3 to remove \$3 million allocation for Des Moines Steven J Underwood field; instead allocate \$3 million for park renovations in the City of Des Moines.***

SUBJECT

Proposed Ordinance (PO) 2025-0070 would place on the August 5, 2025, ballot a proposition authorizing a six-year property tax levy that would generate approximately \$1.5 billion in total over the six-year period.

Proposed Motion (PM) 2025-0077 would adopt a funding allocation plan for the proposed 2026-2031 levy.

SUMMARY

Proposed Ordinance (PO) 2025-0070 would place on the August 5, 2025, ballot a proposition authorizing a six-year property tax levy that would generate approximately \$1.5 billion in total over the six-year period. In comparison, the current 2020-2025 Park Levy is expected to generate approximately \$851 million over the six-year period, based on OEFA’s August 2024 forecast.¹

The levy would support:

¹ The current levy generated \$115.7 million in 2020, \$253.6 million in 2021-2022, an estimated \$307.9 million in 2023-2024, and is expected to generate \$169.8 million in 2025.

- King County Parks operations and maintenance;
- King County Parks capital program;
- King County cities, towns, and park districts;
- Woodland Park Zoo;
- Seattle Aquarium;
- Seattle Waterfront Park;
- Memorial Stadium; and
- Parks Levy Grants and Community Partnership Grants.

The initial levy rate is proposed at 24.43 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value (AV), with a proposed limit factor based on inflation growth² plus population growth. For the owner of a King County single-family home with a median 2024 AV of \$844,000, an initial levy rate of 24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV would cost this owner approximately \$206.19 annually (\$17.18 per month) in property tax in 2026. This would be approximately \$39.67 more per year (\$3.31 more per month) than the current levy for the same homeowner.

Proposed Motion (PM) 2025-0077 would adopt a funding allocation plan for the proposed 2026-2031 levy.

The staff report identifies policy issues for consideration by the Council and committee members.

The proposed levy was transmitted to the Council on February 11, 2025, and has been dually referred first to the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee and second to the Regional Policy Committee.

PO 2025-0070, as amended, and PM 2025-0077, as amended, were passed out of the BFM Committee on March 26, 2025. See the “Summary of Adopted BFM Amendments” section of this staff report for details on the changes made between Versions 1 and 2. Attachment 18 to this staff report also provides this information with corresponding changes to the ordinance and motion shown side-by-side.

If approved by the Council, the levy proposal would be placed before voters at the August 5, 2025, election. The last regular Council meeting at which the Council could act as a non-emergency and with maximum processing time would be April 1, 2025; with minimum processing time, it would be the April 22, 2025, Council meeting. The last regular meeting at which the Council could act as an emergency would be the May 2, 2025, Council meeting.

BACKGROUND

Tax Levies and Levy Lid Lifts in Washington. State law limits a taxing district (e.g., King County) to a 1% increase in regular property taxes per year plus the value of new

² Consumer Price Index for wage earners (CPI-W) for Seattle/Tacoma/Bremerton.

construction ("the standard limit factor").³ However, state law provides a mechanism by which taxing districts can exceed this limit – a majority of voters must approve such an increase through a proposition placed on a general or special election ballot.

There are four kinds of levy lid lifts for regular property tax levies, as discussed below.⁴

Single-Year Temporary Levy Lid Lift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The levy lid is increased by more than 1% in the first year and is subject to the standard limit factor in subsequent years. • Once the number of years specified in the levy proposition have elapsed, the levy rate returns to what it would have been had the lift never been approved.
Single-Year Permanent Levy Lid Lift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The levy lid is increased by more than 1% in the first year and is subject to the standard limit factor in all subsequent years.
Multi-Year Temporary Levy Lid Lift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The levy lid lift states the levy rate for the first year. The levy rate is increased by more than 1% in each of two to six years and is subject to the standard limit factor in subsequent years. • Once the number of years specified in the levy proposition have elapsed, the levy rate returns to what it would have been had the lift never been approved.
Multi-Year Permanent Levy Lid Lift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The levy lid is increased by more than 1% in each of two to six years and is subject to the standard limit factor in all subsequent years.

Levy Rate, Levy, and Limit Factor. A levy rate, levy, and limit factor are defined below.

- The *levy rate* is the rate of the property tax, set per \$1,000 AV.
- The *levy* is the total amount of property tax collected.
- The *limit factor* is the amount by which the total levy amount may not exceed in subsequent years. For a multi-year levy lid lift, the limit factor does not have to be the same for each year.

Prorationing. State law⁵ establishes a maximum aggregate property tax rate of \$5.90 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for counties, cities, fire districts, library districts, and certain other junior taxing districts. If a taxing district reaches its statutory rate limitation, that district can only collect the amount of tax revenue that would be produced by that statutory maximum levy rate.

³ RCW 84.55.010. The limit also allows an additional dollar amount for AV resulting from new construction and other exceptional cases.

⁴ The following discussion is based on RCW 84.55.050, WAC 458-19-045, and guidance from the Municipal Research and Services Center found at <https://mrsc.org/Home/Explore-Topics/Finance/Revenues/Levy-Lid-Lift.aspx>. In all cases described, levies are subject to statutory maximums as prescribed by state law.

⁵ RCW 84.52.043.

- In other words, if the aggregate of taxing districts exceeds the \$5.90 limit, the tax district's levies would have to be reduced so that the \$5.90 aggregate collection limit is not exceeded.
- Reductions are made in accordance with a district hierarchy established under state law.⁶
- In general, countywide levies are the most senior taxing districts and would be the last to be reduced, or pro-rated, under state law.⁷

Supplantation Considerations. Prior to 2024, a non-supplantation limitation under state law⁸ meant that proceeds from levy lid lifts could only be used for new programs and services under the specific purpose of the levy lid lift as identified in the ballot title; and for existing programs and services, as long as levy money was used to supplement, but not supplant, existing funds. This meant that levy lid lift proceeds could not be used to support services that the county already provided. From 2015 through 2022, there was a moratorium pausing the non-supplantation restriction in counties with a population over 1.5 million – such as King County.⁹

The passage of House Bill 2044 during the 2024 legislation session eliminated this non-supplantation restriction for levies. This means that local governments can now use voter-approved levy lid lifts for ongoing expenses, in addition to new programs and services, that support the levy lid lift's specified purpose.

Property Tax Exemption. State law allows cities and counties the option to exempt eligible senior citizens, veterans with disabilities, and others with disabilities from the regular property tax increase resulting from a levy, subject to meeting eligibility criteria and receiving application approval.¹⁰

History of the Parks Levy. Prior to 2003, the King County parks system relied mainly on General Fund (then called "Current Expense Fund") moneys. In 2003, the General Fund was facing \$52 million shortfall, attributed to growth in the cost of providing services, particularly in mandated criminal justice related functions, an economic recession, and an erosion of the county's tax base. Large deficits were predicted into the foreseeable future.

2002 Business Transition Plan. In 2002, to prevent the closure of the parks system, King County convened the Metropolitan Parks Task Force, a community advisory group that was asked to help develop a business transition plan for the County's parks. Major recommendations, which were codified in Ordinance 14509, included focusing on the

⁶ RCW 84.52.010

⁷ State law currently removes regular park and recreation district property tax levies from the \$5.90 limit if levied on an island within a county with a population over two million (i.e., Vashon Island). This exemption, unless changed by state law, expires January 1, 2027. (Chapter 117, Laws of 2021)

⁸ RCW 84.55.050.

⁹ Chapter 296, Laws of 2021.

¹⁰ *Guide to Property Tax Exemptions for Seniors, Persons with Disabilities, and Disabled Veterans*. King County Department of Assessments. URL: <https://cdn.kingcounty.gov/-/media/king-county/depts/assessor/documents/guide-to-property-tax-exemptions-for-senior-disabled-and-veterans.pdf?rev=aaa4b4d03cb146b6a961b4e531565ab5&hash=479455066CC8A083AE9B12C296316E13>. Last accessed on February 13, 2025.

County's regional role; becoming more entrepreneurial, by seeking revenues from fees and sponsorships; and finding community partners.

2003 Parks Levy. In 2003, following significant reductions in General Fund support for King County's parks and open space system, King County voters approved a 4.9 cent, four-year levy to support operations and maintenance for regional and rural parks. At the same time, the County implemented other strategies from the business transition plan, including transferring 56 urban parks and pools to local governments by the end of 2007.

2007 Parks Levies. In August 2007, voters approved two six-year parks levies:

- **Operating Levy:** A 5 cent operating levy was adopted to fund maintenance and operations for regional and rural parks. This levy was projected to raise approximately \$16 million in its first year, and had inflation built in so that levy revenues would keep pace with inflationary pressures.
- **Open Space & Trails Levy:** A 5 cent capital levy was adopted to fund expansion of the regional parks and open space system. This levy was split into three parts:
 - 60% to King County to acquire and preserve regional trails and natural areas, including funding for community partnership projects;
 - 20% to cities for trails, parks, and open space; and
 - 20% to Woodland Park Zoo for environmental education, conservation, and capital improvement projects.

The King County Parks Division ("Parks") continued to implement its business transition plan, transferring 31 more parks and pools to local cities between 2007 and 2012.

2013 Parks Levy. In August 2013, King County voters approved a new, 18.91 cent six-year parks levy with an annual limit factor tied to the consumer price index. The levy included 14.89 cents to continue the programs of the expiring levies and an additional 4.02 cents for new and enhanced programs.

2019 Parks Levy. In 2019, Ordinance 18890¹¹ placed on the August 2019 ballot a proposition authorizing a six-year property tax levy to support parks and open space throughout King County. The ordinance set an initial levy rate of 18.32 cents per \$1,000 of AV and is currently expected to generate approximately \$852 million over the life of the levy, to fund various projects and programs including:

- Up to \$8 million of the levy proceeds for a capital construction project at the Seattle Aquarium;
- Up to \$44 million of the levy proceeds to for pool maintenance, capital improvements and construction;
- Up to \$22 million of the levy proceeds for integrated floodplain management;
- 47% of the remaining proceeds for acquisition of open space, continued development of regional and other public trails, other capital improvement

¹¹ [File No. 2019-0084](#)

projects and major maintenance of the county's open space system, and community partnerships and grants;

- 40% of the remaining proceeds for King County's parks system operations and maintenance, with no more than \$10 million of this amount being used for targeted equity grants;
- 8% of the remaining proceeds for distribution to the towns and cities of King County for their town or city parks system operations and capital improvement projects; and
- 5% of the remaining proceeds for environmental education, maintenance and conservation programs at the Woodland Park Zoo.

At the same time the Council passed Ordinance 18890, it also passed a companion motion, Motion 15378,¹² which adopted an allocation plan for levy moneys, as well as guidance for four new grant programs. The allocation plan for the 2020-2025 Parks Levy is Attachment C to Motion 15378.

Summary of Outreach. Community engagement and outreach materials provided by Executive staff show that Parks conducted 21 engagement events in March and April 2024, both in-person and virtual, for the proposed 2026-2031 Parks Levy. Comparatively, Parks conducted 54 in-person engagement events for the current levy. Executive staff state that, although they were not categorized as formal engagement events, the Parks Mobile Engagement Team spent several days each week in February through April of 2024 soliciting in-person feedback in parks and trails across King County. According to staff, over 4,800 people across all nine King County Council districts participated in surveys and Parks staff also met with towns and cities, parks districts, and key partners to receive additional feedback about the levy proposal.

In January 2024, Parks established the King County Parks Levy Community Advisory Committee which met nine times to provide guidance on developing the 2026-2031 Parks Levy. Based on review of current levy funding and activities, and feedback from forums and surveys, the Committee recommended funding the following priorities:

- Safety and Belonging: increase funding for maintenance and infrastructure; provide multi-language signing and wayfinding; collaborate, engage, and partner with local communities in a substantive and culturally appropriate way.
- Equity: distribute levy funds based on an assessment of community needs, gaps, and equitable outcomes; improve accessibility for people with disabilities; expand hours for parks and trails; provide multi-language signing and wayfinding.
- Climate Resilience & Mitigation: prioritize open space acquisition to protect existing ecosystems; fund strategic and regional trail connections that provide transportation alternatives for commuters and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; increase tree canopy, open space acquisitions, and forest stewardship in concrete "hot zones" in urban and underserved communities.
- New Parks, Trails, & Recreation Opportunities: focus on trail improvements and "last mile" additions to connect communities; increase grant funding for local

¹²[File No. 2019-0142](#)

communities; more equitably distribute pass-through funding; provide additional support for sports infrastructure and programming in underserved communities.

ANALYSIS

Financials. Proposed Ordinance 2025-0070 would place on the August 5, 2025, ballot a proposition authorizing a six-year property tax levy that would generate approximately \$1.5 billion in total over the levy period. This is a multi-year temporary levy lid lift, meaning that funding would not continue after the six-year period expires.

Proposed Rate and Limit Factor. The initial levy rate is proposed at **24.43 cents** per \$1,000 of assessed value (AV), with a limit factor set as the combined percentage change in the prior year's Seattle consumer price index for wage earners (CPI-W) and estimated population growth in King County. This is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Estimated Limit Factor: Inflation Plus Population Growth

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
CPI-W (Seattle/Tacoma/Bremerton) ¹³	2.68%	2.49%	2.46%	2.41%	2.43%	2.68%
Estimated King County Pop. Growth ¹⁴	0.92%	0.93%	0.87%	0.80%	0.72%	0.92%
<i>Estimated Limit Factor</i>	3.60%	3.41%	3.33%	3.22%	3.15%	3.20%

Estimated Collections. Table 2 shows the estimated levy revenue for each year of the levy, based on the Office of Economic and Financial Analysis's (OEFA) August 2024 forecast for levy proceeds and presuming a limit factor based on the combined percentage change in the prior year's Seattle consumer price index for wage earners (CPI-W) and estimated population growth in King County. With these assumptions, the total projected revenue over the six-year levy period is **\$1.5 billion**.

For comparison, the current 2020-2025 levy had an initial rate of **18.32 cents** per \$1,000 AV in 2020, with a limit factor set as the combined percentage change in the prior year's Seattle CPI-W and estimated population growth in King County. The current 2020-2025 levy is expected to generate approximately **\$851 million** over the six-year levy period, based on OEFA's August 2024 forecast.¹⁵ This is approximately a 5% increase over the originally projected amount of \$810 million.

Table 2 also shows the estimated effective levy rate for each year of the levy period. For the current levy, the effective levy rate (which is calculated based on the limit factor, AV, and new construction) as of 2025 is 19.73 cents per \$1,000 AV.¹⁶ If, hypothetically, the current levy was extended into 2026 at a status quo continuation (applying the 2026 limit factor and AV assumptions to the 2025 levy collections), the effective rate for 2026 would have been 19.52 cents.

The March 2025 OEFA forecast was adopted by the Forecast Council on March 17, 2025. Based on the March 2025 OEFA forecast, total anticipated levy collections over six years is still \$1.5 billion. The annual estimates are shown below.

¹³ Inflation from Seattle CPI-W June Value in OEFA March 2024 Forecast.

¹⁴ Population forecast from OEFA March 2024 Forecast.

¹⁵ The current levy generated \$115.7 million in 2020, \$253.6 million in 2021-2022, an estimated \$307.9 million in 2023-2024, and is expected to generate \$169.8 million in 2025.

¹⁶ Based on August 2024 OEFA Forecast.

**Table 2. Estimated Annual Parks Levy Collections and Effective Levy Rate
(August 2024 OEFA Forecast)**

	Current Levy	Proposed 2026-2031 Levy					
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Estimated Proceeds ¹⁷	\$170 million	\$226 million	\$238 million	\$245 million	\$261 million	\$273 million	\$285 million
Estimated Effective Levy Rate ¹⁸ (per \$1000 AV)	\$0.1973	\$0.2443	\$0.24150	\$0.23896	\$0.23621	\$0.23260	\$0.22971

**Estimated Annual Parks Levy Collections and Effective Levy Rate (Adopted
March 2025 OEFA Forecast)**

	Current Levy	Proposed 2026-2031 Levy					
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Estimated Proceeds ¹⁹	\$170 million	\$220 million	\$232 million	\$246 million	\$258 million	\$271 million	\$285 million
Estimated Effective Levy Rate ²⁰ (per \$1000 AV)	\$0.1973	\$0.2443	\$0.2503	\$0.2547	\$0.2595	\$0.2614	\$0.2666

Impact to Household with Median-Valued Home. For the owner of a King County single-family home with a median AV of \$844,000 (based on 2024 assessed values²¹), an initial levy rate of **24.43 cents** per \$1,000 AV would cost this owner approximately **\$206.19** annually (\$17.18 per month) in property tax.

- For comparison, the effective levy rate of the current levy was approximately 19.43 cents per \$1,000 AV in 2024, which would cost the same homeowner approximately \$163.99 annually. For 2025, the effective levy rate of the current levy is approximately **19.73 cents** per \$1,000 AV, which would cost the same homeowner approximately **\$166.52** annually based on 2024 assessed values.
- To this homeowner, comparing the proposed 2026 rate with the effective 2025 rate, the proposed levy represents an approximate increase of \$39.67 annually (\$3.31 per month).

¹⁷ Based on August 2024 OEFA Forecast.

¹⁸ The effective levy rate is a function of assessed value, new construction, and the limit factor.

¹⁹ Based on adopted March 2025 OEFA Forecast.

²⁰ The effective levy rate is a function of assessed value, new construction, and the limit factor.

²¹ According to Executive staff, this value comes from Median Assessed Value (AV) by Levy or District data, provided by the King County Assessor's Office. The tax roll was certified by the Assessor's Office on January 27, 2025.

Prorating Considerations. Based on current prorating analysis from the OEFA's August 2024 forecast, it is not currently expected that the proposed levy would have a prorating impact on other taxing districts. In other words, levy suppression and prorating are not currently projected as an issue for the proposed levy as transmitted.

Prorating mitigation is not identified as an eligible levy expenditure in the PO. Whether or not to designate a specific reserve out of levy proceeds in the PO for any potential prorating mitigation would be a policy choice.

Based on the August 2024 OEFA forecast, assuming an initial parks levy rate of 24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV in 2026, there would be about \$1.09 of room in 2026, and between \$0.73 to \$1.09 in the next six years, before the closest district would hit the \$5.90 limit. During the 2026-2031 time frame, the closest levy district to reaching the \$5.90 limit would be Vashon Island, with about \$0.73 of room in 2027.²² This calculation includes the AFIS levy renewal passed in early 2025. The Executive is expected to transmit a proposed EMS levy renewal later in 2025; EMS levies are not subject to the \$5.90 limit.

Funding Categories Overview. This section provides an overview of the proposed levy allocations as stated in the PO, as well as the more detailed proposed investments listed in the proposed allocation plan that is Attachment 4 to this staff report. (Note that the allocation plan is not explicitly referenced in the PO and therefore is not part of the legislation; this level of detail would not be adopted by adopting the ordinance. PM 2025-0077 would adopt a funding allocation plan for the proposed 2026-2031 levy.)

Proposed Allocations as Stated in Proposed Ordinance. PO 2025-0070 would allocate levy proceeds for the following purposes, which are explicitly stated in the ordinance language:

- Up to \$42 million for Woodland Park Zoo;
- Up to \$15 million for Seattle Aquarium;
- Up to \$9 million for Friends of Waterfront Park;
- Up to \$2.5 million for Memorial Stadium;
- Up to \$30 million for Parks Capital and Open Space Grants; and
- Up to \$46 million for Aquatic Facilities Grants.

Note that the “up to” language in these allocations means that anywhere between \$0 and the maximum amount listed could be spent. The Executive’s proposed allocation plan indicates that the Executive does intend to spend the maximum for each of these categories.

Of remaining levy proceeds (approximately \$1.35 billion), PO 2025-0070 would explicitly allocate money as follows:

²² State law currently removes regular park and recreation district property tax levies from the \$5.90 limit if levied on an island within a county with a population over two million (i.e., Vashon Island). This exemption, unless changed by state law, expires January 1, 2027. (House Bill 1034, Chapter 117, Laws of 2021)

- 43% of remaining proceeds for operations and maintenance of the open space system²³ and for the Healthy Communities and Parks Grants Program;²⁴
- 48% of remaining proceeds to parks acquisition, conservation, stewardship, capital improvement, community partnerships and grants, and the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center;²⁵ and
- 9% of remaining proceeds to towns, cities, and parks districts.

Proposed Allocation Plan. Executive staff have transmitted a proposed allocation plan, which is Attachment 3 to this staff report and summarized in Table 3. Note that the proposed allocation plan is neither explicitly referenced in, nor identified as an attachment to the transmitted PO, and therefore this level of detail would not be adopted by adopting the ordinance.

Whether to amend the ordinance to adopt the proposed allocation plan, introduce a companion motion to adopt the proposed allocation plan, and/or to include additional specific allocations in the PO, is a policy choice for members to consider. For the 2020-2025 Parks Levy, the Council adopted, simultaneous to levy ordinance adoption,²⁶ a companion motion²⁷ that included the adopted current allocation plan (referred to herein as the “2020-2025 Parks Levy motion.”)

For the proposed 2026-2031 levy, a proposed companion motion (Proposed Motion 2025-0077) has been introduced. Proposed Motion 2025-0077 would adopt a funding allocation plan attached to the motion. While the attachment to the motion is currently the Executive’s proposed allocation plan, members may choose to amend the allocation plan; this would be a policy choice.

The Proposed Motion would stipulate that the amounts in the allocation plan may be modified when deemed advisable or necessary in the judgment of the Council, through adoption of an appropriations ordinance. If the Executive wished to make changes to allocations within the allocation plan, a report would be required to be submitted to the Council detailing the proposed changes. This process mirrors what was adopted in the 2020-2025 Parks Levy Motion. These processes are also policy choices.

²³ Defined in Section 1 as “the system that includes parks, trails, natural areas, resource lands, and structures or buildings owned or otherwise under the jurisdiction of the parks and recreation division of the department of natural resources.”

²⁴ No more than \$30M to Healthy Community and Parks Grants, formerly known as Targeted Equity Grants.

²⁵ Executive staff state that inclusion of the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center in this category is an error, and that it was intended to be an off-the-top allocation of up to \$22 million.

²⁶ Ordinance 18890.

²⁷ Motion 15378.

Table 3. Executive Proposed Allocation Plan for 2026-2031 Parks Levy

Parks Levy Grants and Community Partnerships		\$117 million
	Aquatic Facilities Capital Grants	\$46 million
	Parks Capital and Open Space	\$30 million
	Healthy Communities and Parks Fund (formerly known as Targeted Equity Grants)	\$30 million
	Community Partnerships and Grants ²⁸	\$11 million
Pass-Through		\$209 million
	King County cities, towns, and park districts	\$119 million
	Woodland Park Zoo	\$42 million
	Seattle Waterfront	\$9 million
	Seattle Aquarium	\$15 million
	Memorial Stadium	\$2.5 million
	Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center ²⁹	\$22 million
King County Parks Operations and Maintenance		\$551 million
	Operations, Maintenance, Program Delivery and Internal Supports	\$517 million
	Parks Patrol Expansion	\$4.3 million
	Safety Program Expansion	\$3.2 million
	Asset Management Program	\$4.1 million
	Land Use Stewardship and Encroachment Program	\$10.4 million
	Youth Conservation Corps Program Expansion	\$4.8 million
	Jobs & Housing Program	\$5 million
	Tribal, Indigenous, & Historic Interpretive Program	\$1.8 million
King County Parks Capital Program		\$624 million
	Climate resilience and stewardship	\$217.5 million
	Regional trails and other public trails system	\$179 million
	New park development and improvements	\$51 million
	Active recreation repair and renovation	\$177 million
Election Costs		\$1.5 million
Additional assumed costs		\$18 million
	Fixed income exemption ³⁰	\$3 million
	1% undercollection assumption ³¹	\$15 million

²⁸ Defined in Section 1 as "the program through which King County provides monies to recreation-oriented groups, sports associations and community-based organizations to undertake any combination of developing, operating or maintaining a public park or recreation facility or program in King County and King County cities for public benefit."

²⁹ Executive staff state that inclusion of the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center was intended to be an off-the-top allocation of up to \$22 million; its inclusion in the PO under Section 4.E (as part of the capital distribution) was an error and was intended to be included under Section 4.D.

³⁰ As authorized by RCW 84.36.381.

³¹ According to Executive staff, the 1% undercollection assumption is a consistent rate assumed countywide with other levies. The first four years of the Parks levy has seen less than 1% of the undercollection rate. Though FY 2024 year-end reconciliation is still underway and is expected to be finalized by April 2025, FY 2024 shows a little over that rate, consistent with the trajectory in the King County 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

Comparison with Current Parks Levy. Table 4 summarizes a comparison of the current 2020-2025 Parks Levy and the proposed 2026-2031 Parks Levy.

Table 4. Comparison of Current Parks Levy vs. Proposed Parks Levy Renewal

	2020-2025 Parks Levy Adopted Allocations	2020-2025 Parks Levy Actual Investment ³²	Proposed 2026-2031 Parks Levy Investment (Allocation Plan ³³)
Levy Rate			
Initial Levy Rate	Initial rate of 18.32 cents per \$1,000 AV in 2020; Effective rate is 19.73 cents per \$1,000 AV in 2025		Initial rate of 24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV
Total Levy Collection over 6-year period	\$810 million	\$851 million	\$1.5 billion
Estimated Annual Cost to Homeowner of Median-Valued King County Home	\$166.52 ³⁴		\$206.19 ³⁵
Pass-Through Investments			
Woodland Park Zoo	\$36 million	\$39 million	\$42 million
Seattle Aquarium	\$8 million	\$8 million	\$15 million
Seattle Waterfront	<i>Not in current levy</i>	<i>Not in current levy</i>	\$9 million
Memorial Stadium	<i>Not in current levy</i>	<i>Not in current levy</i>	\$2.5 million (in first two years)
Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center	\$8 million	\$8 million	\$22 million
Cities, Towns, and Park Districts ³⁶	\$60 million	\$62 million	\$119 million
King County Parks operations and maintenance	\$277 million	\$299 million	\$551 million
King County Parks capital program			
Climate resilience, conservation, and stewardship	\$98.5 million	\$102.2 million	\$217 million
Regional and other public trails system	\$165.65 million	\$170.15 million	\$179 million
New park development and improvements	<i>Not in current levy</i>	<i>Not in current levy</i>	\$51 million
Active recreation repair and renovation	\$41.5 million	\$55.2 million	\$177 million
Grants			
Parks Capital and Open Space Grant	\$25 million	\$25 million	\$30 million
Aquatic Facilities Grant	\$36 million	\$36 million	\$46 million
Healthy Communities and Parks Grant (formerly Targeted Equity Grant)	\$10 million	\$10 million	\$30 million
Community Partnership Grants	\$9.57 million	\$9.8 million	\$11 million
Open Space River Corridors Grant	\$22 million	\$22 million	<i>Not continued</i>

³² Based on current levy forecast within the August 2024 OEFA forecast. FY 2024 expenditures are expected to be finalized by April 2025. FY 2025 expenditures are expected to be finalized by April 2026.

³³ Note that the proposed allocation plan is not explicitly referenced in the proposed ordinance, and therefore this level of detail would not be adopted by adopting the ordinance.

³⁴ Based on effective 2025 levy rate and 2024 median assessed value.

³⁵ Based on proposed 2026 levy rate and 2024 median assessed value.

³⁶ Park Districts were not included in the 2020-2025 Parks Levy.

Operations and Maintenance. After off-the-top distributions for educational and civic venues, two grant programs, and election costs, the PO specifies that 43% of the remainder of Parks Levy moneys would be used for:

- Operations and maintenance of the County's Open Space System, and
- Healthy Community and Parks Grants program, which is referred to as the Target Equity Grant program in the 2020-2025 Parks Levy.

The PO would set a maximum of \$30 million that could be expended on the Healthy Community and Parks Grants program, with no minimum spending amount specified. Further details on this program can be found in the Grant Programs section of this staff report.

The PO and its attachments do not provide any further specificity on how funding in this category would be spent. The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive intends to spend the maximum-allowed \$30 million on the Healthy Communities and Grants Program, leaving an estimated \$550.6 million for operations and maintenance of the County's open space system. This represents a roughly 84% increase in funding for this category compared to current forecasts for the 2020-2025 levy.

Update for 3/26 BFM staff report: In response to inquiry from Councilmembers, Central staff requested from Executive staff an analysis of how much of the increase in operations and maintenance costs were due to maintaining current service levels, compared with inflation or new capacity. Executive staff provided, and Council staff shared with members, a document that was included in the 3/12 staff reports as Attachment 4 (Inflation Analysis).

Under that prior analysis, the \$550.6 million request for maintenance and operations included:

- \$302 million for current service levels
- \$33 million for inflationary costs
- \$182 million to increase the capacity of the parks system
- \$33.6 million for new and expanded programs

On March 19, Council staff were informed that the previously provided analysis was incorrect. According to Executive staff, \$302 million reflects the total operations during the 2020-2025 levy, and the \$33 million inflationary impact was calculated incorrectly based on that number and therefore does not account for annual increases in the next levy period.

Executive staff provided Council staff with updated numbers, which are summarized below and detailed at length in the "Answers to Councilmember Questions from 3/12 BFM" section of the staff report. Under the new analysis, Executive state that Parks would need **\$466.6 million** over the 2026-2031 levy period to maintain current levels of service, accounting for inflation.

\$466.6 million	To maintain current levels of service from 2026-2031, including accounting for inflation
\$50.2 million	To increase capacity of parks system
\$33.6 million	For new and expanded programs
\$550 million	Total Maintenance and Operations Request

Additionally, in the responses to Councilmember questions raised in the 2/26 BFM meeting, which Council staff shared at the 3/12 BFM meeting, Executive staff provided an estimate that they expect to fund 150-170 FTE during the 2026-2031 levy with this requested amount.

Council staff followed up to inquire how these additional positions correspond with the requested funding. According to Executive staff, the 150 FTE includes 85 positions to increase the capacity of the parks system, 27 positions for new and expanded programs, conversion of 28 TLT to FTE, and 10 Youth Conservation Corps intern positions.

85 positions	85 FTE, corresponds to \$50.2 million request to increase capacity
27 positions	27 FTE, corresponds to \$33.6 million request for new and expanded programs
28 positions	TLT to FTE conversions
10 positions	Youth Conservation Corps intern positions
150 positions	Total Additional Positions

For reference, the Parks operating budget for 2025 was \$70 million, which included 345 FTE and 28 TLT. In 2020, at the start of the current levy, the operating budget was \$43 million, which included 253 FTE and 1 TLT. According to Executive staff, Parks has been growing the workforce by about 8% per year for a total of 47% over the course of 2020-2025 levy.

The following subsections break down the Executive's planned spending on operations and maintenance as contained in the proposed allocation plan.

Operations, Maintenance, Program Delivery, and Internal Supports. The vast majority (\$517 million or 93%) of operations and maintenance funding would go towards maintaining the current King County open space system. The allocation plan states that this money would cover the system's day-to-day operational needs, including but not limited to personnel, supplies, services, fleet, equipment, and administrative costs.

The \$517 million in this category also includes \$2.4 million that would be split between the King County Fair, Washington State University 4-H Program, and King County

Search and Rescue operations. These three programs are currently funded by Parks Levy dollars. The Parks Levy Operations Financial Plan,³⁷ which was transmitted with the PO but not formally attached to the levy ordinance, provides the following breakdown of funding for these programs:

- King County Search and Rescue - \$1.2 million (double what was initially planned for the 2020-2025 investment, but level funding with that which began in the 2023-2024 biennial budget)³⁸
- WSU Cooperative / 4-H - \$906,000 (level funding with current)

The amount going to the King County Fair is not explicitly stated, but subtracting the \$2.4 million listed in the proposed allocation plan for these programs from the numbers above would leave \$300,000 for the King County Fair. For comparison, the allocation plan adopted by the 2020-2025 Parks Levy motion set aside \$300,000 for the Fair over the life of that levy.

Parks Patrol Expansion. King County Parks currently has a service level agreement with the King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) to provide a Parks Patrol Program through which two KCSO deputies are assigned full time to the King County parks system. The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive would spend \$4.3 million over the life of the levy to expand the program. Executive staff state that the expansion would include increased enforcement and education related to parks rules by adding two additional deputies over the levy period. They further state that the proposed expansion of this program would help to continue to address safety issues, provide quick response times, and consistent communication for concerns raised by staff or the public about the parks system.

Safety Program Expansion. According to Executive staff, Parks' safety program currently supports personnel, equipment, and training to implement a modern, comprehensive safety program for the division. Goals of the Safety Program include accident and injury prevention, ensuring compliance with safety regulations, and promoting a proactive and team-oriented safety-first culture. The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive would spend \$3.2 million over the life of the levy to expand the program. Executive staff state that this expansion would enable Parks to invest funds into planning, training, comprehensive workplace and practice evaluations, targeted safety program and initiative development, and procedures.

Asset Management Program. The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive would spend \$4.1 million on an asset management program. The proposal would expand Parks' existing asset management program. Funding for this program would provide staffing and resources required to operate, maintain and enhance the asset management system which includes a complete inventory of physical park assets. Executive staff state that the expanded program would require an additional 4 FTEs. The expansion of the work program would include:

³⁷ Attachment 9 to this staff report.

³⁸ Executive staff state that the \$600,000 figure in the Operations Financial Plan is incorrect.

- A focus on performing ongoing asset condition inspections along with creating and implementing preventative maintenance programs based on asset life cycle data.
- Collecting new asset data, updating existing data, managing system upgrades, troubleshooting system problems, training parks staff on how to use the system, documenting standard operating procedures, and implementing system enhancement.

Land Use Stewardship and Encroachment Program. According to Executive staff, the Land Use Stewardship and Encroachment Program incorporates the department's enforcement of land use guidelines to comply with the permit system requirements in K.C.C 14.30. The proposed funding would support property services, permitting for use of Parks property, and enforcement of the Parks Land Use Guidelines,³⁹ which Parks does not currently have resources to do. The Parks Land Use Guidelines require the Parks to review and make recommendations on Special Use Permit applications requesting use of Parks' property for non-park purposes.

Youth Conservation Corps Program Expansion. The 2020-2025 Parks Levy motion directed the Executive to develop a plan to implement Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) beginning in 2020. The YCC is currently active as a summer internship program and, according to its website,⁴⁰ youth interns participate in the following activities:

- Engage in discussions about the intersections of race and the environment;
- Lead conversations with other interns on self-selected topics;
- Develop and build-upon career skills such as writing, public speaking, and interviewing;
- Become familiar with land management practices and the multiple facets of a park agency;
- Network with Parks staff, community leaders, and environmental professionals;
- Explore solutions to problems impacting human and environmental health; and
- Participate in workshops about local environmental challenges.

The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive would maintain an expanded YCC program by investing an \$4.8 million over the life of the levy. In the current six-year levy period, the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) Program is funded at \$2.4M for the annual summer internship program that provides environmental learning opportunities for ten high school-aged youth. In FY 2024, the program received additional funding (\$750k) through a Flood Control District grant to expand the program to include twenty additional internship opportunities, two staff members and program related supplies. The expansion proposal, which adds \$2.4M to the existing funding, for a total of \$4.8M, would maintain the continuity of the current program expansion when the grant funds sunset in 2025.

³⁹ King County Parks: Land Use Guidelines October 2020. Last accessed February 19, 2025.
https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/ls05t2bj3gk7tybd3xax7/KCP_Land_Use_Guidelines.pdf?rlkey=fqg5q6u3fnf71a7q688ed12xl&e=2&dl=0

⁴⁰ King County Parks: Youth Conservation Corps. Last accessed February 15, 2025.
<https://kcpyouthcorps.org/>

Jobs and Housing Program. The Jobs and Housing Program was established by the Council in the COVID 7 budget⁴¹ passed in 2021, using Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery (CLFR) dollars. This initiative was intended to support a jobs and rehousing program for individuals experiencing homelessness. Funding was housed in the Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget (PSB).

The Jobs and Housing Program began operations in 2021 and provided temporary jobs, career preparation, and housing and support services within King County and other local organizations. These temporary jobs lasted up to one year and included paid ORCA transit pass and other transportation assistance, housing support, career support, and coaching services for one year. Of the 87 temporary jobs provided, 37 of were with King County Parks.

The 2025 Annual Budget⁴² appropriated the last of the CLFR funding for the Jobs and Housing Program, with the program intended to sunset at that time. Simultaneously, however, the budget appropriated \$851,000 to continue the Parks portion of the program, known as the Parks Beautification Program, through 2025, using solely Parks Levy moneys.

The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive would use \$5 million of operations and maintenance funding to continue the Jobs and Housing program through the life of the levy. This represents roughly level annual funding with that appropriated for 2025. Executive staff have confirmed that the \$5 million only includes the “jobs” portion of the Jobs and Housing program, and that Parks is not currently responsible for housing or support services but will evaluate potential partnerships with other agencies for continued collaboration. PSB has been responsible for working with housing and service providers on this program; however, as mentioned above, PSB’s CLFR funding is expected to be exhausted in 2025.

Tribal, Indigenous, and Historic Interpretive Program. The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive would use \$1.8 million in operations and maintenance funding for a new Tribal, Indigenous, and Historic Interpretive Program. The allocation plan states that this program would “support work with Tribes, indigenous organizations, and historic preservation organizations to strengthen government-to-government relationships and improve conservation and recreational planning.” Executive staff state that this program is the result of a recommendation by the Community Advisory Committee to strengthen partnerships with Tribal organizations and to collaborate with Tribes to better achieve common objectives.

They further state that the program would be developed in partnership with area tribes, indigenous organizations, and historic preservation organizations, and that resources would be invested in, but not limited to, the following:

- Improving conservation and recreational planning so that public use can be better balanced with protecting and honoring traditional cultural places;
- Supporting storytelling and interpretation that honors site-based history and context; and

⁴¹ Ordinance 19289.

⁴² Ordinance 19861.

- As appropriate, feasible, and if desired by those Parks would be working with, incorporating traditional cultural knowledge and practices in land management efforts and programs.

Capital Projects and Aquatic Center. After off-the-top distributions for educational and civic venues, two grant programs, and election costs, the PO specifies that 48% of the remainder of Parks Levy moneys would be used for:

- Acquisition, conservation, and stewardship of additional open space lands, natural areas, resource or ecological lands, rights of way for regional trails, and urban green spaces;
- Acquisition of rights of way for and development of regional and other public trails;
- Capital improvement projects and major maintenance repair or replacement of open space system infrastructure;
- The community partnerships and grants program; and
- Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center.

The PO and its attachments do not provide any further specificity on how much money would be appropriated to each of these categories or what projects they might entail. Executive staff state that proposed allocations are not explicitly enumerated in the ordinance as they are planning-level estimates and may change in the future.

Executive staff state that the inclusion of the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center in this 48% category was an error, and that it was intended to be an off-the-top allocation of up to \$22 million for major maintenance capital investments to the Aquatic Center.

The Executive's proposed allocation plan provides further information on the expected allocations, which are discussed below. Further details on The Community Partnerships and Grants program can be found in the Grant Programs section of this staff report.

Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center. The Executive's proposed allocation plan states that \$22 million is expected to go to the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center over the life of the levy. Executive staff state that, as the facility is 35 years old, there are significant deferred maintenance and end of lifecycle needs that would be covered by this funding.

Climate Resilience and Stewardship. The Executive's proposed allocation plan creates a new subcategory, "Climate Resilience and Stewardship," that replaces the "Open Space Acquisition/Land Conservation" subcategory in the adopted 2020-2025 Parks Levy allocation plan (Motion 15378) and includes several of the same spending items.

Table 5 below shows the difference between the 2020-2025 adopted allocation plan and the 2026-2031 proposed allocation plan for this subcategory.

Table 5. Comparison of Climate Resilience and Stewardship/Open Space Acquisition Funding, Current Parks Levy vs. Proposed Parks Levy Renewal

Subcategory	2020-2025 Allocation Plan (\$123.5 million)	2026-2031 Proposed Allocation Plan (\$217.5 million)⁴³
King County Open Space Acquisition/Land Conservation	\$78 million	\$96 million
Towns and Cities Open Space	\$25 million	Now categorized as Parks Capital and Open Space Grants (\$30 million)
Stewardship of Lands Acquired (O&M)	\$18 million	\$20 million
Fish Passage Program	Not included	\$10 million
Climate Resilience	Not included	\$33 million
Environmental Stewardship	Not included	\$58.5 million
Water Access Acquisition on Lake Washington	\$2.5 million ⁴⁴	Not included

Each of these subcategories is discussed in more detail below.

King County Open Space Acquisition/Land Conservation and Stewardship (\$116 million). The proposed allocation plan estimates that \$96 million would be used for King County's acquisition and conservation of open space lands, with an additional \$20 million proposed for stewardship of lands acquired with this money.

Attachment B to the PO includes Acquisition Guidelines for Parks Levy funding used to acquire open space and natural lands⁴⁵ in coordination with the County's Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) program. Attachment B gives the following process, which aligns with the process the Executive uses currently (but was not spelled out in the 2020-2025 Parks Levy ordinance or motion):

1. Early each calendar year, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) would set a proposed allocation for open space from levy funds for the following fiscal year.
2. Staff would generate proposals for the use of these funds, taking into account opportunities to leverage resources with funding from Conservation Futures, as well as from other local, state, and federal funding sources.

⁴³ Total does not include Parks Capital and Open Space Grants, which are proposed to move to another category.

⁴⁴ The allocation was directed to be used for properties located in proximity to the Burke-Gilman Trail. Waterfront property near the Burke-Gilman Trail in the City of Lake Forest Park was acquired.

⁴⁵ Neither of these terms is defined in the PO. In the County's [Open Space Plan](#), "open space" is a catch-all term, of which "natural areas" is a subset meaning "ecological lands managed almost exclusively for environmental protection and enhancement."

3. An overall proposal allocating the open space funds to specific projects would be developed and discussed with the Conservation Futures Advisory Committee (CFAC) that is responsible for developing CFT funding recommendations.
4. Taking the CFAC's recommendations into account, DNRP would develop a proposed budget for these parks levy funds.
5. The DNRP-proposed budget for parks levy funding would be reviewed by the County Executive, and ultimately County Council, as part of the overall budget process for the following year.

Executive staff have stated that the entire \$96 million is intended to be allocated through the CFT process. This is a policy choice. Council may wish to clarify exactly what funding is subject to Attachment B.

As noted in Table 5, the allocation plan for the 2020-2025 Parks Levy motion⁴⁶ also included funding for towns and cities open space. Via the 2020-2025 Parks Levy motion, the Council directed establishment of the Parks Capital and Open Space Grant Program, and the \$25 million was used for those purposes. The current proposal for the Parks Capital and Open Space Grant Program is discussed in the Grant Programs section of this staff report.

Fish Passage Program (\$10 million). The Fish Passage Restoration Program removes barriers for salmon to reach historic spawning and rearing habitat in order to restore healthy populations. Executive staff have confirmed that the \$10 million would only be used for work on Parks-owned properties or land where Parks has easements. Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funding is expected to supplement the \$10 million.

Executive staff state that the fish passage projects anticipated for the 2026-2031 levy are consistent with the Motion 15378 Report. Between 2022 and 2024, Parks completed eight projects that remedied ten fish passage barriers. The 2026-2031 Levy proposal provides funding for eight additional projects, with further fish passage projects needing completion after 2031.

Climate Resilience (\$33 million). Investments in climate resilience would include the following.

- *Parks' Forest Stewardship Program and Projects.* Parks' Forest Stewardship webpage⁴⁷ states that Parks manages over 29,000 acres of public forest land, 3,800 of which are designated as working forests. Types of stewardship actions listed there include development of stewardship plans, variable thinning management, red alder conversion, and root rot treatment.
- *Potential Stormwater Park Pilot Projects.* Stormwater parks are community facilities that both manage stormwater from a larger area and provide

⁴⁶ Motion 15738.

⁴⁷ King County Parks: Forest Stewardship. Last accessed February 15, 2025.

<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dnrp/nature-recreation/parks-recreation/king-county-parks/natural-working-lands/forest-stewardship>.

recreational opportunities.⁴⁸ Executive staff state that the locations of the pilot projects have not been identified yet, and that identifying sites would be part of a scoping and feasibility study effort that would be completed jointly between Parks Division and Water and Land Resources Division.

- *Establishment of a Climate Response Fund.* The proposed allocation plan states that this fund would support community response projects and programming. Executive staff state that projects and programming could include, but wouldn't be limited to:
 - Adding electric vehicle charging stations for both county-fleet and public vehicles at parks;
 - Converting existing Parks facilities that still run on fossil fuels to electric;
 - Adding solar panels to existing Park facilities;
 - Adding air-conditioning to publicly accessible Park facilities;
 - Urban tree planting projects; and
 - Adding splash pads, misters and/or sprinklers at parks.

Environmental Stewardship (\$58 million). The proposed allocation plan states that investments in environmental stewardship will support:

- Early actions to safeguard sites for public use following acquisition;
- Structure demolitions to deliver full ecological and recreation benefits;
- Improvements to existing maintenance facilities and acquisitions;
- Natural resource and site management planning;
- Multi-benefit river corridor projects; and
- Landscaping/restoration/mitigation site monitoring and maintenance.

Regional and Other Public Trails. The proposed allocation plan includes \$179 million in investments for regional trails and other public trails. In comparison, the 2020-2025 Parks Levy motion included \$165.7 million in investments to this category.

Table 6. Comparison of Regional and Other Public Trails Funding, Current Parks Levy vs. Proposed Parks Levy Renewal

Subcategory	2020-2025 Allocation Plan (\$165.65 million)	2026-2031 Proposed Allocation Plan (\$179 million)
Eastrail	\$50.5 million	\$65 million
Lake to Sound Trail	\$16 million	\$55 million
Green River Trail North Extension	\$6 million	\$6 million
Interurban Trail South	\$5.5 million	\$8 million
Soos Creek Trail	\$4 million	\$7 million
Other New Regional Trails		\$38 million
East Lake Sammamish Trail	\$32 million	
Capital improvements for existing regional trail system	\$18 million	

⁴⁸ Puget Sound Regional Council: Stormwater Parks. Last accessed February 15, 2025.
<https://www.psrc.org/our-work/stormwater-parks>

Green to Cedar Rivers Trail North A	\$9 million	
Regional trails acquisition	\$2 million	
Foothills Trail	\$5 million	
East Lake Sammamish Trail – Redmond Light Rail Extension	\$4 million	
Wayne Golf Course Trail Connector Improvements	\$2 million	
Interurban Trail to Burke Gilman Connection	\$7.5 million	
Interurban Trail Connection	\$150,000	
Kirkland Green Loop Trail	\$2.5 million	
Missing Link of Green River Trail	\$1.5 million	

The proposed allocation plan includes the following investments:

Eastrail (\$65 million). The proposed levy would support construction of two additional segments of Eastrail, construction of an Eastrail connection to Coulon Park, paving the Central Wilburton segment, and completing design on the Eastrail to Lake to Sound Trail connection.

Eastrail is anticipated to be an uninterrupted 42-mile trail that would connect Renton, Bellevue, Kirkland, Woodinville, Snohomish, and Redmond. Approximately 16 miles are open, of which 7.5 miles are owned by King County. Trail segments currently under construction⁴⁹ are the Wilburton Trestle,⁵⁰ the I-90 Bridge Trail segment,⁵¹ and the Central Wilburton Trail Segment.⁵²

According to Executive staff, the proposed \$65 million allocation to Eastrail would support the I-90 Steel Bridge Crossing, Central Wilburton Paving, 124th to 145th Interim Trail, Coulon Park North Entrance to South Entrance, Coulon Park North Entrance to Mile Post 5, and Mile Post 5 to Ripley Lane.

Lake to Sound Trail (\$55 million). The proposed levy would support construction of two additional segments of the Lake to Sound Trail and the completion of the design to connect Lake to Sound Trail to SeaTac Airport. The Lake to Sound Trail is a multi-jurisdiction, multiple segment trail that extends 16 miles from the Cedar River at Lake Washington in Renton to Des Moines Beach Park on Puget Sound.

⁴⁹ King County Parks: Eastrail. Last accessed February 15, 2025.

<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dnrp/nature-recreation/parks-recreation/king-county-parks/capital-projects/eastrail>

⁵⁰ Construction started May 2024; anticipated opening summer 2026; costs \$37 million, of which \$20.5 million came from the 2020-2025 Parks Levy; other funding sources are Amazon, Washington State, City of Bellevue, and Kaiser Permanente.

⁵¹ Construction 2028-2030; anticipated opening 2030; costs \$49 million, of which \$2 million came from the 2020-2025 Parks Levy, along with a \$25 million federal RAISE Grant and \$12 million from Washington State's Climate Commitment Act.

⁵² Construction 2025-2026; anticipated opening 2026; costs \$2.5 million funded by Amazon.

Green River Trail Extension – North (\$6 million). The proposed levy would support construction of the Green River Trail North to Seattle. The Green River Trail is a regional trail of more than 19 paved miles from the south edge of Seattle to the City of Kent, passing through industrial lands near the Duwamish Waterway in Tukwila to the broad Green River Valley. The North extension project would extend the existing Green River Trail north from Cecil Moses Park in Tukwila, along West Marginal Place South, to the Seattle City limits near South Park.⁵³

Interurban Trail South Investments (\$8 million). The proposed levy would complete full rehabilitation of the Interurban Trail South. The Interurban Trail links Tukwila, Kent, Auburn, Algona, and Pacific along a 14-mile trail following the Interurban Rail Line.

Soos Creek Trail (\$7 million). The proposed levy would support construction of Soos Creek Trail Segment 5a and plan for future Soos Creek Trail segments. The Soos Creek Trail is a 6-mile paved trail in the East Hill area of Kent with a gentle grade for strolls, bicycle rides, and horse rides.⁵⁴

Other New Regional Trails (\$38 million). Of this amount, \$18 million would support planning, acquisition, and preliminary design for potential future trail segments and connections, including, but not limited to: Green River Trail, Preston-Snoqualmie Trail, Soos Creek Trail, Cedar River Trail, Green to Cedar Trail, and Snoqualmie Valley Trail.

The remaining \$20 million would support emergent needs on the regional trail system, including, but not limited to: surface improvements, lighting, access control improvements, and intersection improvements.

New Park Development and Improvements. The proposed allocation plan includes \$51 million in investments for new park development and improvements.

Dog Parks (\$3 million). According to Executive staff, King County Parks completed a Draft Dog Park Feasibility Study in 2024. One of the prioritization criteria for locations assessed in the study was whether a community identified off-leash parks as a need in the King County Department of Local Services Community Needs Report. Based on this, feasible sites identified in that study include:

- North Shorewood Park
- Lake Geneva Park
- Skyway Park (if it aligns with the Community Center plan)

Executive staff state that King County Parks is also actively looking for potentially suitable locations on Vashon Island and in Fairwood near Petrovitsky Park.

⁵³King County Parks: Green River Trail North Extension. Last accessed February 15, 2025.
<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dnrp/nature-recreation/parks-recreation/king-county-parks/capital-projects/green-river-trail-north-extension>

⁵⁴King County Parks: Soos Creek Trail. Last accessed February 15, 2025.
<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dnrp/nature-recreation/parks-recreation/king-county-parks/trails/leafline-trails/soos-creek-trail>

As background, Ordinance 19771, passed in 2024, adopted several changes to King County Code Title 7, including allowing off-leash dog parks at County parks other than Marymoor Park.

Lakeland Park North (\$10 million). This would support design and construction of a 20-acre nature park at Lakeland North Urban Park between Auburn and Federal Way including trails, nature-based play area, shelter, restroom and parking.

Skyway Park Planning and Community Center (\$13 million). This would support design, construction, and initial operational costs at Skyway Park Community Center. Approximately \$20 million in additional funding would be needed for construction and is expected to come from REET and bond financing.

Backcountry Trail: new trails (\$3 million). According to Executive staff, new trails may be created at the sites that are listed under Major Maintenance and would also be created at future sites to be acquired.

Ballfield and Sports Courts: new facilities (\$3 million). According to Executive staff, potential projects may include adding pickleball courts at existing parks, adding recreational cricket facilities at existing parks, and adding light to existing courts or fields.

Natural Grass to Synthetic Turf Field Conversion (\$19 million). This would support design and construction at South County Ballfields in Federal Way.

Active Recreation Repair and Renovation, and Other Park Repair and Renovation. The proposed allocation plan includes \$177 million in investments to active recreation repair and renovation, and other pair repair and renovation. In comparison, the 2020-2025 Parks Levy motion included \$41.5 million in investments to this category.

Major maintenance existing infrastructure (\$90 million). This includes:

- General Infrastructure: \$23 million
- Playground rehabilitation: \$7 million
- Play amenities rehabilitation: \$6 million
- Parks building system rehabilitation: \$8 million
- Ballfield synthetic turf replacement: \$12 million
- Pools, water access, docks rehabilitation: \$2 million
- Ballfields and sports court rehabilitation: \$6 million
- Backcountry trail rehabilitation: \$6 million
- Drainage infrastructure rehabilitation: \$12 million
- Other agency projects (Sound Transit, WSDOT, KC Roads, etc.): \$8 million

ADA and accessibility rehabilitation (\$12 million). According to Executive staff, these projects would be identified by the ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan, which are currently in progress.

Regional trails rehabilitation (\$55 million). This would support keeping the existing regional trail system clean, safe, and open and includes, but is not limited to, repair/replacement of bridges and trestles, trail surface repairs/rehabilitation, safety updates, repairs to meet current guidelines and standards, and landscaping/mitigation maintenance and monitoring.

Marymoor Park rehabilitation (\$16 million). This would fund rehabilitation of infrastructure and facilities throughout Marymoor Park to keep the park clean, safe, and open. It also includes funding for improvements to address growing user demand including, but not limited to, signage, utilities, pedestrian facilities, buildings, roadways, velodrome rehabilitation, and concert venue updates. This program is expected to be supplemented with Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funding.

Sunset Park Renovation and Repair (\$4 million). According to Executive staff, the exact updates are still to be determined as part of a public engagement process, but may include, restroom renovation, parking improvements, court and field improvements, and adding additional amenities such as play area.

Grants Programs. The PO includes four grant programs that would be funded through the 2026-2031 Parks Levy. All four programs are continuations of existing grant programs, though modifications are proposed to three of the four. One program from the 2020-2025 Parks Levy, the Open Space - River Corridors Grant Program, is not proposed to continue. Table 7 below compares funding in the allocation plan of the current 2020-2025 Parks Levy and the allocation plan for the proposed 2026-2031 Parks Levy.

Table 7. Comparison of Grant Program Funding, Current Parks Levy vs. Proposed Parks Levy Renewal

Program Name	2020-2025 Allocation Plan (\$102.57 million)	2026-2031 Allocation Plan (\$117 million)
Parks Capital and Open Space Grants (PCOS)	\$25 million ⁵⁵	\$30 million
Aquatic Facilities Grants	\$36 million	\$46 million
Healthy Communities and Parks Grants ⁵⁶	\$10 million	\$30 million
Community Partnerships and Grants	\$9.57 million	\$11 million
Open Space – River Corridors Grants	\$22 million	\$0

Table 7 shows that varying levels of increases are proposed for four of the programs, the largest of which would be a tripling of funding for the Healthy Communities and Parks Grants. Executive staff state that since 2022, the Healthy Communities and Parks Program received 404 applications requesting \$50.7 million, but King County was only able to approve about a quarter of the requests, or 105 applications (\$6.53 million), due to limited funding availability. This led the Parks Levy Oversight Board to recommend an increase in total funding for this grant program in the next levy to meet current and future demand. Executive staff state that their community engagement found support for increasing grant funding generally as well.

Executive staff state that the Open Space - River Corridors Grant Program is not proposed to continue because “during this program’s request for application cycles in 2022 and 2023 in the current levy period, there were not enough applicants to use all the allocated funding. Over half of the grants awarded in this program went to King County Parks or Water and Land Resources (WLR) Division (17 of 31). Parks and WLR plan to continue open space river corridor work without the grant program in the next levy cycle under several program areas, including the Environmental Stewardship Program and the Climate Resilience Program.”

For the PCOS, Aquatic Facilities, and Healthy Communities and Parks Grant Programs, the Executive proposes new program requirements through Attachment A to the PO. Existing program requirements, including eligible entities, eligible project types, advisory committee makeup, and selection process and criteria, are currently set by Ordinance 19166 (“the 2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance”). Analysis is ongoing as to whether the 2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance would need to be repealed in order to prevent conflicts with Attachment A to the PO.

As Tables 8, 9, and 10 show, the current programs have requirements around their advisory committees, project selection criteria, and approval process that are not included in Attachment A to the PO. Executive staff state that they propose to set those

⁵⁵ Note that in the 2020-2025 Allocation Plan, this is named “Towns and Cities Open Space” under the Open Space Acquisition category.

⁵⁶ Called “Targeted Equity Grant Program” in the 2020-2025 Parks Levy.

parameters internally for the 2026-2031 levy period, and anticipate making the following changes:

1. Defining a consistent grant framework in terms of goals;
2. Establishing consistent biennial grants cycles; and
3. Providing Council notification of awards, rather than Council approval.

Further detail on Executive's staff's proposed changes can be found in the Policy Issues section of this staff report. Whether to add guidance or requirements on these topics, with or without changes to what is in the 2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance, is a policy choice.

Because Attachment A is a formal attachment to the PO, the guidelines contained therein would not be able to be changed throughout the six-year levy period. This is also a policy choice.

Details of each grant program are discussed below.

Parks Capital and Open Space (PCOS) Grants. The PCOS Grant Program was a new program under the 2020-2025 Parks Levy. The PO defines the program as one that "provides moneys to metropolitan park districts, towns, or cities located in King County to achieve capital improvement projects and major maintenance repair, or replacement of parks or recreation infrastructure."

The PO includes an off-the-top allocation of up to \$30 million for the PCOS Grant Program. The proposed allocation plan indicates that the Executive intends to spend the full \$30 million over the levy period.

Table 8. below shows the key elements of the program, as described in Attachment A to the PO, compared to the existing program under the 2020 Parks Levy Grant Ordinance. Yellow highlighting indicates areas of difference between the existing program and proposed one.

Table 8. PCOS Grant Program Requirements Comparison⁵⁷

Program Element	2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance Requirements	Proposed 2026-2031 Levy Attachment A Requirements
Eligible Entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities and towns • Metropolitan park districts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities and towns • Metropolitan park districts • Public entities that serve King County
Eligible Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital projects to develop new or existing parks/trails/open space, at any stage • Acquiring land for parks/trails/open space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital projects to develop new or existing parks/trails/open space, at any stage • Acquiring land for parks/trails/open space⁵⁸
Advisory Committee	Representatives of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities • School Districts • Nonprofit Organizations Council gives input on representatives	No advisory committee structure given
Project Selection Criteria	Criteria given for weighing relative merits of applications.	No additional criteria given for weighing relative merits of applications.
Approval Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory committee makes recommendations • Executive transmits grant funding ordinance biennially 	No approval process given

Adding other public entities as an eligible entity, and removing eligibility of agricultural open space, is a policy choice.

Aquatic Facilities Grants. The Aquatic Facilities Grant Program was a new program begun under the 2020-2025 Parks Levy. The PO defines the program as one that “provides moneys to publicly owned pools for: capital improvement projects, including planning, feasibility studies, preconstruction and design, and construction; and major maintenance repair or replacement projects.”

⁵⁷ Terms are summarized here; Council staff has noted inconsistency in terminology though could be rectified.

⁵⁸ Except land primarily in agricultural use.

The PO includes an off-the-top allocation of up to \$46 million for the Aquatic Facilities Grant Program. The proposed allocation plan indicates that the Executive intends to spend the full \$46 million over the life of the levy.

Table 9 shows the key elements of the program, as described in Attachment A to the PO, compared to the existing program under the 2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance. Yellow highlighting indicates areas of difference between the existing program and proposed one.

Table 9. Aquatic Facilities Grant Program Requirements Comparison

Program Element	2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance Requirements	Proposed 2026-2031 Levy Attachment A Requirements
Eligible Entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities and towns • Metropolitan park districts • School districts • Other public entities that own public aquatic facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities and towns • Metropolitan park districts • School districts • Other public entities that own public aquatic facilities • Nonprofits that operate public aquatic facilities
Eligible Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All stages of capital projects related to public aquatic facilities, including land acquisition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All stages of capital projects related to public aquatic facilities, including land acquisition⁵⁹
Advisory Committee	Same advisory committee as PCOS Grant Program	No advisory committee structure given
Project Selection Criteria	Criteria given for weighing relative merits of applications.	No additional criteria given for weighing relative merits of applications.
Approval Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory committee makes recommendations • Executive transmits grant funding ordinance biennially 	No approval process given

Adding nonprofits as an eligible entity is also a policy choice. Executive staff state that nonprofit-operated aquatic facilities are present but not numerous in King County, citing Whitewater Aquatics, which runs the Evergreen Aquatic Center in White Center as one example. Executive staff state that “opening the grant program to nonprofits that operate public aquatic facilities will increase access to aquatics for King County residents.”

⁵⁹ The exact terminology used is different between the 2020 Parks Grant Ordinance and Attachment A, but they are understood to cover the same project types.

Healthy Communities and Parks Grants. The Targeted Equity Grant Program was a new program established under the 2020-2025 Parks Levy. The PO would rename this program to “Healthy Communities and Parks Grant Program” and define it as a program that “provides moneys in order to achieve equitable opportunities and access to parks and recreation for traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities, located in unincorporated King County and King County towns and cities.”

The PO includes up to \$30 million for the Healthy Communities and Parks Program, under the 43% allocation that also includes operations and maintenance of King County’s open space system. The proposed allocation plan indicates that the Executive intends to spend the full \$30 million over the life of the levy.

Table 10 shows the key elements of the program, as described in Attachment A to the PO, compared to the existing program under the 2020 Parks Levy Grant Ordinance. Yellow highlighting indicates areas of difference between the existing program and proposed one.

Table 10. Targeted Equity/Healthy Communities and Parks Grant Program Requirements Comparison⁶⁰

Program Element	2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance Requirements	Proposed 2026-2031 Levy Attachment A Requirements
Eligible Entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King County • Cities and towns • Tribal Organizations • Nonprofit organizations • Community organizations without a 501(c)(3) status partnering with a fiscal agent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities and towns • Tribal Organizations • Nonprofit organizations • Community organizations without a 501(c)(3) status partnering with a fiscal agent • Metropolitan park districts
Eligible Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity Building/Outreach/Planning • Land Acquisition in specific communities of need⁶¹ • Capital projects or programs that address unmet needs in underserved areas • Projects providing access for those with disabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land acquisition; • Feasibility study; • Planning and design; and/or • Construction.
Advisory Committee	Representatives of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities and park districts • Open Space Equity Cabinet • Nonprofit and community-based organizations Council gives input on representatives	No advisory committee structure given
Project Selection Criteria	Criteria given for weighing relative merits of applications.	No additional criteria given for weighing relative merits of applications.
Approval Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory committee makes recommendations • Executive transmits grant funding ordinance annually 	No approval process given

King County is proposed to be removed as an eligible entity and metropolitan park districts added. Executive staff state that “King County Parks received 403 applications for this grant program over the 2020-2024 levy period. No King County agency has

⁶⁰ Terms are summarized here based on Council staff understanding of Executive intent; Council staff has noted inconsistency in terminology that could be rectified.

⁶¹ Either opportunity areas under K.C.C. 26.12 or areas determined to have been based on the Determinants of Equity.

applied. Based on this data and given the program popularity and needs identified by nonprofit organizations, 'King County' was removed as an eligible entity. Currently, Metropolitan Parks Districts (MPDs) are eligible to apply for the Aquatics Grant Program, but no other Parks Levy grant programs. This gap is noted as a missing opportunity from the Parks Levy Community Advisory Committee since MPDs are parks and recreation service providers for a largely unincorporated geographic area where King County Parks and cities/towns do not own/operate parks." Changes to eligible entities is a policy choice.

Council staff asked Executive staff whether there was an intent to change the eligible project types, or if the categories proposed in Attachment A, along with verbiage about "traditionally underserved areas and communities" in the program purpose section, are intended to capture the same range of projects contained in the 2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance. Executive staff state the intent is that the same types of projects be eligible as currently.

Community Partnerships and Grants. The PO would direct that an unspecified amount of money from the 48% allocation, which also includes capital projects and the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center, be used for the Community Partnerships and Grants (CPG) program. The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive plans to use \$11 million for the CPG program over the life of the levy. In previous levies, the CPG program amount has not been explicitly stated in the ordinance, and this practice is continued in the PO. Whether to add a funding amount for the CPG program in the PO is a policy choice.

The CPG Program originated in 2002. The goals of the CPG program, as adopted by the Council in 2003, are:

- Address present and future regional public parks, sports, and recreation facility needs without new tax funded operations and maintenance costs;
- Empower user groups, sports associations, and other community-based organizations to leverage their commitment, passion, and resources into long-term, high quality, self-sustaining public parks, sports, and recreation facilities; and
- Develop a region-wide support network of users, organizations, and citizens, in general, whose successes are interconnected with the political, financial, and operational successes of the region's parks, sports, and recreation system.⁶²

The PO defines the CPG program as "the program through which King County provides moneys to recreation-oriented groups, sports associations, and community-based organizations to undertake any combination of developing, operating, or maintaining a recreation facility or public park in unincorporated King County and King County towns and cities for public benefit."

For a typical CPG project, King County contributes the use of park land, as well as a grant to support the project. The community partner contributes the additional capital

⁶² Motion 11680

and in-kind resources needed to develop or renovate the facility, and signs a lease or use agreement with the County, through which it commits to carry out the operations, maintenance, and programming for the facility for a set period of time.

King County code sets the requirements for when Council involvement is required in disbursement of a CPG grant, shown in Table 11.⁶³

Table 11. Community Partnership and Grants – Council Involvement

Private Investment Amount	Council Involvement
<\$10,000	None
\$10,000 - \$99,999	Notification 30 days prior to signing of agreement to Transportation, Economy, and Environment chair and Councilmember in whose district the project is located
>\$100,000	Council approval by ordinance

City, Town, and Park District Distributions. King County cities and towns received funding from the past three voter-approved levies. The 2020-2025 levy allocated 8% of levy proceeds to these entities. The proposed 2026-2031 Parks Levy would increase the allocation to 9% of levy proceeds and add certain park districts within King County to the allocation list. Administrative costs are set at 1% of the allocation, which is \$190,000 for cities, towns, and park districts. Executive staff state that certain parks districts were added as recipients of the annual minimum allocation based on feedback from the Community Advisory Committee. Under the current levy, these parks districts were eligible for levy moneys if the district applied for grants supported by the levy. Staff state that these parks districts are parks and recreation service providers for specific geographic areas that own and operate parks but that are not directly supported by King County Parks or city/town parks.

Table 12 provides a high-level comparison of the proposed distributions in the 2026-2031 Parks Levy and the current levy.

⁶³ K.C.C. 7.08.110

**Table 12. City, Town, and Park District Distributions,
Proposed Levy vs. Current Levy**

	2020-2025 Current Levy	2026-2031 Proposed Levy
Allocation Percentage & Dollar Amount	8% (\$60 million)	9% (\$119 million)
Annual Minimum Allocation	\$25,000 annually to each city, and an additional \$75,000 annually to each city with a population greater than 4,000.	\$100,000 to each town and city in King County, as well as Fall City Metropolitan Park District, Si View Metropolitan Park District, and Vashon Park District.
Allocation of Remainder	50% distributed in proportion to each town or city's population; 50% distributed in proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city.	60% would be distributed in proportion to each town or city's population; 40% would be distributed in proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city.

Table 13 shows the total six-year pass-through allocations for each city, town, and park district in the current levy under the current parks levy, in a status quo scenario for the proposed levy, in the Executive-proposed new levy with a split of 60% in proportion to population/40% in proportion to assessed parcel values, and a scenario in which the new levy pass-through allocation remains a 50/50 split.

Executive staff state that the rationale for changing the remainder allocation from a 50/50 split to 60/40 was to more equitably distribute the levy proceeds to communities across King County. Staff state that smaller towns and cities would still receive an increase in annual levy distributions due to the increase in minimum annual allocation to \$100,000; staff state this would offset the impacts of changing the remainder allocation formula.

Table 13. City, Town, and Park District Allocation Comparison

Jurisdiction	Current Parks Levy Allocation (6-year total, 2020-2025)	Status Quo Scenario (6-year total, 2026-2031)	Executive Proposal Allocation Formula: 60% Pop / 40% AV (6-year total, 2026-2031)	Executive Proposal w/ Current Formula 50% Pop / 50% AV (6-year total, 2026-2031)
Algona	\$210,510	\$292,097	\$736,398	\$733,755
Auburn	\$1,901,032	\$3,655,252	\$3,596,019	\$3,475,892
Beaux Arts Village	\$161,301	\$176,539	\$622,761	\$624,981
Bellevue	\$4,661,610	\$10,137,999	\$9,148,563	\$9,578,066
Black Diamond	\$734,293	\$915,363	\$900,894	\$896,850
Bothell	\$1,397,709	\$2,473,284	\$2,277,614	\$2,363,312
Burien	\$1,426,232	\$2,540,264	\$2,528,210	\$2,426,360
Carnation	\$190,045	\$244,039	\$690,645	\$688,519
Clyde Hill	\$302,846	\$508,933	\$897,611	\$937,861
Covington	\$942,767	\$1,404,931	\$1,400,041	\$1,357,677
Des Moines	\$1,109,525	\$1,796,533	\$1,795,407	\$1,726,290
Duvall	\$758,890	\$973,127	\$958,361	\$951,222
Enumclaw	\$808,935	\$1,090,648	\$1,087,137	\$1,061,844
Fall City MPD	\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$600,000
Federal Way	\$2,099,470	\$4,121,249	\$4,155,022	\$3,914,533
Hunts Point	\$206,498	\$282,676	\$703,964	\$724,887
Issaquah	\$1,480,034	\$2,666,609	\$2,521,995	\$2,545,287
Kenmore	\$1,055,812	\$1,670,397	\$1,620,659	\$1,607,559
Kent	\$2,912,018	\$6,029,381	\$5,925,949	\$5,710,646
Kirkland	\$2,833,374	\$5,844,697	\$5,401,809	\$5,536,805
Lake Forest Park	\$868,282	\$1,230,015	\$1,194,994	\$1,193,029
Maple Valley	\$1,084,866	\$1,738,626	\$1,715,841	\$1,671,782
Medina	\$371,554	\$670,282	\$1,017,526	\$1,089,738
Mercer Island	\$1,424,720	\$2,536,714	\$2,286,070	\$2,423,018
Milton	\$181,778	\$224,625	\$670,605	\$670,244
Newcastle	\$896,063	\$1,295,252	\$1,244,737	\$1,254,437
Normandy Park	\$742,228	\$933,997	\$911,929	\$914,390
North Bend	\$765,516	\$988,687	\$965,495	\$965,869
Pacific	\$709,879	\$858,032	\$858,030	\$842,884
Redmond	\$2,440,512	\$4,922,128	\$4,560,158	\$4,668,396
Renton	\$2,463,220	\$4,975,455	\$4,853,794	\$4,718,591
Sammamish	\$2,138,362	\$4,212,581	\$3,923,342	\$4,000,503
SeaTac	\$1,095,634	\$1,763,912	\$1,764,761	\$1,695,584
Seattle	\$16,494,538	\$37,925,610	\$35,738,135	\$35,734,393
Shoreline	\$1,650,740	\$3,067,484	\$3,003,754	\$2,922,629
Si View MPD	\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$600,000

Skykomish	\$153,082	\$157,237	\$606,904	\$606,812
Snoqualmie	\$873,949	\$1,243,323	\$1,212,419	\$1,205,556
Tukwila	\$1,087,392	\$1,744,556	\$1,663,988	\$1,677,364
Vashon PD	\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$600,000
Woodinville	\$927,672	\$1,369,483	\$1,301,957	\$1,324,310
Yarrow Point	\$221,534	\$317,986	\$736,503	\$758,125
TOTAL	\$61,784,423	\$119,000,000	\$119,000,000	\$119,000,000

Notes:

WA OFM Population: Sourced from the Washington Office of Financial Management's April 1 population estimate for 2024. Any cities partially in other counties are allocated funding based on the portion of the population living within King County.

KCAO Taxable AV: Based on the tax rolls as of October 2024. The calculation assumes that the ratio of both population and assessed value between the cities remains fixed throughout the duration of the levy.

Current Parks Levy Allocation: \$25K/yr to all cities and towns; \$75K/yr to all cities and towns with populations greater than 4,000; remaining disbursement according to formula (50/50 split between population and total assessed value).

Status Quo Scenario: Using same formula as "Current Parks Levy Allocation," with funds totaling \$119M.

Executive Proposal Allocation: \$100K/yr to all cities, towns, and park districts largely serving unincorporated areas; remaining disbursement according to adjusted formula (60/40 split between population and total assessed value).

Executive Proposal w/ Current Formula: Same as "Executive Proposal Allocation," using current formula for comparison (50/50 split between population and total assessed value).

Educational and Civic Venue Distributions. The Woodland Park Zoo and the Seattle Aquarium have both received distributions in past levies; the zoo in the past three levies, and the aquarium in the current levy. The 2026-2031 Parks Levy provides allocations to those venues, as well as new allocations to Friends of Waterfront Park and Memorial Stadium; Executive staff state "alignment with Parks Levy goals" as the rationale for making distributions to each of these organizations. Tables 14 and 15 below compare the allocations to the Woodland Park Zoo and the Seattle Aquarium as proposed and in the current levy.

Table 14. Woodland Park Zoo Allocation Comparison

	2020-2025 Current Levy	2026-2031 Proposed Levy
Dollar Amount Allocated	\$36 million	Up to \$42 million
Allowed Uses	Environmental education, emphasizing accessibility to traditionally underserved populations throughout the County; Horticulture and	Environmental education with an emphasis on accessibility to traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities; Horticulture and maintenance of buildings and grounds; Conservation of threatened species; and Development of conservation and education strategies to mitigate impacts to

2020-2025 Current Levy		2026-2031 Proposed Levy
	maintenance of buildings and grounds; Conservation of threatened species; and Development of conservation and education strategies to mitigate impacts to animals and habitats from climate change.	animals and habitats from climate change.

Executive staff state that additional specific use of the allocation includes community learning and engagement programs, family engagement programs, program-funded admissions and transportation for School to Zoo, volunteer engagement, education program registration and management, visitor research and program evaluation, empathy initiatives, creative services/signage, zoo keeper talks and tours (raptor program), website development and support, and information technology support of zoo programs.

Table 15. Seattle Aquarium Allocation Comparison

2020-2025 Current Levy		2026-2031 Proposed Levy
Dollar Amount Allocated	\$8 million	Up to \$15 million
Allowed Uses	Capital costs for the Ocean Pavilion project to amplify the aquarium's existing global conservation efforts.	Environmental education with an emphasis on accessibility to traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities; Maintenance of buildings and grounds; Conservation of threatened species; and Development of conservation and education strategies to mitigate impacts to animals and habitats from climate change.

According to Executive staff, more specific uses of the Seattle Aquarium allocation include supporting school groups, offering free community tickets, discounts for seniors and tribal members, summer camps, scholarships, beach naturalist program, Cedar River salmon journey program, community science program, youth ocean advocates program, Community Day events, urban kelp research, microplastic research, and symposiums around species reintroduction, habitat restoration, and ocean policy.

New in the proposed levy are the following allocations:

- Up to \$9 million for distribution to Friends of Waterfront Park, which shall be used solely for: accessibility to traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities; support for a clean and safe environment; free arts, culture, wellness, and recreation programming to all visitors; and inclusive community partnerships; and
- Up to \$2.5 million for distribution to the Memorial Stadium project, which shall be used solely for capital costs. Seattle Public Schools (SPS), the City of Seattle, and One Roof Stadium Partnership (a consortium of Seattle Kraken, One Roof Foundation, and Climate Pledge Arena) plan for a new multiuse student and community events facility to replace the 77-year-old Memorial Stadium with a new facility for year-round athletics, education, entertainment, and a focus on expanding the ways the stadium serves students and other youth from all backgrounds. Funding from sources other than the Parks Levy include:
 - \$66.5 million from the 2022 SPS Capital Levy;
 - \$41 million from the City of Seattle; and
 - \$4 million in state funding.

One Roof Stadium Partnership will invest in, design, build, operate, and maintain the new stadium, with SPS continuing to own the stadium and maintain priority use.

Administrative costs are set at 1% of the allocation which totals \$685,000 for educational and civic venues.

When asked whether these venues were eligible for or have received proceeds from the Doors Open Levy, Executive staff stated initial research into this program confirmed that Woodland Park Zoo and the Seattle Aquarium are eligible to apply for funding via that levy, but because the funding amounts were capped at certain dollar amounts (i.e., \$1 million for these large organizations), those proceeds were deemed insufficient to supplement or replace funding from the Parks Levy.

Oversight Board. Parks levy oversight boards have been in place since the 2004-2007 Parks Levy to monitor the expenditures of levy proceeds.

The structure and nomination process of the board has not changed from the current levy and is as follows:

- Nine members with each Councilmember nominating a candidate for the board who resides in the Councilmember's district no later than March 31, 2026.

- The Executive must appoint the candidate by May 31, 2026. If the Executive does not meet that deadline, the Executive must request that the Councilmember nominate another candidate by June 30, 2026.
- All members must be confirmed by the Council.
- Members may not be elected or appointed officials of any unit of government, however individuals serving in a civic capacity on a local board or commission are eligible.

Duties of the board include reviewing and reporting on the expenditure of levy proceeds in 2026 to the Executive, the Council, and the Regional Policy Committee by December 31, 2027, and then annually thereafter. The board expires on December 31, 2032.

Exemptions. As in the current levy, the proposed levy allows exemption for low-income senior citizens, disabled veterans, and other people with disabilities from the regular property tax increase on their residences if they have been approved for an exemption under RCW 84.36.381. Taxpayers who have combined disposable income of \$84,000 or less AND meet one of the following requirements as of December 31st of the year before the taxes are due would be exempt:

- At least 61 years of age or older;
- Retired from regular gainful employment due to a disability; or
- Veteran of the armed forces of the United States receiving compensation from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs at one of the following:
 - Combined service-connected evaluation rating of 80% or higher.
 - Total disability rating for a service-connected disability without regard to evaluation percent.

Executive staff state that exemptions are already removed from the assessed value that is assumed in the proposed levy revenue model and do not impact the total estimated revenue for the levy period at the proposed rate. The \$3 million listed in the proposed levy allocation plan is a forecast of the cost to the levy of new exemptions being added to tax rolls and/or changes in assessed value that make exempt property a larger overall share of total assessed value.

Table 16 shows the value of current property tax exemptions across King County, according to the most recent data from the King County Assessor. In total, based on assessed values (AV) for 2025, \$128.2 billion of property has an exemption and if it were taxed at the proposed levy rate of \$0.2443 per \$1,000 in AV, the exempted property would generate approximately \$31.3 million annually in levy revenue, or approximately \$188 million in revenue over the life of the proposed levy.

Table 16. Total Countywide Property Tax Exemptions, By Type

Exemption Type	Total Appraised	Total Taxable	Exempt Assessed Value	Estimated Levy Revenue Reduction from Exemption (2026)	Six-year total*
Current Use	\$3,514,574,105	\$2,308,003,056	\$1,206,571,049	\$294,765	\$1,768,592
Exempt (mostly Gov-owned)**	\$109,319,435,407	\$20,750,700	\$109,298,684,707	\$26,701,669	\$160,210,012
Senior	\$18,978,189,170	\$12,620,050,594	\$6,358,138,576	\$1,553,293	\$9,319,760
Home Improvement	\$415,554,000	\$387,141,200	\$28,412,800	\$6,941	\$41,647
Historic Property	\$979,620,500	\$336,143,782	\$643,476,718	\$157,201	\$943,208
Multi-family tax exemption	\$69,985,440	\$18,162,900	\$51,822,540	\$12,660	\$75,961
Multiple Exemptions	\$21,621,927	\$11,487,388	\$10,134,539	\$2,476	\$14,855
Non-Profit	\$10,595,600,951	\$24,685,952	\$10,570,914,999	\$2,582,475	\$15,494,847
No Exemptions	\$829,378,195,296	\$829,378,195,296	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personal Property Exemptions	\$19,945,334,465	\$19,927,374,340	\$17,960,125	\$4,388	\$26,326
Total	\$993,218,111,261	\$865,031,995,208	\$128,186,116,053	\$31,315,868	\$187,895,209

*Six-year estimate assumes no AV growth or changes in levy rate due to inflation or population growth.

**Exempt is primarily government owned, but also includes some Multifamily Property Tax Exempt (MFTE) and non-profit exemptions.

If members wish for processing costs for tax exemptions to be an eligible use of levy proceeds, the levy ordinance would need to be amended.

Policy Issues. This section briefly summarizes key policy issues identified by Council staff for the Council's consideration. Additional information on these topics can be found in the Analysis section of the staff report.

Levy Rate. The proposed initial levy rate of 24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV would represent an increase over the status quo rate, which would have been approximately 19.52 cents per \$1,000 AV if the current levy rate and limit factor were extended into 2026 and future years. In other words, if hypothetically, the current levy was extended into 2026 at a status quo calculation (applying the 2026 limit factor and assessed value assumptions to the 2025 levy collections), the effective rate for 2026 would have been 19.52 cents. The proposed initial levy rate for the 2026-2031 Parks Levy represents a policy choice for members.

Specificity in the Levy Ordinance. The Executive transmitted a proposed allocation plan, which gives detail on specific projects, programs, and funding amounts that are not included in the PO or its attachments. In other words, this level of specificity is not included in the legislation before the Council. As a result, the County could, at a later date, choose not to fund these projects or programs, or change the funding amounts. Depending on the level of specificity, these changes might not be immediately apparent in a budget ordinance.

Executive staff state that proposed allocations are not explicitly enumerated in the ordinance as they are planning-level estimates and may change in the future.

Whether to amend the ordinance to adopt the proposed allocation plan, introduce a companion motion to adopt an allocation plan, and/or to include additional specific allocations in the PO, is a policy choice for members to consider.

For the 2020-2025 Parks Levy, the Council adopted, simultaneous to levy ordinance adoption,⁶⁴ a companion motion⁶⁵ that included the allocation plan.

For the proposed 2026-2031 levy, a proposed companion motion (Proposed Motion 2025-0077) has been introduced. Proposed Motion 2025-0077 would adopt a funding allocation plan attached to the motion. While the attachment to the motion is currently the Executive's proposed allocation plan, members may choose to amend the allocation plan; this would be a policy choice.

The Proposed Motion would stipulate that the amounts in the allocation plan may be modified when deemed advisable or necessary in the judgment of the council, through adoption of an appropriations ordinance. If the Executive wished to make changes to allocations within the allocation plan, a report would be required to be submitted to the Council detailing the proposed changes. This process mirrors what was adopted in the 2020-2025 Parks Levy Motion. These processes are also policy choices.

Changes to Town/City/Park District Allocations. The PO would increase the minimum annual allocation for all towns and cities to \$100,000 from a population-based range of \$25,000 to \$75,000, adds certain parks districts to the list of recipients eligible for the minimum annual allocation, and changes the allocation of the remainder from a 50/50 split to 60% distributed in proportion to each town or city's population and 40% distributed in proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city. Whether to approve these changes or maintain the allocations under the current levy is a policy choice for members.

New Educational and Civic Venue Funding Recipients. Increases to funding levels for the Woodland Park Zoo and the Seattle Aquarium, as well as adding new allocations to Friends of the Waterfront Park and Memorial Stadium, are policy choices for the members.

Grant Program Changes. The PO increases funding maximums (to varying degrees) for four existing grant programs, and eliminates one existing grant program, the Open Space - River Corridors Grant Program. These changes are a policy choice.

For the PCOS, Aquatic Facilities, and Healthy Communities and Parks Grant Programs, guidance related to advisory committee structure, project selection criteria, and approval process would not be carried forward into the new levy. Executive staff state that they

⁶⁴ Ordinance 18890.

⁶⁵ Motion 15378.

intend to set these processes internally for the current levy. Executive staff provided the following anticipated changes to the current process:

1. *Defining a consistent grant framework in terms of goals*
 - i. *Ordinance 19166 legislation uses terms interchangeably and inconsistently (goals, priorities).*
2. *Establishing consistent biennial grants cycles*
 - ii. *Reduce burden for applicants (extensive requirements to apply, contract, report, etc.).*
 - iii. *Allows for larger number of grant funds available within given request for application timeframe.*
3. *Establishing a streamlined grant approval process so that grantees can receive awards sooner*
 - iv. *Provide notification of the award to Council verses legislative approval (similar to Youth and Amateur Sports Grants).*
 - v. *The legislative process can take several months which impacts distribution of funds to grantees; grantees have provided feedback that this delay is an obstacle for their organizations to begin work on key parks and recreation projects. Currently, it can take anywhere from 6-8 months from application to receipt of funds.*

Whether to formally adopt committee structure, project selection criteria, and approval processes for these three grant programs, with or without changes, is a policy choice.

For the same three programs, changes are proposed to eligible entities and projects. These changes are a policy choice.

Overall Allocations. The PO would make changes to various allocations compared to the 2020-2025 Parks Levy. These allocations could be modified or other allocations could potentially be included by members. Depending on their nature, changes to allocations could potentially necessitate reductions or changes to the estimated amounts for the currently planned programming found in the proposed allocation plan.

Attachments A and B. Attachment A (General Requirements for King County Parks Levy Grant Programs) and Attachment B (Open Space, Natural Lands, and Urban Green Space Acquisition Guidelines) specify processes and eligibility criteria for use of levy proceeds for grant programs and open space acquisitions. Because these processes and criteria would be part of the levy ordinance, the County would not be able to deviate from them in the future once approved by voters. Whether to adopt these guidelines as part of the ordinance or adopt them by companion motion (if one were introduced) is a policy choice.

ANSWERS TO COUNCILMEMBER QUESTIONS FROM 3/12 BFM Meeting

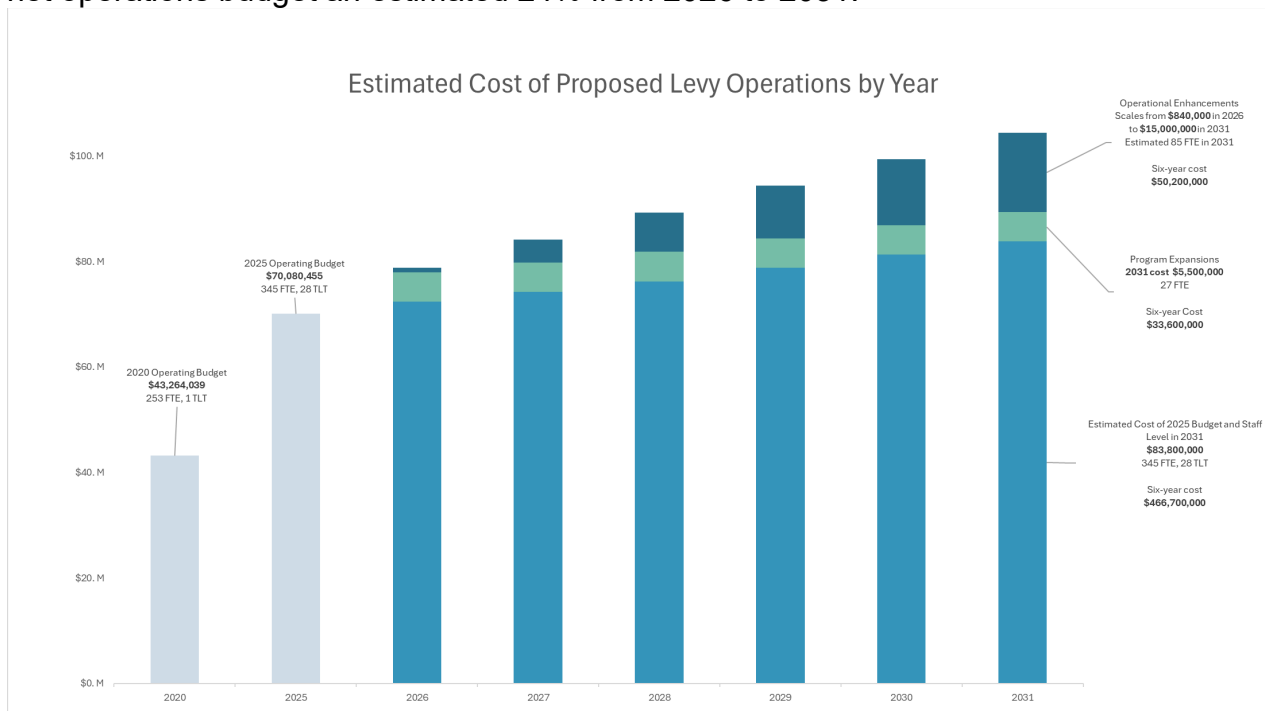
1. Woodland Park Zoo and Aquarium levy investment detail.

Please see the Zoo and Aquarium Levy Investments document (Attachment 15 to this staff report).

2. Do you have any additional information to provide to support the increase in Parks operations and maintenance? What would not be done without this increase?

The proposed increase to operations funding is necessary to maintain existing levels of service for our growing Parks system. If the current levy allocation is carried forward (\$299M over six years), that level of funding would require the division to reduce staff, which would risk a significant degradation of existing parks and make delivering planned capital projects during the levy period nearly impossible.

The ongoing portion of the 2025 adopted Parks operating budget, minus business revenue, totals about \$70M and accounts for 345 FTE positions, 28 TLT positions, and supporting costs for their work (central rates, equipment, supplies). As shown in the chart below, sustaining the current level of operational investment is projected to cost **\$466.7M** over the life of the proposed levy. In percentage terms, the proposed operating growth from first year to last would be slower than the current levy. From 2020 to 2025 the net operating budget grew 62%. The proposed levy would grow the net operations budget an estimated 24% from 2026 to 2031.



New or Expanded Programs – Beyond the existing staffing level, the proposed levy would fund 27 positions dedicated to new or expanding programs listed under the operations section of the allocation plan. Without the proposed increase in

operational funding, none of the new and expanded programs would move forward -- this would include:

- Ending the Jobs and Housing program once the current allocation of COVID relief funding is exhausted
- Not expanding the Parks patrol program or the safety program
- Not cataloging and planning for maintenance of exiting assets,
- Allowing private encroachment on Parks properties
- Not to expand popular programs like the Youth Conservation Corps.

Operational Enhancements – In addition to programs outlined above, the proposed operations funding would support up to 85 positions and associated costs for enhancing existing operations to keep pace with:

- The growth of the King County Parks system during the current levy, and
- The additional growth shown in the CIP section of the proposed allocation plan.

The focus of the operational enhancements is adding frontline staff that support the day-to-day needs of the system. In planning for the proposed levy, Parks estimated that about 60 of the 85 operational enhancement positions would be frontline staff. Over the life of the proposed 2026-2031 Parks levy, Parks estimates that the Parks system will expand by about 3,500 acres of fee-owned land. That is a faster pace than during the current levy period (about 2,400 acres from 2020-2024) because of lower CFT matching requirements that were instituted in 2024. In addition to new acres of parks-owned lands, the proposed levy would increase the operational requirements of existing parks by adding 12 miles of regional trails, a new community center, new dog parks, a new park at Lakeland North, new backcountry trails, at least one new splash pad, and new trailhead parking facilities.

Without additional staff, it will be difficult for the division to maintain these new assets and keep existing assets in working order. In sum, the division will need to continue to be reactive, rather than proactive. This will result in slower response times to public and internal inquiries. In addition, there will be a higher likelihood of facility closures and a likely increase in user complaints due to unaddressed major maintenance needs.

Parks plans to add the remaining positions in areas that support operations and capital delivery, such as project managers, contracting specialists, finance officers, and HR staff. These additions are critical to building the capacity within Parks to hire and support new operations staff, as well as deliver the capital projects in the proposed allocation plan.

Below are Executive staff responses to additional follow up questions from Council staff:

Why are the inflation number provided in February different from the numbers provided in March?

The February analysis incorrectly applied the 6% inflation growth to the 6-year total (\$299M), rather than the last year of the levy (\$70M in 2025).

As shown in [Answers to Councilmember questions from 3/12 BFM], the Parks operations costs were higher in 2025 (\$70M) than they were in 2020 (\$43M). So, the estimated costs to provide the current level of staffing for the life of the levy is \$466.7M. Please note that this level of investment would have implications to service levels, which are detailed in the [Answers to Councilmember questions from 2/26 BFM] responses.

What positions are missing from the most recent response? Where is the remainder of the 150-170 FTE referenced in [Answers to Councilmember questions from 2/26 BFM]?

The [Answers to Councilmember questions from 3/12 BFM] reference “positions,” which includes both TLTs and FTEs.

In [Answers to Councilmember questions from 3/12 BFM]: In addition to the 85 positions for “operational enhancements/increasing capacity” and the 27 positions for “new programs/new and expanded programs”, the proposal also includes 28 TLT to FTE conversions and 10 Youth Conservation Corps intern positions.

3. How would the proposed levy expand access to ballfields?

According to Executive staff:

As noted in previous council responses, several different levy allocations would support expanded access to ballfields. King County Parks provides areas to play in various forms, ranging from developed capital assets (ballfields with lights and synthetic turf) to more informal natural areas where people can throw a frisbee or kick a ball. Expanding the full range of outdoor recreation opportunities is supported by the levy, as summarized below.

Built capital assets

Staff have provided answers to previous Council questions about ballfield access, reserved hours, and improvements. Examples include investments to keep existing ballfields clean, safe, and open (general infrastructure rehab, a portion of \$23M) and investments to expand ballfields and available recreational hours (e.g., converting South County Ballfields to multi-use artificial turf fields, \$19M; investing in new ballfields and sport courts, \$3M).

Natural areas

The levy proposal continues Parks’ strong commitment to the Land Conservation Initiative by sustaining open space acquisition investments to match Conservation Futures funds. The proposed levy would continue investing at a similar level to today (\$16M/year, \$96M total). This body of work includes efforts to improve equitable access in “Opportunity Areas.” A map and more details can be found here: [Opportunity Areas Viewer](#). Ongoing conservation work in urban and rural settings provides more outdoor space for informal play and contact with nature.

Fee Assistance Program

In addition to built assets and improving equitable access through acquisitions in “Opportunity Areas,” the division just published a new Public Rule Chapter 7.08.060

allowing for the implementation of a “Parks & Recreation Facility Fee Assistance Program.” This new program is intended to remove barriers and increase access to recreation facilities for King County’s most underserved communities. Through this new public rule, Parks has the discretionary authority to waive, in whole or in part, user fees or provide or facilitate scholarships for persons or organizations that serve persons meeting an eligibility threshold of two hundred percent of the federal poverty level. This is intended to help ensure that no one is denied access to parks and recreation facilities based solely on an inability to pay.

ANSWERS TO COMMITTEE MEMBER QUESTIONS FROM 3/12 RPC Meeting

4. Is there an opportunity to create better equity in city distributions, particularly for less-funded municipalities?

According to Executive staff:

Yes. The adjustments proposed in the city distribution methodology (e.g., increasing the base annual allocation for cities with fewer than 4,000 residents; shifting the distribution formula to weight population more than assessed value) are intended to create better equity. However, there are many ways to adjust the methodology.

5. Can you provide data on allocations by zip code in the current levy?

Overall Current Distribution of Investments:

Reimbursement of Election Costs	\$736,956	
Seattle Aquarium	\$8,000,000	
Publicly Owned Pools	\$44,000,000	
Open Space River Corridors	\$22,000,000	
King County Parks Operations & Maintenance	\$308,654,547	40%
King County Parks Capital Program	\$362,669,093	47%
Cities and Towns within King County	\$61,730,909	8%
Woodland Park Zoo	\$38,581,818	5%
Total 2020-2025 Estimated Distributions	\$846,373,324	

Operating Expenses by Parks District

The document Parks Operational Investments by Geography (Attachment 15 to this staff report) shows the actual expenditures by Park District and, where possible, by facility. Zip codes associated with each Park District or facility are also provided. Please note that for the years 2020 through 2024, actual expenditures are provided. Information for Parks’ planned budget in 2025 is also provided (actuals are not yet available).

Parks districts do not correspond to Council Districts; please see the King County Parks Map All Districts (Attachment 16 to this staff report) for more detail.

Countywide Operating Expenses

Nearly two-thirds of Parks Operations and Maintenance budget supports countywide needs, and is not easily assigned to a geography. Examples include:

- **Operations:** Section administration and supervision, central maintenance facility, scheduling, programming support, volunteer program, and specialized crews (backcountry trails, noxious weeds, greenhouse, restoration).
- **Capital program:** Examples include Capital planning, land management (addressing encroachments), capital project management, playground program, etc.
- **Other business functions and agency support:** Director's Office, marketing and communications, community engagement, administrative support, finance, human resources, policy support, etc.

Capital Projects in the Current Parks Levy by Council District

Project Type	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7	D8	D9	Multiple	Total
Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center							1				1
Regional Trail Connections			2		3	2		1	1	2	11
Regional Trail Connections (Pass-through Funding)	4				1		1				6
Regional Trail Critical Crossings						3			1		4
Other Improvements to Regional Trails										2	2
Infrastructure Improvement at Existing Sites		1	2				1	1			5
Play Area Rehabilitation	1		2					1	2		6
Synthetic Turf Ballfields Replacement			3						3		6
Ballfield and Sport Court Rehab	1							2	1		4
Trailhead Access Improvement			1					1	1		3
Backcountry Trail Rehabilitation			2				1	1	3		7
Total	6	1	12	0	4	5	4	7	12	4	55

6. Is technical assistance available to cities to help prepare project proposals? How does the County provide technical assistance to help jurisdictions get requests in for funding?

According to Executive staff:

Parks Grants: King County provides technical assistance through grant-writing consultation for small nonprofits (defined as fewer than 20 full-time employees and an operating budget of less than \$4 million per year). We also have several options to help any grant applicant, including cities, with any questions they have about the application, the evaluation process, or specific questions about their proposal. The best way to take advantage of this is to attend one of our open office hours, or if those times don't work, to email ParksGrants@kingcounty.gov and request a specific time.

Parks staff will be available to answer applicant questions during office hours on:

- **Levy Grants** - Wednesdays from February 26 to April 2, 12 to 12:45 p.m.
 - [Download the calendar invitation](#) or [join a meeting in progress](#).
- **YASG** - Wednesdays from April 9 to April 30, 12 to 12:45 p.m.
 - [Download the calendar invitation](#) or [join a meeting in progress](#).

Conservation Futures Program: The Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) Program manager provides technical assistance (TA) to cities and non-profits in two ways:

- It matches applicants with appropriate consultants from a set of five county contractors.
 - These providers help applicants refine their written proposals and prepare presentations to the Conservation Futures Advisory Committee.
 - TA providers are drawn from a pool of consultants often shared by other grant programs, including Parks Levy Grants and Best Starts for Kids.
 - TA capacity is usually far greater than demand, though the project manager tries to prioritize applications that address green space equity if needed (those potentially eligible for a match waiver).
- The program manager also provides project guidance throughout the grant round, as requested by applicants.

7. Can you provide information on how shovel-readiness is prioritized for projects? What criteria does King County use to determine whether its own capital projects are shovel-ready enough to be included for funding in the parks levy? Specifically interested in the criteria used to determine that the work on the Interurban, Green River, and Soos Creek Trails is ready to be funded. If Parks is designing and moving projects forward, how does it prioritize these projects?

According to Executive staff:

The levy proposal includes a portfolio of capital projects in all different phases, from projects that have only been preliminarily scoped and still need to have feasibility studies conducted, to projects that are “shovel ready” (i.e., ready to start construction).

A project is considered shovel ready, when final design and construction documents are completed and all the required permits, approvals, and agreements are in place. If a project is shovel-ready it is a high priority to be included in the levy proposal. However, it is important to have a range of projects in different phases in the capital project levy proposal because different staff and different levels of cash flow are required at each phase. Revenue-backed appropriation covering the full cost of the project is required before a Parks Capital project can be advertised for construction. And while the County can, to a certain extent, plan on future revenue collections for those purposes, Parks receives tax revenue twice a year, and having a diverse pipeline of projects in different phases helps avoid cash flow issues.

Depending on the project complexity and scale, the planning, preliminary design, and final design phases of a capital project can take anywhere from six months to six years to complete and may cost upwards of \$10M. Parks relies on levy funds to get projects shovel ready.

The trails chosen for construction in the levy proposal are from the Regional Trail Needs Report and were evaluated for priority on the following criteria: equity, connectivity, potential use, readiness, whether we have external commitments on the project, and level of community support. The Interurban Trail South, the Green River Trail Extension, and the Soos Creek Trail Segment 5a ranked high enough using these criteria that they were included in the pool of potential projects selected for the next levy. Further elevating their priority is the fact that planning and design work on each of these projects began in the 2020-2025 levy period and Parks is committed to the completion of these projects.

ANSWERS TO COUNCILMEMBER QUESTIONS FROM 2/26 BFM Meeting

- 1. Regarding property tax exemptions, how effective has the county been in enrolling people? What is that process? Do we know how many people are being missed and is there any type of outreach or assistance available to bring more people into the program?**

A 2020 proviso report showed that in 2019, there were 1,808 applications. Approximately 94% of applications were approved. The process of applying for a property tax exemption is either through an online portal⁶⁶ or through paper copies.

According to a December 2024 report by the King County Auditor,⁶⁷ the Department of Assessments has created a comprehensive customer service strategy which includes customer communications, outreach, application support, and creating and maintaining a positive working environment for the team. The strategy includes equity goals like supporting taxpayers regardless of language, resources, or

⁶⁶ [Property Tax Exemption Portal](#)

⁶⁷ *Second Follow-up on Property Tax Exemptions: Stronger Systems Needed to Meet Demand*, pg. 3.

abilities. The King County Assessor's website provides a guide to property tax exemptions.⁶⁸

2. How close are we to the \$5.90 limit that would trigger prorationing?

Based on the August 2024 OEFA forecast, assuming an initial parks levy rate of 24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV in 2026, there would be about \$1.09 of room in 2026, and between \$0.73 to \$1.09 in the next six years, before the closest district would hit the \$5.90 limit. During the 2026-2031 time frame, the closest levy district to reaching the \$5.90 limit would be Vashon Island, with about \$0.73 of room in 2027.⁶⁹ This calculation includes the AFIS levy renewal passed in early 2025. The Executive is expected to transmit a proposed EMS levy renewal later in 2025; EMS levies are not subject to the \$5.90 limit.

3. What is included in this levy proposal related to operating support for trail safety?

According to Executive staff, Parks will soon launch its first Parks Ranger Program to help inform trail users about safe trail practices. The Levy proposal includes funding to sustain and grow Parks' Ranger and safety programs. In addition, Parks implements targeted educational campaigns about trail etiquette when needs arise, which Parks' Community Investments & Engagement team will continue to implement in the next levy.

4. Can you provide further information on the planned trail lighting investments in the CIP list (trail intersection lighting emergent needs) including locations and dollar amounts if known? Are there any other planned investments in lighting?

According to Executive staff, the proposed levy includes \$20M for emergent need projects that arise during the levy period. This includes potential lighting projects. The emergent needs programmatic project is, by design, structured to allow for flexibility as needs arise across the system. As such, locations for lighting investments in 2026-2031 are not yet identified.

Other planned investments in lighting are contingent upon the determination to extend regional trail hours beyond the current time frame of thirty minutes before sunrise and thirty minutes after sunset. This is currently under review.

6. Can you provide a list of the locations of the fish passage barrier removal projects that will be undertaken with the funding for this ordinance? How much additional money would be needed to complete work on all 50ish

⁶⁸ [Guide to Property Tax Exemptions](#)

⁶⁹ State law currently removes regular park and recreation district property tax levies from the \$5.90 limit if levied on an island within a county with a population over two million (i.e., Vashon Island). This exemption, unless changed by state law, expires January 1, 2027. (House Bill 1034, Chapter 117, Laws of 2021)

Parks fish passage barriers? What is the cost and feasibility for completing all the fish passage barrier removal projects?

According to Executive staff, the proposed upcoming fish passage projects are still in the planning stage, and so all information provided is based on planning level estimates. As estimates become firmer, it is possible more projects can be added to the 6-year workplan.

Based on current information, the proposed \$10 million would be allocated to the fish passage project listed below:

- Snoqualmie Valley Trail – Tributary to Horseshoe Lake, north of NE Carnation Farm Rd (FPS-2373)
- Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park – Red Town Trailhead at Coal Creek (FPS-2258 & FPS-1513)
- Foothills Trail – Tributary to Boise Creek (FPS-8175)
- Lower Newaukum Creek Natural Area – Tributary to Newaukum Creek (FPS-13689)

These are planning level cost estimates; however, in current dollars, the total cost for each Parks fish passage project ranges from approximately \$1-5M. The most expensive projects are typically associated with regional trails and roads that cross deep ravines created by streams. On the lower end of the cost range are projects that simply remove a culvert altogether because a crossing is no longer needed. Parks estimates that the total cost to remedy all 50 of the remaining fish passage barriers would range in cost from \$100-250M in current dollars.

7. Please provide a list of participants that advised the levy proposal.

Members of the Community Advisory Committee represented the following organizations or groups:

- Backcountry Horsemen of Washington
- Eastrail Partners
- Federal Way Black Collective
- Issaquah Alps Trail Club
- King County Parks Directors – Multiple Cities
- King County Play Equity Coalition
- Lake Washington Youth Soccer Association
- Leafline Trails Coalition
- Living Well Kent
- Mountains to Sound Greenway
- Open Space Equity Cabinet
- Pacific Northwest Swim
- Parks Levy Oversight Board
- REI
- Seattle Aquarium
- Seattle Parks Foundation
- Si View Metro Parks District

- Skyway Coalition
- SnoValley Chamber of Commerce
- The Wilderness Society
- Trust for Public Land
- Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust
- White Center Community Development Association
- Woodland Park Zoo

8. What is the current allocation per city or town?

This information is provided in Table 16 of the staff report.

9. How does this proposal address unmet regional needs in parks spaces? How are historically underserved areas addressed?

According to Executive staff, During the community engagement process, which included direct engagement with the community and feedback from the Community Advisory Committee, “improving safety and belonging” was identified as a priority for underserved communities. The proposed Levy has a focus on major maintenance, much of which is targeted in underserved communities, which is a key component of making parks feel safe and welcoming.

In response to community feedback, the proposed Levy would invest significant funds for park rehabilitation and development in underserved communities, thus increasing recreational access. Sites for this work include:

- \$10M for the development of a new park near Federal Way (Lakeland North).
- \$19M to convert the existing South County Ballfields complex to synthetic turf, thus increasing access to recreational facilities in South King County.
- \$13M to complete the design and begin construction of the Skyway Community Center.
- \$4M to rehabilitate Sunset Park based on community engagement and input.
- Over \$76M is proposed to advance planning, design, and construction of regional trails connecting communities in South King County to the larger regional trail network, including Lake to Sound Trail, Green River Trail Extension North, Interurban Trail South, and Soos Creek Trail.
- As part of the “Climate Resilience, Conservation and Stewardship” allocation category, funds are also included to be responsive to community requests to activate and improve access to parks and recreation in Opportunity Areas.

10. What is the capacity of Parks to complete these investments in six years? How many additional FTEs would be hired to complete the levy work and at what cost?

According to Executive staff:

Parks’ current workforce capacity is aligned with the needs of the 2020-2025 levy. The adopted 2025 budget appropriation funded by the current Parks Levy is 345.30 regular FTE positions across ten (10) operating sections and work units.

From 2020 to the current 2025 adopted budget, Parks' workforce increased by 47%, an average of 8% annually. In addition, Parks also employed more than 50 term-limited temporary positions to support critical services and projects within day-to-day operations.

In order to deliver the 2026-2031 levy proposal, which was developed to address the unmet needs identified by the advisory committee, Parks expects that a similar level of growth would be required in the Division's workforce during the next levy period. To support the expanded work program for the division, Parks estimates growing its workforce by approximately 45 to 50% (150 to 170 FTEs). Similar to our current levy period, this represents an increase of approximately 8% annually. Note that some workforce growth is necessary to simply catch up with needed maintenance and stewardship of existing assets. Additional hiring would ramp up during the levy period to strategically match system growth and capital project delivery needs. The expansion of the workforce would cost approximately \$200M over six years (fully loaded).

Information on the 150 to 170 FTEs included in the proposed Parks Levy is detailed below. Specific job classifications would be determined in coordination with the Department of Human Resources and resourcing levels would ultimately depend on the adopted scope of work for the Division.

- **More than half (75 to 90 FTE) would directly support Operations and Maintenance needs.**
 - More than 50 FTE would be Park Specialists, working in 250 King County parks every day to catch up and keep up with O&M and system needs. This is in addition to 175 miles of regional trails and 250 miles of backcountry trails that need to be maintained on a regular basis.

The remaining would provide more specialized Operations support: Skilled trades, cultural resources, project management, equipment operations, carpentry, painting, plumbing, electrical, utilities, equipment operators, irrigation, facilities, etc.
- **Approximately 25 FTE would support strategic program expansions and enhancements.** These investments would enhance safety, belonging, programs, and property management (e.g., Safety Program, Parks Patrol, Skyway CC Operations, asset management, encroachments, expansion of the Youth Conservation Corps and Jobs & Housing Program, etc.). Examples of funded positions include PPM III personnel for the Safety Program, additional KCSO deputies, instructors and coordinators for the Skyway Community Center, education specialists and interns for the Youth Conservation Corps program, Parks Specialists I positions for the Jobs and Housing program, a PPM IV position for the indigenous interpretive program, engineers and functional analysts for the asset management program, agents and surveyors for the encroachment program, and a Parks Specialist II position for the expansion of the forestry program.

- **Approximately 25 to 30 FTE to support capital project delivery.** Includes project managers, engineers, contract specialists, legal support, permitting, and agency coordination. This would include 13 conversions of existing TLTs to FTEs.
- **Approximately 25 FTE to support a growing agency and inventory.** Commensurate staffing and resources needed to deliver programs and support a growing division. This would include finance, human resources, administrative, FLEET, and other services.

The Parks Levy Oversight Board, an independent body that assesses Parks' performance, continues to affirm annually that "the Division has complied with the requirements of Ordinance 18890, including Motion 15378 and its associated Attachment C, and is on track to implement the Parks Levy."⁷⁰ As described above, it is reasonable to assert that Parks has the capacity to continue growing and delivering levy commitments in the next levy period with the same high performance as currently demonstrated.

ANSWERS TO COUNCILMEMBER QUESTIONS FROM 2/12 BFM Meeting (Briefing from Executive Staff)

1. Can you provide a detailed list of proposed investments?

This information is provided in Attachment 4 to this staff report.

2. Was the proposed increase in funding for grant programs due to the proposals not being able to meet demand?

According to Executive staff, yes, this was due to the proposals not being able to meet demand. The Parks Levy Oversight Board found that since 2022, the Communities and Parks Fund has received 404 applications requesting \$50.7 million. King County was only able to approve about a quarter of the requests, or 105 applications (\$6.53 million), due to limited funding availability. This led the Parks Levy Oversight Board to recommend an increase in total funding for this grant program in the next levy to meet current and future demand. Additionally, feedback through many of the engagement activities from partners, community advisory committee, the public, and the Parks Levy Oversight Board, identified that an increase in Parks grant programs would be beneficial. The Open Space - River Corridors Grant Program is not proposed to continue due to lack of demand.

3. What was the rationale for changing from 50%/50% to 60%/40% in the towns/cities allocation formula?

According to Executive staff, the adjusted formula for towns/cities (60%/40%) was changed to more equitably distribute the levy proceeds to communities across King County. Smaller towns and cities would still receive an increase in annual levy

⁷⁰ "King County Parks Levy Oversight Board 2023 Annual Report," Oct. 24, 2024.

distributions by receiving a minimum of \$100,000/year, which would offset the impacts by changing the existing formula.

4. Please provide a breakdown of the actuals spent in each category of the current parks levy over the 2020-2025 period, shown side-by-side with proposed allocation plan?

This information is provided in Table 4 of this staff report.

5. For each area of the allocation plan where it is possible, can you provide what portion of the increase is inflation, what is the result of new projects, etc.?

This information is provided in Attachment 4 to this staff report. [3/26 – the information in previous Attachment 4 was incorrect. See answers to 3/12 BFM Questions for updated information.]

6. How does the fish passage work align with the scoping motion? How much more will there be to do if the work funded under the levy is all completed?

According to Executive staff, the fish passage projects proposed in the 2026-2031 Levy are consistent with the Motion 15378 Report. Between 2022-2024, Parks completed eight projects that remedied ten fish passage barriers. The 2026-2031 Levy proposal provides funding for eight additional projects, with further fish passage projects needing completion after 2031.

Since the 2021 Report, the Countywide Fish Passage Restoration Program has generated a capital work plan that targets fish passage work at County-owned barriers prioritized based on benefits for salmon and kokanee. Moving past 2031, Parks plans to continue to remedy Parks' barriers that block salmon access to meaningful upstream habitat (which is represented by about 50 known barriers on Parks-owned parcels).

7. Can you provide a breakdown of non-Parks Levy funding for the Skyway community center, whether the project is fully funded, and when completion is expected?

According to Executive staff, the total estimated planning level cost for the community center is \$40 million:

- Existing funding: \$8 million (from 2021-2022 King County budget)
- Proposed 2026-2031 levy funding: \$13 million
- REET 2 funding: \$19 million (may include some level of debt financing)

The estimated completion and opening year is 2030. Budget requests for this project would follow standard review and approval processes.

8. Can you provide the details of any cricket-specific investments planned?

According to Executive staff, the \$3M *Ballfield and Sports Courts (new facilities)* line item under “New Park Development Improvements” heading is intended to provide funding to develop new facilities in our existing parks. Specific projects have not yet been identified for this line item, as a community engagement process would be used to inform projects. Facilities to support recreational cricket could be funded using this line item.

Additionally, South County Ballfields would be converted to multi-use artificial turf fields. An assessment will be done to determine what types of uses would be beneficial to have at these fields (i.e. lacrosse, cricket, soccer, etc.).

SCHEDULE AND NEXT STEPS

Proposed Ordinance 2025-0070 was transmitted to the Council on February 11, 2025, and has been dually referred first to the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee and second to the Regional Policy Committee.

The BFM and RPC chairs have agreed to the schedule below:

Action	Committee/ Council	Date	Amendment Deadlines
<i>Transmittal</i>		2/11/25	
<i>Exec Staff Briefing</i>	<i>BFM</i>	2/12/25	
<i>Discussion only</i>	<i>BFM</i>	2/26/25	
<i>Discussion only</i>	<i>BFM</i>	3/12/25	
<i>Briefing (Legislation still in BFM control)</i>	<i>RPC</i>	3/12/25	
Discussion and Possible Action	<i>BFM</i>	3/26/25	Striker direction: March 19 Striker distribution: March 21 Line AMD direction: March 24
Discussion and Possible Action	<i>Special RPC</i>	4/3/25	Striker direction: March 28 Striker distribution: March 31 Line AMD direction: April 1
Final Action	<i>Full Council</i>	4/15/25	
Final Action (with courtesy delay)	<i>Full Council</i>	4/22/25 ¹	

Following action by the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee and Regional Policy Committee, the legislation would then go to Full Council for final approval. The following

are key full Council meeting deadlines⁷¹ to place this measure on the August 5, 2025, ballot:

- Last regular Council meeting assuming maximum processing time: April 1, 2025.
- Last regular Council meeting assuming minimum processing time (requires Executive to sign on same day): April 22, 2025.
- Last special Council meeting to pass the ordinance as an emergency: May 2, 2025.
- Deadline for King County Elections to receive effective ordinance: May 2, 2025.

SUMMARY OF BFM ADOPTED AMENDMENTS

On March 26, 2025, the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee passed PO 2025-0070, as amended, and PM 2025-0077, as amended.

PO 2025-0070.2 (as passed BFM) would reduce the initial levy rate in 2026 to **23.51 cents** per \$1,000 AV.

- With this initial levy rate, based on the March 2025 OEFA forecast, the levy would generate approximately \$1.45 billion⁷² over the six-year levy period.
- Executive staff indicate that they expect \$6 million in interest revenue; with an assumed \$6 million in interest revenue, estimated total levy proceeds would be \$1.46 billion.⁷³
- This would be approximately \$56 million less than estimated proceeds under the Executive's proposed initial rate of 24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV (\$1.51 billion).
- Under S1, the cost to the owner of a median-valued home in King County would be approximately \$198.42 annually in 2026, which is approximately \$7.77 less than the annual cost to the same homeowner under the Executive's proposal (\$206.19 annually).

The following table summarizes the estimated levy collections, effective levy rate, and impact to the owner of a median-valued home based on the levy rate in the Executive's proposal (Version 1) and the proposal that passed out of BFM (Version 2) on March 26, 2025.

⁷¹ Council Clerk's memorandum on Deadlines for Adoption of Ballot Measures in 2025 (Attachment 12 to this staff report).

⁷² Based on adopted March 2025 OEFA forecast.

⁷³ Precise numbers based on March 2025 OEFA forecast: \$1,449,721,927 in levy proceeds; with \$6 million in assumed interest revenue, the total revenue would be \$1,455,721,927.

Estimated Annual Parks Levy Collections, Effective Levy Rate, and Impact to Owner of Median-Valued Home

	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Total six-year levy proceeds	Impact to owner of median valued home ⁷⁴
Current 2020-2025 Parks Levy									
Estimated Proceeds ⁷⁵	\$170 million	n/a						\$851 million	\$166.52 Annual
Estimated Effective Levy Rate ⁷⁶ (per \$1,000 AV)	\$0.1973								\$13.88 Monthly
Proposed 2026-2031 Levy: Version 1 Executive Proposal (24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV)									
Estimated Proceeds	n/a	\$220 million	\$232 million	\$246 million	\$258 million	\$271 million	\$285 million	\$1.51 billion	\$206.19 Annual
Estimated Effective Levy Rate		\$0.2443	\$0.2503	\$0.2547	\$0.2595	\$0.2614	\$0.2666	n/a	\$17.18 Monthly
Proposed 2026-2031 Levy: Version 2 Passed BFM 3/26 (23.51 cents per \$1,000 AV)									
Estimated Proceeds	n/a	\$212 million	\$223 million	\$236 million	\$248 million	\$261 million	\$274 million	\$1.45 billion ⁷⁷	\$198.42 Annual
Estimated Effective Levy Rate		\$0.2351	\$0.2408	\$0.2451	\$0.2497	\$0.2516	\$02565	n/a	\$16.53 Monthly

The following is a list of changes made in PO 2025.0070.2 and PM 2025-0077.2, compared with the Executive's proposal. Attachment 18 to this staff report also provides this information with corresponding changes to the ordinance and motion shown side-by-side.

⁷⁴ Based on the assessed value of a median valued home in 2024, which is \$844,000 according to the King County Assessor's Office.

⁷⁵ Based on adopted March 2025 OEFA Forecast.

⁷⁶ The effective levy rate is per \$1,000 of Assessed Value and is a function of assessed value, new construction, and the limit factor.

⁷⁷ This does not include interest revenue. Executive staff indicate that they expect \$6 million interest revenue. With an assumed \$6 million in interest revenue, estimated total levy proceeds would be \$1.46 billion.

Proposed Ordinance 2025-0070.2. PO 2025-0070.2 (as passed BFM) would make the following changes in the ordinance:

- Reduce the levy rate to 23.51 cents.
- Add up to \$10 million in councilmanic Get Active/Stay Active grant funding for youth or amateur sports facilities and activities.
- Add a new Ballfield Access and Preservation grant program, with up to \$13.5 million in funding.
- Add Pacific Science Center as an educational and civic venue, with up to \$6 million in funding for environmental and climate stewardship and education.
- Make Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center an off-the-top allocation of up to \$22 million, rather than an unspecified amount of the capital allocation.
- Make the Community Partnerships and Grants program and Healthy Communities and Parks grant programs off-the-top allocations, rather than subsets of the capital and operating allocations, respectively.
- Add that Community Partnerships and grants is up to \$12.5 million (amount unspecified in Executive proposed).
- Make the following changes to Executive-proposed off-the-top allocation amounts:
 - Healthy Communities and Parks grants – *at least* \$30 million (Executive proposed *up to* \$30 million).
 - Parks Capital and Open Space grants – up to \$25 million (Executive proposed up to \$30 million)
 - Woodland Park Zoo – up to \$40 million (Executive proposed up to \$42 million)
 - Seattle Aquarium – up to \$12 million (Executive proposed up to \$15 million)
 - Seattle Waterfront Park – up to \$6 million. (Executive proposed up to \$9 million)
- Clarify the recipient for Memorial Stadium funding.
- Re-balance percentage allocations based off of new levy rate and off-the-top allocation amounts.
- Specify that money in the capital allocation can also be used for town and city park system infrastructure, and for recreation facilities owned or operated by a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
- Changes the formula by which city, town and park district funding amounts are calculated, as shown in the tables below.

	2020-2025 Current Levy	2026-2031 Executive Proposal	Striker Proposal
Allocation Percentage & Dollar Amount	8% (\$60 million)	9% (\$119 million)	10% (\$119 million)
Annual Minimum Allocation	\$25,000 annually to each city, and an additional \$75,000 annually to each city with a population greater than 4,000.	\$100,000 to each town and city in King County, as well as Fall City Metropolitan Park District, Si View Metropolitan Park District, and Vashon Park District.	\$30,000 to each town and city in King County, as well as Fall City Metropolitan Park District, Si View Metropolitan Park District, and Vashon Park District. Additional \$90K annually

			for jurisdictions over 4,000 people (\$120K annual base) Additional \$20K annually for jurisdictions located in Opportunity Areas (as defined in K.C.C. 26.12.003.J.1 ⁷⁸)
Allocation of Remainder	50% distributed in proportion to each town or city's population; 50% distributed in proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city.	60% would be distributed in proportion to each town or city's population; 40% would be distributed in proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city.	60% would be distributed in proportion to each town or city's population; 40% would be distributed in proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city.

Jurisdiction	Opportunity Areas	Current Parks Levy Allocation	Current Levy Per Person Allocation	Executive Proposal Allocation	Executive Proposal Per Person Allocation	Striker Proposal Allocation	Striker Proposal Per Person Allocation
Skykomish	no	\$153,082	\$928	\$606,904	\$3,678	\$186,895	\$1,133
Beaux Arts Village	no	\$161,301	\$512	\$622,761	\$1,977	\$202,732	\$644
Hunts Point	no	\$206,498	\$449	\$703,964	\$1,530	\$219,487	\$477
Yarrow Point	no	\$221,534	\$195	\$736,503	\$649	\$241,086	\$212
Milton	no	\$181,778	\$111	\$670,605	\$410	\$271,331	\$166
Carnation	no	\$190,045	\$84	\$690,645	\$307	\$306,193	\$136
Medina	no	\$371,554	\$127	\$1,017,526	\$348	\$348,792	\$119
Clyde Hill	no	\$302,846	\$98	\$897,611	\$290	\$368,218	\$119
Algona	yes	\$210,510	\$63	\$736,398	\$221	\$498,578	\$149
Normandy Park	no	\$742,228	\$108	\$911,929	\$133	\$1,027,069	\$150
Black Diamond	no	\$734,293	\$102	\$900,894	\$125	\$1,040,508	\$145
Pacific	yes	\$709,879	\$98	\$858,030	\$119	\$1,164,903	\$161
North Bend	no	\$765,516	\$93	\$965,495	\$117	\$1,205,028	\$146
Duvall	no	\$758,890	\$86	\$958,361	\$109	\$1,167,222	\$133
Enumclaw	yes	\$808,935	\$61	\$1,087,137	\$81	\$1,410,597	\$106

⁷⁸ These are defined as areas that: (1) are located in a census tract in which the median household income is in the lowest one-third for median household income for census tracts in king County; (2) are located in a ZIP code in which hospitalization rates for asthma, diabetes and heart disease are in the highest one-third for ZIP codes in King County; and (3) are within the Urban Growth Boundary and do not have a publicly owned and accessible park or open space within one-quarter mile of a residence, or are outside the Urban Growth Boundary and do not have a publicly owned and accessible park or open space within two miles of a residence.

Jurisdiction	Opportunity Areas	Current Parks Levy Allocation	Current Levy Per Person Allocation	Executive Proposal Allocation	Executive Proposal Per Person Allocation	Striker Proposal Allocation	Striker Proposal Per Person Allocation
Lake Forest Park	no	\$868,282	\$63	\$1,194,994	\$87	\$1,309,453	\$96
Newcastle	no	\$896,063	\$65	\$1,244,737	\$91	\$1,316,081	\$96
Woodinville	no	\$927,672	\$67	\$1,301,957	\$94	\$1,367,873	\$98
Snoqualmie	no	\$873,949	\$60	\$1,212,419	\$83	\$1,402,927	\$97
Covington	no	\$942,767	\$43	\$1,400,041	\$64	\$1,612,837	\$73
Tukwila	yes	\$1,087,392	\$47	\$1,663,988	\$73	\$1,779,514	\$78
Kenmore	no	\$1,055,812	\$43	\$1,620,659	\$67	\$1,702,895	\$70
Mercer Island	no	\$1,424,720	\$55	\$2,286,070	\$89	\$1,742,253	\$67
Maple Valley	no	\$1,084,866	\$37	\$1,715,841	\$59	\$1,870,596	\$64
Bothell	no	\$1,397,709	\$46	\$2,277,614	\$75	\$1,976,982	\$65
SeaTac	yes	\$1,095,634	\$33	\$1,764,761	\$54	\$2,229,945	\$68
Des Moines	yes	\$1,109,525	\$33	\$1,795,407	\$54	\$2,487,815	\$74
Issaquah	no	\$1,480,034	\$36	\$2,521,995	\$61	\$2,639,536	\$64
Burien	yes	\$1,426,232	\$27	\$2,528,210	\$48	\$3,083,326	\$58
Shoreline	no	\$1,650,740	\$27	\$3,003,754	\$49	\$3,230,457	\$52
Sammamish	no	\$2,138,362	\$31	\$3,923,342	\$57	\$3,435,441	\$50
Auburn	yes	\$1,901,032	\$24	\$3,596,019	\$46	\$3,925,070	\$50
Redmond	no	\$2,440,512	\$30	\$4,560,158	\$57	\$4,208,887	\$53
Kirkland	no	\$2,833,374	\$29	\$5,401,809	\$56	\$4,786,409	\$49
Federal Way	yes	\$2,099,470	\$20	\$4,155,022	\$41	\$5,158,309	\$50
Renton	yes	\$2,463,220	\$23	\$4,853,794	\$45	\$5,554,558	\$51
Kent	yes	\$2,912,018	\$21	\$5,925,949	\$42	\$6,789,388	\$48
Bellevue	no	\$4,661,610	\$30	\$9,148,563	\$59	\$9,257,627	\$60
Seattle	yes	\$16,494,538	\$21	\$35,738,135	\$45	\$35,933,182	\$45
Fall City MPD		\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$0	\$180,000	\$0
Si View MPD		\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$0	\$180,000	\$0
Vashon PD		\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$0	\$180,000	\$0
Total		\$61,784,423		\$119,000,000		\$119,000,000	

- Remove Attachment A (Grant Program Requirements) and Attachment B (Acquisition Guidelines). These are separately proposed to be added to PM 2025-0077.
- State that the annual oversight committee report shall include information on funding by Council district.
- Streamline and clarify definitions and terminology used.
- Make technical changes and clarifying changes to match Executive intent.

Proposed Motion 2025-0077.2. PM 2025-0077.2 (as passed BFM) would make the following changes in the motion:

In the body of the motion:

- State that the county should consider using bond financing for capital projects, and direct the executive to study this possibility.
- State that it is the intent of the council that the Skyway Community Center be completed and operational within the period of the levy.
- Request the Executive to undertake community engagement related to Preston Mill Park phase 3, and submit a report.
- Request the Executive to develop a plan to allow alcohol sales in King County parks, and allow alcohol sales in the stands at the stadium at Steve Cox Park no later than May 31, 2025.
- Request the Executive to review permitting standards for vendors, to evaluate and recommend strategies to encourage food vendors to locate in parks, and streamline permitting processes for vendors, and submit a report and proposed ordinance.
- Request the Executive to set aside three parking spaces at each of the ten most highly utilized recreation or multiuse parks for electric vehicle charging and associate equipment
- Request the Executive to keep the lights on at urban unincorporated area parks until at least 10 p.m.
- Request the Executive to develop and implement a policy allowing for unscheduled activities at all active recreation facilities in urban unincorporated areas.

Insert a new version of Attachment A, the allocation plan, with the following changes:

- Reduce the undercollection assumption from \$15M to \$7.5M.
- From the \$46M allocation to Aquatic Facilities Grant Program, new allocations are made to:
 - \$5M to the City of Shoreline.
 - \$2.5M to the City of Kirkland.
 - \$5M to the City of Bellevue.
 - \$2M to Whitewater Aquatics Management to be used for capital projects at, and operations and maintenance of, the Evergreen Aquatic Center.
 - \$500K to Cottage Lake Pool to be used for repairs and rehabilitation.Funding for these projects would go back into the competitive grant program if projects are not shovel ready by 2029.
- Create new category of Ballfields and Sport Courts, combining existing ballfield categories and adding a new grant program. Total of \$60M including:
 - \$13.5M for Ballfield Access and Preservation Grants.
 - \$3M for New Ballfield and Sports Courts.
 - The Parks division would be directed to assess potential sites for cricket fields in the Snoqualmie Valley.
 - \$25.5M for Natural Grass to Synthetic Turf Field Conversion:
 - \$19 million to be allocated to South County Ballfields to be used for Natural Grass to Synthetic Turf Field Conversion.

- \$2.5 million to be allocated to Garfield High School to be used for the Natural Grass to Synthetic Turf installation project.
 - \$1 million to be allocated to Tukwila Community Center to be used for the conversion of field to turf at the Tukwila Community Center Upland Campus.
 - \$3 million to be allocated Des Moines Steven J Underwood Field Renovation to transform three existing worn and dedicated grass softball fields into multi-purpose year-round artificial turf softball and soccer fields.
- \$6M for Ballfields and sports court rehabilitation.
 - Specify that this includes bleacher replacement at Big Finn Hill park
- \$12M for Ballfield synthetic turf replacement.
- Under the Grants and Community Partnerships category, make the following changes:
 - Reduce Parks Capital and Open Space Grants \$30M to \$25M.
 - Increase Community Partnerships and Grants from \$11M to \$12.5M and from this amount allocate \$3M to Starfire Sports and \$1M for equine recreation grants.
 - Allocate \$10M to Get Active/Stay Active - Youth and Amateur Sports Councilmanic Grants.
 - Eliminate Educational and Civic Venue category and move allocations to Grants and Community Partnerships category, then make the following allocations:
 - Reduce allocation to Woodland Park Zoo \$42M to \$40M.
 - Reduce allocation to Seattle Aquarium \$15M to \$12M.
 - Reduce allocation to Seattle Waterfront \$9M to \$6M
 - Maintain Memorial Stadium allocation.
 - Add \$6M allocation to Pacific Science Center for environmental and climate stewardship and education, capital, or operations.
- Under the King County Operations and Maintenance category:
 - Reduce Operations, Maintenance, Program Delivery and Internal Supports from \$517M to \$464M.
 - Merge Park Patrol Expansion (\$4.3M) and Safety Program Expansion (\$3.2M) - rename to Safety and Security Program and allocate \$5M total.
 - Reduce Land Use Stewardship and Encroachment Program from \$10.4M to \$5M .
 - Rename Jobs and Housing Program to Parks Beautification Program, add to footnote 4 that this is just for jobs.
- Under the Climate Resilience, Conservation, and Stewardship category:
 - Reduce Stewardship of Lands Acquired (O&M) from \$20M to \$10M.
 - Increase Fish Passage Program from \$10M to \$20M .
 - Reduce Climate Resilience from \$33M to \$25M. Direct that, of this total:
 - \$5M of this total be used for a district climate resilience grant program evenly divided between council districts, per year.
 - At least \$250,000 be allocated for street trees in White Center.
 - Up to \$1 million be allocated for a surface level cooling feature for children at Steve Cox Park
 - \$700,000 be allocated for capital preconstruction costs for a climate-resilient community center in the Georgetown area.

- Reduce Environmental Stewardship from \$58.5M to \$30M.
- Increase Other New Regional Trails from \$38M to \$41M and make the following allocations:
 - \$5M for Interurban Trail North.
 - \$10M for Kirkland Green Loop.
 - \$5M for Kent Regional Trails.
 - \$2M for Georgetown to South Park Trail.
 - \$1M for Maple Valley Pedestrian overpass/trail connection.
 - Of existing funding, \$3M for Snoqualmie Valley Trail.
- Under the New Park Development and Improvements category:
 - Add \$350K to develop Korean American Hanwoori Garden in Federal Way.
 - Reduce Dog Parks from \$3M to \$2.5M
 - Add \$500K for Fall City Community Center.
 - Add \$1M for City of Bothell McAuliffe Skate Park
 - Remove Backcountry Trails subcategory.
 - Add \$19M for new Water Access on Lake Washington subcategory and make the following allocations:
 - \$15M for Lakepoint Regional Park
 - \$4M for City of Lake Forest Park
- Under the Active Recreation Repair and Renovation and Other Park Repair and Renovation category:
 - Note that Major Maintenance Existing Infrastructure includes completion of the picnic shelter and replacement of the mill shed at Preston Mill Park.
 - State that capital major maintenance programs should prioritize reopening closed restroom facilities and ensuring that all facility restrooms remain clean, safe, and open.
 - Reduce General infrastructure from \$23M to \$20M and make the following allocations:
 - \$200,000 for a digital reader board at Steve Cox Park
 - \$400,000 for handwashing stations in King County parks with playgrounds
 - Increase Water access and docks rehabilitation from \$2M to \$8M and make the following allocations:
 - \$5M Sail Sand Point
 - \$1M Tukwila community center riverside campus renewal and canoe launch.
 - The remaining moneys for repairs and rehabilitation of existing docks and/or boat ramps at Cottage Lake, Lake Joy, Lake Geneva, and Five Mile Lake.
 - Include new trails in the Backcountry Trails subcategory, without change to total investment.
 - Reduce Other agency projects (Sound Transit, WSDOT, KC Roads, etc.) from \$8M to \$5M.

Insert Attachment B, General Requirements for King County Parks Levy Grant Programs, which was previously attached to PO 2025-0070, and make the following changes:

- Changes eligible entities to match grant programs as they exist today:

- In Parks Capital and Open Space Grants, remove “public entities that serve unincorporated King County.”
 - In Aquatic Facilities grants, remove “nonprofit organizations.”
- Add guidelines for Ballfield Access and Preservation grants:
 - Eligible entities are: cities and towns; park districts; school districts.
 - Eligible projects are: construction of or improvements to public ballfields, at any phase of capital development, and operations and maintenance.
- Streamline and clarify terminology in accordance with changes proposed in the striker to PO 2025-0070.

Insert Attachment C, Open Space Acquisition Guidelines, which was previously attached to PO 2025-0070.



Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2025-0077.3

Sponsors Dembowski

A MOTION related to a property tax levy for 2026 through 2031 for the purpose of: maintaining and operating King County's open space system; improving parks, recreation, access, and mobility in King County by acquiring lands and continuing to develop and support parks, recreation facilities, and regional trails; improving parks and trails in and acquiring lands by metropolitan parks districts, towns, and cities in King County; funding environmental education, maintenance, and conservation programs at the Woodland Park Zoo; funding environmental education, maintenance and conservation programs at the Seattle Aquarium; funding environmental and climate stewardship and education at Pacific Science Center; funding development, maintenance, and programming for Seattle's Waterfront park; funding a capital project at Memorial Stadium; and funding for capital improvements at public pools, for all King County residents.

WHEREAS, King County owns and operates a system of regional and local parks and trails that consists of thirty-two thousand acres of parklands and more than one hundred eighty-five miles of regional trails, and

21 WHEREAS, the county provides regional trails, regional recreational facilities,
22 regional natural areas, regional parks, and local parks in unincorporated areas, which are
23 parts of King County's "open space system," and

24 WHEREAS, a robust open space system contributes to a high quality of life, and

25 WHEREAS, the open space system provides: physical, social, and mental health
26 benefits to individuals; economic opportunity through recreation and tourism; economic
27 growth for private businesses that must attract and retain skilled workers; increased
28 climate resilience; environmental benefits like clean water and healthy habitat; and
29 cultural resource protection through open space conservation, and

30 WHEREAS, for the benefit of all King County residents, in February 2025, the
31 executive transmitted to the council Proposed Ordinance 2025-0070, which would submit
32 to the qualified electors of King County a property tax levy on an August 2025 special
33 election ballot for the purpose of: maintaining and operating King County's open space
34 system; improving parks, recreation, access, and mobility in King County by acquiring
35 lands and continuing to develop and support parks, recreation facilities, and regional
36 trails; improving parks and trails in and acquiring lands by metropolitan parks districts,
37 towns, and cities in King County; funding environmental education, maintenance, and
38 conservation programs at the Woodland Park Zoo; funding environmental education,
39 maintenance, and conservation programs at the Seattle Aquarium; funding environmental
40 and climate stewardship and education at Pacific Science Center; funding development,
41 maintenance, and programming for Seattle's Waterfront park; funding a capital project at
42 Memorial Stadium; and funding capital improvements at public owned pools;

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

44 A.1. It is the intent of the council that levy proceeds be used for the operations,
45 projects, and programs, and in such allocations, as provided in Attachment A to this
46 motion.

47 2. The moneys allocated to operations, projects, and programs listed in
48 Attachment A to this motion may be modified when deemed advisable or necessary in the
49 judgment of the council. Implementation or completion of any project or program listed
50 in Attachment A to this motion will not be required if the council determines that it has
51 become inadvisable or impractical. The council will make such a determination through
52 action on appropriations ordinances.

53 3.a. The council requests that the department of natural resources and parks
54 report to the council annually by September 30 of each year, beginning in 2026, if it
55 anticipates requesting a reallocation of moneys for projects or programs listed in
56 Attachment A to this motion in the following year. The report should be electronically
57 filed with the clerk of the council, who will retain an electronic copy and provide an
58 electronic copy to all councilmembers, the council chief of staff, and the chief policy
59 officer. The last report should be filed by September 30, 2031.

60 b. For the report to be filed by September 30, 2029, the council requests that
61 the report also includes:

62 (1) the executive's review of all capital projects listed in Attachment A to
63 this motion; and

64 (2) the executive's reallocation recommendations of funding from all capital
65 projects that are not viable, eligible, or legal, or are not scheduled to begin construction or
66 begin acquisition within the six-year period of the levy, to capital projects that are viable,

67 eligible, legal, and scheduled to begin construction or begin acquisition before December
68 31, 2031. The recommendations should be incorporated into the executive's proposed
69 appropriations ordinance.

70 4. In 2026 through 2028, the executive should include in each proposed
71 ordinance appropriating parks levy funding for a capital project listed in Attachment A to
72 this motion, a statement of fact that the executive finds for each capital project proposed
73 for appropriation in the proposed ordinance, the capital project is viable, eligible, legal,
74 and scheduled to begin construction or begin acquisition within the six-year period of the
75 levy.

76 5. In delivering capital projects identified in Attachment A to this motion,
77 whether directly or in partnership with other jurisdictions, it is the intent of the council
78 that the county should consider using its bonding authority to finance projects. The
79 executive should study whether and when bond financing is appropriate for use in these
80 projects.

81 B. It is the intent of the council that the aquatic facilities grant program, healthy
82 communities and parks grant program, and the ballfield access and preservation grant
83 program be administered in accordance with the guidelines in Attachment B to this
84 motion.

85 C. It is the intent of the council that parks levy expenditures identified as "King
86 County Open Space Acquisition/Land Conservation" in Attachment A to this motion be
87 made in accordance with the guidelines in Attachment C to this motion, except that six
88 million dollars from the "King County Open Space Acquisition/Land Conservation"

89 allocation, to be used for acquisition of parks and open space in unincorporated King
90 County, shall not be subject to the guidelines in Attachment C to this motion.

91 D. It is the intent of the council that the Skyway Community Center be completed
92 and fully operational within the period of this levy.

93 E. The executive should perform outreach and community engagement around
94 Preston Mill park phase three, and should submit a report to the council on that
95 engagement no later than December 31, 2029.

96 F. The executive should develop a plan to allow alcohol sales in King County
97 parks. Additionally, the executive should, by no later than May 31, 2025, begin allowing
98 alcohol sales in the stands at the stadium in Steve Cox park, as already allowed by the
99 existing state alcohol permit.

100 G. The executive should review permitting standards for vendors in parks, and
101 should evaluate and recommend strategies to encourage food vendors to locate in parks
102 and streamline permitting processes for vendors. The executive should submit a report
103 with this information, as well as a proposed ordinance with recommended code changes,
104 if any, no later than December 31, 2026.

105 H. The reports and proposed legislation identified in subsections E. and G. of this
106 motion should be electronically filed with the clerk of the council, who shall retain an
107 electronic copy and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers, the council chief
108 of staff, and the chief policy officer.

109 I. At the top ten most highly utilized multiuse or recreation sites in the open
110 space system, the executive should set aside a minimum of three parking spaces for
111 electric vehicle charging and associated equipment.

112 J. It is the intent of the council that at each outdoor active recreation facility in
113 the open space system, lighting should remain on until at least ten p.m. in urban
114 unincorporated areas.

115 K. In the urban unincorporated areas of King County, at each active recreation
116 facility in the open space system that requires a reservation, the executive should develop
117 and implement a policy to increase regularly scheduled free time for open play, for
118 example, that reserves at least two hours a day, three days a week, for unscheduled
119 activities on a first-come, first-served basis.

120 L.1. The executive should, in consultation with the Sound Cities Association,
121 undertake a study relating to equity in distribution of parks levy funding. The study
122 should include, but not be limited to:

123 a. the geographical distribution of parks levy funding for the current and all
124 previous parks levies;

125 b. how the geographic distribution of funding has or has not correlated to the
126 geographic distribution of equity and social justice priority populations such as: low
127 income households; Black, indigenous, and people of color communities; people with
128 limited English proficiency; people living in areas with high instances of negative health
129 outcomes such as asthma, diabetes, and heart disease; and lack of access to open space
130 and recreation facilities; and

131 c. strategies that the current and previous parks levies have used to address
132 equity and social justice in their funding allocations, and the success of these strategies;
133 and

- 134 d. recommendations on a strategic approach for the equitable distribution of
135 levy proceeds in any future parks levies.
- 136 2. The executive should submit a report with this information no later than
137 December 1, 2029. The report should be electronically filed with the clerk of the council,

- 138 who shall retain an electronic copy and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers, all
139 regional policy committee members, the council chief of staff, and the chief policy officer.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: A. Parks Levy Renewal Allocation Plan, dated March 26, 2025, B. General Requirements for King County Parks Levy Grant Programs, C. Open Space Acquisition Guidelines

Parks Levy Renewal Allocation Plan (2026-2031)	
Election Costs	\$1,500,000
Additional Assumed Costs	\$10,500,000
Fixed income exemption ¹	\$3,000,000
Undercollection assumption	\$7,500,000
Aquatic Facilities¹⁴	\$68,000,000
Aquatic Facilities Grant Program ¹⁷	\$46,000,000
Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center	\$22,000,000
Ballfields and Sport Courts	\$60,000,000
Ballfield Access and Preservation Grants ¹⁷	\$13,500,000
Ballfield and Sports Courts (new facilities) ²²	\$3,000,000
Natural Grass to Synthetic Turf Field Conversion ²⁰	\$25,500,000
Ballfields and sports court rehabilitation ²³	\$6,000,000
Ballfield synthetic turf replacement	\$12,000,000
Grants and Community Partnerships	\$144,000,000
Healthy Communities and Parks Grants (formerly named Targeted Equity Grants) ¹⁷	\$30,000,000
Municipal Parks Capital and Open Space Passthrough	\$25,000,000
Community Partnerships and Grants ²¹	\$12,500,000
Get Active/Stay Active - Youth and Amateur Sports Grants	\$10,000,000
Woodland Park Zoo	\$40,000,000
Seattle Aquarium	\$12,000,000
Memorial Stadium ³	\$2,500,000
Pacific Science Center	\$6,000,000
Seattle's Waterfront Park ²	\$6,000,000
King County Cities, Towns, and Park Districts	\$119,000,000
King County Operations and Maintenance⁴	\$489,700,000
Operations, Maintenance, Program Delivery and Internal Supports	\$464,000,000
Safety and Security Program	\$5,000,000
Asset Management Program	\$4,100,000
Land Use Stewardship and Encroachment Program	\$5,000,000
Youth Conservation Corps Program Expansion	\$4,800,000
Parks Beautification Program	\$5,000,000
Tribal, Indigenous, & Historic Interpretive Program	\$1,800,000
Climate Resilience, Conservation and Stewardship	\$175,000,000
King County Open Space Acquisition/Land Conservation ¹⁵	\$90,000,000
Stewardship of Lands Acquired (O&M)	\$10,000,000
Fish Passage Program ⁵	\$20,000,000
Climate Resilience ⁶	\$25,000,000
Environmental Stewardship ⁷	\$30,000,000
Regional and Other Public Trails System⁸	\$182,000,000
Eastrail	\$65,000,000
Lake to Sound Trail	\$55,000,000
Green River Trail Extension - North	\$6,000,000

Parks Levy Renewal Allocation Plan (2026-2031)	
Interurban Trail South investments	\$8,000,000
Soos Creek Trail	\$7,000,000
Other New Regional Trails ⁹	\$41,000,000
New Park Development and Improvements¹¹	\$45,500,000
New Park Development and Improvements	
<i>Dog Parks</i>	\$2,000,000
<i>Lakeland Park North</i>	\$10,000,000
<i>Skyway Park Planning and Community Center</i>	\$13,000,000
<i>Fall City Community Center</i>	\$500,000
<i>City of Bothell McAuliffe Skate Park</i>	\$1,000,000
<i>Water Access on Lake Washington¹⁶</i>	\$19,000,000
Active Recreation Repair and Renovation and Other Park Repair and Renovation	\$152,000,000
Major Maintenance Existing Infrastructure¹⁰	
<i>General infrastructure²⁵</i>	\$18,000,000
<i>Playground rehabilitation¹⁹</i>	\$7,000,000
<i>Park amenities rehabilitation</i>	\$6,000,000
<i>Parks building system rehabilitation</i>	\$8,000,000
<i>Water access and docks rehabilitation¹⁸</i>	\$8,000,000
<i>Backcountry Trails (trails rehabilitation and new trails)</i>	\$6,000,000
<i>Drainage infrastructure rehabilitation</i>	\$12,000,000
<i>Other agency projects (Sound Transit, WSDOT, KC Roads, etc.)</i>	\$5,000,000
ADA and Accessibility Rehabilitation	\$12,000,000
Regional Trails Rehabilitation¹²	\$50,000,000
Marymoor Park Rehabilitation¹³	\$16,000,000
Sunset Park Renovation and Repair	\$4,000,000
Total²⁴	\$1,447,200,000

1. As authorized by RCW 84.36.381.

2. New levy investment to Friends of Waterfront Park that supports: accessibility for traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities; maintenance and operations of facilities and grounds; offering free arts, culture, wellness, and recreation programming to all visitors; and inclusive community partnerships. Any new jobs funded by this levy that are not already covered under the current Labor Harmony Agreement that Friends of Seattle Waterfront has with the Martin Luther King, Jr. County Labor Council, should be added as part of the Labor Harmony Agreement.

3. This allocation will contribute to the renovation of the Memorial Stadium at Seattle Center. This transformative project will be led by Seattle Public Schools and the City of Seattle, providing an improved multi-purpose venue for local and regional sports and events.

Parks Levy Renewal Allocation Plan (2026-2031)

4. Of this allocation, 93% funds the day-to-day operational needs to maintain the open space system (personnel, supplies, services, fleet, equipment, administrative costs, etc.). \$2.4M shall be allocated for the King County Fair, Washington State University 4-H Program, and King County Search and Rescue operations. Additional funding to be allocated for critical programs and services to manage the growing open space system and enhance safety and belonging for park users. These programs include the expansion of the service level agreement with King County Sheriff's Office to fund the Parks Patrol Program; the expansion of the Parks Safety Program for ongoing implementation of safety related elements within the open space system, i.e., regulatory compliance and trainings for onsite staff; and expansion of the Youth Conservation Corps summer internship program.

New investments include:

- Funding for the continuity of the Parks Beautification Program. Money for the Parks Beautification Program shall be used solely to support a jobs program within the Parks Division for the unhoused.
- Funding for the enforcement of Parks Land Use Guidelines on open space lands and regional trail segments to protect capital investments, open space acquisitions, and new properties and easements in support of environmental preservation.
- Funding to support work with Tribes, indigenous organizations, and historic preservation organizations to strengthen government-to-government relationships, and improve conservation and recreational planning and programs with Tribes and the organizations.

The Executive has discretion on timing of implementation of these programs.

5. The Fish Passage Program is expected to be supplemented with Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funding.

6. Climate resilience investments will support the Parks Division's forest stewardship program and projects; potential combined park and stormwater facility pilot projects; and establish a climate response fund intended to support community response projects and programming as identified.

- From the amount allocated for climate resilience, at least \$250,000 to be allocated for planting of street trees to provide additional tree canopy and urban green space in White Center. Street tree planting should be prioritized for 16th Ave. SW and 17th Ave. SW between SW Roxbury St. and SW 100th St., and particularly in areas contiguous to planned park acquisitions.
- From the amount allocated for climate resilience, up to \$1 million to be allocated for a surface-level cooling water feature for children at Steve Cox Park, located adjacent to the playground.
- From the amount allocated for climate resilience, \$700,000 to be allocated for capital preconstruction costs for a new climate resilient community center to serve communities adjacent to the Duwamish River in the Georgetown area.
- Of this funding, \$5 million shall be allocated for a councilmanic Climate Resilience grant program, to be evenly divided between council districts per year of the levy.

7. Environmental stewardship investments will support early actions to safeguard sites for public use following acquisition; structure demolitions to deliver full ecological and recreation benefits; improvements to existing maintenance facilities and acquisitions; natural resource and site management planning; multi-benefit river corridor projects; and landscaping/restoration/mitigation site monitoring and maintenance.

Parks Levy Renewal Allocation Plan (2026-2031)

8. This allocation provides funding for Regional and Other Public Trails System including:

- Construction of two additional segments of Lake to Sound Trail and the completion of the design to connect Lake to Sound Trail to SeaTac Airport.
- Construction of two additional segments of Eastrail, an Eastrail connection to Coulon Park, paves Central Wilburton segment, and completes design on Eastrail to Lake to Sound Trail connection.
- Construction of the Green River Trail North to Seattle.
- Complete full rehabilitation of the Interurban Trail South.
- Construction of Soos Creek Trail Segment 5a and planning for future Soos Creek Trail segments.
- Other new regional trails noted in footnote 9.

9. Of this allocation to Other New Regional Trails, \$18M will fund a combination of planning, acquisitions, and preliminary design for potential future trail segments and connections including, but not limited to, Green River Trail, Preston-Snoqualmie Trail, Soos Creek Trail, Cedar River Trail, Green to Cedar Trail, and Snoqualmie Valley Trail (\$3M). The remainder of this funding will be used for emergent needs on the regional trail system including, but not limited to, surface improvements, lighting, access control improvements, and intersection improvements.

- \$5 million to be used for connecting the Interurban North Trail at the border of King County and Snohomish County.
- \$10 million to be used for the Kirkland Green Loop, intended to be allocated to regional partners.
- \$5 million to be allocated to the City of Kent for Kent regional trails and trail connections.
- \$2 million to be allocated for the Georgetown to South Park Trail connection to be used for construction of protected bike lanes along 14th Ave S., between South Park Bridge and S. Director St.
- \$1 million to be used for the Maple Valley SR-169 Pedestrian Bridge, to support the City of Maple Valley's work on a new pedestrian bridge over SR-169 Maple Valley Black Diamond Road at SE 258th Street

10. Capital major maintenance programs should prioritize keeping the open space system clean, safe, and open, and include, but not be limited to: reopening all closed facility restrooms and ensuring that all facility restrooms remain clean, safe, and open; and rehabilitation of play areas, park buildings, existing synthetic turf fields, pools, docks, ballfields, sports courts, backcountry trails, drainage infrastructure, restrooms, picnic shelters, signage, as well as coordination with other agencies that have infrastructure on Parks Division property (e.g., Sound Transit, WSDOT). A portion of this funding is also intended to respond to emergent projects identified by Park users associated with existing facilities. These programs are expected supplemented with Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funding. This amount includes completion of the picnic shelter and replacement of the mill shed at Preston Mill Park. This amount also includes \$3 million for park renovations in the City of Des Moines.

11. Funding for new park development and improvements includes Skyway Park Community Center that will support design, construction, and initial operational costs. Additional funding for construction (approximately \$20M) will be needed and is expected to be funded with a combination of Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) and bond financing. This funding will include \$350K to develop Korean American Hanwoori Garden in Federal Way

12. This program keeps the existing regional trail system clean, safe, and open and includes, but is not limited to, repair/replacement of bridges and trestles, trail surface repairs/rehabilitation, safety updates, repairs to meet current guidelines and standards, and landscaping/mitigation maintenance and monitoring.

13. This allocation will fund rehabilitation of infrastructure and facilities throughout Marymoor Park to keep the park clean, safe, and open. It also includes funding for improvements to address growing user demand including, but not limited to, signage, utilities, pedestrian facilities, buildings, roadways, velodrome rehabilitation, and concert venue updates. This program is expected to be supplemented with Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funding.

Parks Levy Renewal Allocation Plan (2026-2031)

14. From this \$46 million allocation to Aquatic Facilities Grant Program, the following shall be allocated without being subject to the grant guidelines.

- \$5.0 million to the City of Shoreline to be used for aquatic facilities purposes.
 - \$2.5 million to the City of Kirkland to be used for aquatic facilities purposes.
 - \$5.0 million to the City of Bellevue to be used for aquatic facilities purposes.
 - \$2.0 million to the Whitewater Aquatics Management to be used for capital projects at, and operations and maintenance of, the Evergreen Aquatic Center.
 - \$500,000 to Cottage Lake Pool to be used for repairs and rehabilitation.
- Money for these specific projects would become available for competitive Aquatic Facilities Grants if the projects are not shovel ready by 2029.

15. Except for \$6 million that is to support park and open space acquisition in urban unincorporated King County, of which \$2 million is to be used in White Center, the remainder of this allocation is subject to the guidelines in Attachment C to this motion.

16. Of this \$19 million allocation to Water Access on Lake Washington, the following shall be allocated:

- \$4 million to be used for acquisitions and improvements to parks near the Burke-Gilman Trail in the City of Lake Forest Park.
- \$15 million to the Lakepointe Regional Park.

17. Except for the allocations to City of Shoreline, City of Kirkland, City of Bellevue, Whitewater Aquatics Management, and Cottage Lake Pool, set forth in footnote 14, the remainder of this program allocation is subject to Attachment B to this motion. Ten million dollars of the Healthy Community and Parks grants shall be reserved for cities and towns.

18. Of this \$8 million allocation to water access and dock rehabilitation:

- \$5 million to be allocated to Sail Sand Point.
 - \$1 million to be allocated to the Tukwila Community Center for the riverside campus renewal and canoe launch.
- The remainder of this allocation is for: repairs and rehabilitation of existing docks and/or boat ramps at Cottage Lake, Lake Joy, Lake Geneva, and Five Mile Lake.

19. From this allocation, the White Center Playground and Bike Area to be rehabilitated should include construction of covered play areas. All other playground rehabilitation projects should consider construction of covered play areas.

20. Of this \$25.5 million allocation to Natural Grass to Synthetic Turf Field Conversion:

- \$19 million to be allocated to South County Ballfields to be used for Natural Grass to Synthetic Turf Field Conversion.
- \$2.5 million to be allocated to Garfield High School to be used for the Natural Grass to Synthetic Turf installation project.
- \$1 million to be allocated to Tukwila Community Center to be used for the conversion of field to turf at the Tukwila Community Center Upland Campus.

21. Of this allocation to Community Grants and Partnerships:

- \$3 million to be allocated to Starfire Sports facility.
- \$1 million to be allocated for 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations for equine recreation and sports grants.

22. The Parks Division shall assess potential sites for cricket fields in the Snoqualmie Valley.

Parks Levy Renewal Allocation Plan (2026-2031)

23. Includes funding for bleachers at Big Finn Hill Park.

24. \$6 million in interest is expected in addition to levy collections.

25. Of this allocation to General Infrastructure, \$200,000 to be allocated for a digital reader board on SW 102nd St. at Steve Cox park, if permissible. Of this allocation to General infrastructure, \$400,000 is to be allocated for acquiring, in partnership with Public Health - Seattle & King County, portable or permanent handwashing stations for use by the public and food vendors in public parks that have playgrounds.

General Requirements for King County Parks Levy Grant Programs

Any project funded by parks levy proceeds must allow for regular public access. To receive parks levy funding for eligible projects, the eligible entities will be required to enter into contracts with King County.

1. Aquatic Facilities Grant Program Guidelines

Purpose

This provides guidelines for the use of parks levy proceeds for the aquatic facilities grant program, which provides funding opportunities to develop new and/or improve existing aquatic facilities in King County.

Eligible Entities

1. King County towns and cities;
2. Metropolitan park districts;
3. Public Schools districts and/or
4. Other public entities that own public aquatic facilities

Eligible Projects

Parks levy funding to develop new and/or improve existing aquatic facilities shall be for the following purposes:

1. Land acquisition;
2. Feasibility study;
3. Planning and design; and/or
4. Construction.

2. Healthy Communities and Parks Grant Program Guidelines

Purpose

This provides guidelines for the use of parks levy proceeds for the Healthy Communities and Parks grant program, which provides funding opportunities to increase access to and use of parks, trails, open space, and public recreation facilities, in traditionally underserved areas and communities, as well as to build programming capacities of community-based partners that provide recreation to these areas and communities.

Funding is for the following purposes:

1. Develop new and/or improve existing parks, trails, open space, and recreation facilities; and/or
2. Provide programs focusing on recreation, amateur sports, play, and physical activity.

Eligible Entities

1. 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations;
2. Small or emerging community organizations without a 501(c)(3) status, through a partnership with a fiscal agent;
3. Tribes or tribal organizations serving residents of King County;
4. Towns and cities; and/or
5. Metropolitan park districts.

Eligible Projects

1. Parks levy funding to develop new and/or improve existing parks, trails, and recreation facilities shall be for the following purposes:
 - a. Land acquisition;
 - b. Feasibility study;
 - c. Planning and design; and/or
 - d. Construction.
2. Parks levy funding to provide programs are to be focused on recreational programming (e.g., swim programs, youth sports leagues, etc.).

3. Ballfield Access and Preservation Grants

Purpose

This provides guidelines for the use of parks levy proceeds for capital projects to increase public access to ballfields.

Eligible Entities

1. Cities and towns;
2. Park districts; and/or
3. School districts.

Eligible Projects

Parks levy funding to construct, improve, operate, or maintain ballfields shall be for the following purposes:

1. Feasibility study;
2. Planning and Design;
3. Construction; and/or
4. Operations and maintenance.

All projects receiving ballfield access and preservation grant funding must allow new or increased public access.

Open Space Acquisition Guidelines

The following sets forth the overall approach for parks levy funding for the acquisition of open space in coordination with the Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) program:

1. Early each calendar year, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) will set a proposed allocation for open space from levy funds for the following fiscal year.
2. Staff will generate proposals for the use of these funds, taking into account opportunities to leverage resources with funding from Conservation Futures, as well as from other local, state, and federal funding sources.
3. An overall proposal allocating the parks levy funds to specific projects will be developed and discussed with the Conservation Futures Advisory Committee (CFAC) that is responsible for developing CFT funding recommendations. These discussions are expected to occur in the spring, the same timeframe during which the CFAC annually reviews CFT project proposals. This will create an opportunity for the CFAC to provide an advisory recommendation regarding allocation of these parks levy funds.
4. Taking the CFAC's recommendations into account, DNRP will develop a proposed budget for these parks levy funds.
5. The DNRP proposed budget for parks levy funding will be reviewed by the County Executive, and ultimately County Council, as part of the overall budget process for the following year.



King County

Metropolitan King County Council Regional Policy Committee

REVISED STAFF REPORT

Agenda Items:	5-6	Name:	Sherrie Hsu Jake Tracy Brandi Paribello
Proposed No.:	2025-0070.2 2025-0077.2	Date:	April 3, 2025

COMMITTEE ACTION

Proposed Substitute Ordinance 2025-0070.2 and Proposed Substitute Motion 2025-0077.2 passed out of the Budget and Fiscal Management committee on March 26, 2025, with a “Do Pass” recommendation. These are summarized in the “Summary of BFM Adopted Amendments” section at the end of this staff report.

Proposed Substitute Ordinance 2025-0070.3 passed out of the Regional Policy Committee on April 3, 2025, with a “Do Pass” recommendation.

The Proposed Ordinance was amended in committee with:

- ***Amendment 0.5 to change the Parks Capital and Open Space grant program to a Municipal Parks Capital and Open Space Passthrough and establishing an allocation formula.***
- ***Amendment 0.7b to reduce the levy rate by 0.22 cents to 23.29 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value.***
- ***Amendment 1 to make a technical correction.***
- ***Amendment 1.5 to would change the city, town, and metropolitan parks passthrough funding formula to be \$75k annually per city, town, and park district; an additional \$50k annually to each city and town with a population over 4,000, and the remainder allocated on a 60/40 split based on population and assessed value.***
- ***Amendment 2 to require reporting by zip code and distribution category.***
- ***Title Amendment T1b to conform the title with amendment 0.7b.***

Proposed Substitute Motion 2025-0077.3 passed out of the Regional Policy Committee on April 3, 2025, with a “Do Pass” recommendation.

The Proposed Motion was amended in committee with:

- ***Amendment 0.5 requesting statements of fact on the shovel-readiness of***

capital projects at time of allocation in 2026-2028, and a comprehensive review of shovel-readiness in 2029, with recommendations on allocations.

- ***Amendment 1 to change the Parks Capital and Open Space grant program to a Municipal Parks Capital and Open Space Passthrough.***
- ***Amendment 2 to require an equity report.***
- ***Amendment 2.5b to reduce levy spending by \$13.5 million and require that \$10 million of Healthy Communities and Parks Grants funding be reserved for cities and towns.***
- ***Amendment 3 to remove \$3 million allocation for Des Moines Steven J Underwood field; instead allocate \$3 million for park renovations in the City of Des Moines.***

SUBJECT

Proposed Ordinance (PO) 2025-0070 would place on the August 5, 2025, ballot a proposition authorizing a six-year property tax levy that would generate approximately \$1.5 billion in total over the six-year period.

Proposed Motion (PM) 2025-0077 would adopt a funding allocation plan for the proposed 2026-2031 levy.

SUMMARY

Proposed Ordinance (PO) 2025-0070 would place on the August 5, 2025, ballot a proposition authorizing a six-year property tax levy that would generate approximately \$1.5 billion in total over the six-year period. In comparison, the current 2020-2025 Park Levy is expected to generate approximately \$851 million over the six-year period, based on OEFA's August 2024 forecast.¹

The levy would support:

- King County Parks operations and maintenance;
- King County Parks capital program;
- King County cities, towns, and park districts;
- Woodland Park Zoo;
- Seattle Aquarium;
- Seattle Waterfront Park;
- Memorial Stadium; and
- Parks Levy Grants and Community Partnership Grants.

¹ The current levy generated \$115.7 million in 2020, \$253.6 million in 2021-2022, an estimated \$307.9 million in 2023-2024, and is expected to generate \$169.8 million in 2025.

The initial levy rate is proposed at 24.43 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value (AV), with a proposed limit factor based on inflation growth² plus population growth. For the owner of a King County single-family home with a median 2024 AV of \$844,000, an initial levy rate of 24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV would cost this owner approximately \$206.19 annually (\$17.18 per month) in property tax in 2026. This would be approximately \$39.67 more per year (\$3.31 more per month) than the current levy for the same homeowner.

Proposed Motion (PM) 2025-0077 would adopt a funding allocation plan for the proposed 2026-2031 levy.

The staff report identifies policy issues for consideration by the Council and committee members.

The proposed levy was transmitted to the Council on February 11, 2025, and has been dually referred first to the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee and second to the Regional Policy Committee.

PO 2025-0070, as amended, and PM 2025-0077, as amended, were passed out of the BFM Committee on March 26, 2025. See the “Summary of Adopted BFM Amendments” section of this staff report for details on the changes made between Versions 1 and 2. Attachment 18 to this staff report also provides this information with corresponding changes to the ordinance and motion shown side-by-side.

If approved by the Council, the levy proposal would be placed before voters at the August 5, 2025, election. The last regular Council meeting at which the Council could act as a non-emergency and with maximum processing time would be April 1, 2025; with minimum processing time, it would be the April 22, 2025, Council meeting. The last regular meeting at which the Council could act as an emergency would be the May 2, 2025, Council meeting.

BACKGROUND

Tax Levies and Levy Lid Lifts in Washington. State law limits a taxing district (e.g., King County) to a 1% increase in regular property taxes per year plus the value of new construction (“the standard limit factor”).³ However, state law provides a mechanism by which taxing districts can exceed this limit – a majority of voters must approve such an increase through a proposition placed on a general or special election ballot.

There are four kinds of levy lid lifts for regular property tax levies, as discussed below.⁴

² Consumer Price Index for wage earners (CPI-W) for Seattle/Tacoma/Bremerton.

³ RCW 84.55.010. The limit also allows an additional dollar amount for AV resulting from new construction and other exceptional cases.

⁴ The following discussion is based on RCW 84.55.050, WAC 458-19-045, and guidance from the Municipal Research and Services Center found at <https://mrsc.org/Home/Explore-Topics/Finance/Revenues/Levy-Lid-Lift.aspx>. In all cases described, levies are subject to statutory maximums as prescribed by state law.

Single-Year Temporary Levy Lid Lift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The levy lid is increased by more than 1% in the first year and is subject to the standard limit factor in subsequent years. • Once the number of years specified in the levy proposition have elapsed, the levy rate returns to what it would have been had the lift never been approved.
Single-Year Permanent Levy Lid Lift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The levy lid is increased by more than 1% in the first year and is subject to the standard limit factor in all subsequent years.
Multi-Year Temporary Levy Lid Lift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The levy lid lift states the levy rate for the first year. The levy rate is increased by more than 1% in each of two to six years and is subject to the standard limit factor in subsequent years. • Once the number of years specified in the levy proposition have elapsed, the levy rate returns to what it would have been had the lift never been approved.
Multi-Year Permanent Levy Lid Lift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The levy lid is increased by more than 1% in each of two to six years and is subject to the standard limit factor in all subsequent years.

Levy Rate, Levy, and Limit Factor. A levy rate, levy, and limit factor are defined below.

- The *levy rate* is the rate of the property tax, set per \$1,000 AV.
- The *levy* is the total amount of property tax collected.
- The *limit factor* is the amount by which the total levy amount may not exceed in subsequent years. For a multi-year levy lid lift, the limit factor does not have to be the same for each year.

Prorationing. State law⁵ establishes a maximum aggregate property tax rate of \$5.90 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for counties, cities, fire districts, library districts, and certain other junior taxing districts. If a taxing district reaches its statutory rate limitation, that district can only collect the amount of tax revenue that would be produced by that statutory maximum levy rate.

- In other words, if the aggregate of taxing districts exceeds the \$5.90 limit, the tax district's levies would have to be reduced so that the \$5.90 aggregate collection limit is not exceeded.
- Reductions are made in accordance with a district hierarchy established under state law.⁶
- In general, countywide levies are the most senior taxing districts and would be the last to be reduced, or pro-rationed, under state law.⁷

⁵ RCW 84.52.043.

⁶ RCW 84.52.010

⁷ State law currently removes regular park and recreation district property tax levies from the \$5.90 limit if levied on an island within a county with a population over two million (i.e., Vashon Island). This exemption, unless changed by state law, expires January 1, 2027. (Chapter 117, Laws of 2021)

Supplantation Considerations. Prior to 2024, a non-supplantation limitation under state law⁸ meant that proceeds from levy lid lifts could only be used for new programs and services under the specific purpose of the levy lid lift as identified in the ballot title; and for existing programs and services, as long as levy money was used to supplement, but not supplant, existing funds. This meant that levy lid lift proceeds could not be used to support services that the county already provided. From 2015 through 2022, there was a moratorium pausing the non-supplantation restriction in counties with a population over 1.5 million – such as King County.⁹

The passage of House Bill 2044 during the 2024 legislation session eliminated this non-supplantation restriction for levies. This means that local governments can now use voter-approved levy lid lifts for ongoing expenses, in addition to new programs and services, that support the levy lid lift's specified purpose.

Property Tax Exemption. State law allows cities and counties the option to exempt eligible senior citizens, veterans with disabilities, and others with disabilities from the regular property tax increase resulting from a levy, subject to meeting eligibility criteria and receiving application approval.¹⁰

⁸ RCW 84.55.050.

⁹ Chapter 296, Laws of 2021.

¹⁰ *Guide to Property Tax Exemptions for Seniors, Persons with Disabilities, and Disabled Veterans*. King County Department of Assessments. URL: <https://cdn.kingcounty.gov/-/media/king-county/depts/assessor/documents/guide-to-property-tax-exemptions-for-senior-disabled-and-veterans.pdf?rev=aaa4b4d03cb146b6a961b4e531565ab5&hash=479455066CC8A083AE9B12C296316E13>. Last accessed on February 13, 2025.

History of the Parks Levy. Prior to 2003, the King County parks system relied mainly on General Fund (then called “Current Expense Fund”) moneys. In 2003, the General Fund was facing \$52 million shortfall, attributed to growth in the cost of providing services, particularly in mandated criminal justice related functions, an economic recession, and an erosion of the county's tax base. Large deficits were predicted into the foreseeable future.

2002 Business Transition Plan. In 2002, to prevent the closure of the parks system, King County convened the Metropolitan Parks Task Force, a community advisory group that was asked to help develop a business transition plan for the County's parks. Major recommendations, which were codified in Ordinance 14509, included focusing on the County's regional role; becoming more entrepreneurial, by seeking revenues from fees and sponsorships; and finding community partners.

2003 Parks Levy. In 2003, following significant reductions in General Fund support for King County's parks and open space system, King County voters approved a 4.9 cent, four-year levy to support operations and maintenance for regional and rural parks. At the same time, the County implemented other strategies from the business transition plan, including transferring 56 urban parks and pools to local governments by the end of 2007.

2007 Parks Levies. In August 2007, voters approved two six-year parks levies:

- **Operating Levy:** A 5 cent operating levy was adopted to fund maintenance and operations for regional and rural parks. This levy was projected to raise approximately \$16 million in its first year, and had inflation built in so that levy revenues would keep pace with inflationary pressures.
- **Open Space & Trails Levy:** A 5 cent capital levy was adopted to fund expansion of the regional parks and open space system. This levy was split into three parts:
 - 60% to King County to acquire and preserve regional trails and natural areas, including funding for community partnership projects;
 - 20% to cities for trails, parks, and open space; and
 - 20% to Woodland Park Zoo for environmental education, conservation, and capital improvement projects.

The King County Parks Division (“Parks”) continued to implement its business transition plan, transferring 31 more parks and pools to local cities between 2007 and 2012.

2013 Parks Levy. In August 2013, King County voters approved a new, 18.91 cent six-year parks levy with an annual limit factor tied to the consumer price index. The levy included 14.89 cents to continue the programs of the expiring levies and an additional 4.02 cents for new and enhanced programs.

2019 Parks Levy. In 2019, Ordinance 18890¹¹ placed on the August 2019 ballot a proposition authorizing a six-year property tax levy to support parks and open space throughout King County. The ordinance set an initial levy rate of 18.32 cents per \$1,000 of AV and is currently expected to generate approximately \$852 million over the life of the levy, to fund various projects and programs including:

- Up to \$8 million of the levy proceeds for a capital construction project at the Seattle Aquarium;
- Up to \$44 million of the levy proceeds to for pool maintenance, capital improvements and construction;
- Up to \$22 million of the levy proceeds for integrated floodplain management;
- 47% of the remaining proceeds for acquisition of open space, continued development of regional and other public trails, other capital improvement projects and major maintenance of the county's open space system, and community partnerships and grants;
- 40% of the remaining proceeds for King County's parks system operations and maintenance, with no more than \$10 million of this amount being used for targeted equity grants;
- 8% of the remaining proceeds for distribution to the towns and cities of King County for their town or city parks system operations and capital improvement projects; and
- 5% of the remaining proceeds for environmental education, maintenance and conservation programs at the Woodland Park Zoo.

At the same time the Council passed Ordinance 18890, it also passed a companion motion, Motion 15378,¹² which adopted an allocation plan for levy moneys, as well as guidance for four new grant programs. The allocation plan for the 2020-2025 Parks Levy is Attachment C to Motion 15378.

Summary of Outreach. Community engagement and outreach materials provided by Executive staff show that Parks conducted 21 engagement events in March and April 2024, both in-person and virtual, for the proposed 2026-2031 Parks Levy. Comparatively, Parks conducted 54 in-person engagement events for the current levy. Executive staff state that, although they were not categorized as formal engagement events, the Parks Mobile Engagement Team spent several days each week in February through April of 2024 soliciting in-person feedback in parks and trails across King County. According to staff, over 4,800 people across all nine King County Council districts participated in surveys and Parks staff also met with towns and cities, parks districts, and key partners to receive additional feedback about the levy proposal.

In January 2024, Parks established the King County Parks Levy Community Advisory Committee which met nine times to provide guidance on developing the 2026-2031 Parks Levy. Based on review of current levy funding and activities, and feedback from forums and surveys, the Committee recommended funding the following priorities:

¹¹ [File No. 2019-0084](#)

¹² [File No. 2019-0142](#)

- **Safety and Belonging:** increase funding for maintenance and infrastructure; provide multi-language signing and wayfinding; collaborate, engage, and partner with local communities in a substantive and culturally appropriate way.
- **Equity:** distribute levy funds based on an assessment of community needs, gaps, and equitable outcomes; improve accessibility for people with disabilities; expand hours for parks and trails; provide multi-language signing and wayfinding.
- **Climate Resilience & Mitigation:** prioritize open space acquisition to protect existing ecosystems; fund strategic and regional trail connections that provide transportation alternatives for commuters and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; increase tree canopy, open space acquisitions, and forest stewardship in concrete “hot zones” in urban and underserved communities.
- **New Parks, Trails, & Recreation Opportunities:** focus on trail improvements and “last mile” additions to connect communities; increase grant funding for local communities; more equitably distribute pass-through funding; provide additional support for sports infrastructure and programming in underserved communities.

ANALYSIS

Financials. Proposed Ordinance 2025-0070 would place on the August 5, 2025, ballot a proposition authorizing a six-year property tax levy that would generate approximately \$1.5 billion in total over the levy period. This is a multi-year temporary levy lid lift, meaning that funding would not continue after the six-year period expires.

Proposed Rate and Limit Factor. The initial levy rate is proposed at **24.43 cents** per \$1,000 of assessed value (AV), with a limit factor set as the combined percentage change in the prior year’s Seattle consumer price index for wage earners (CPI-W) and estimated population growth in King County. This is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Estimated Limit Factor: Inflation Plus Population Growth

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
CPI-W (Seattle/Tacoma/Bremerton) ¹³	2.68%	2.49%	2.46%	2.41%	2.43%	2.68%
Estimated King County Pop. Growth ¹⁴	0.92%	0.93%	0.87%	0.80%	0.72%	0.92%
<i>Estimated Limit Factor</i>	3.60%	3.41%	3.33%	3.22%	3.15%	3.20%

Estimated Collections. Table 2 shows the estimated levy revenue for each year of the levy, based on the Office of Economic and Financial Analysis's (OEFA) August 2024 forecast for levy proceeds and presuming a limit factor based on the combined percentage change in the prior year's Seattle consumer price index for wage earners (CPI-W) and estimated population growth in King County. With these assumptions, the total projected revenue over the six-year levy period is **\$1.5 billion**.

For comparison, the current 2020-2025 levy had an initial rate of **18.32 cents** per \$1,000 AV in 2020, with a limit factor set as the combined percentage change in the prior year's Seattle CPI-W and estimated population growth in King County. The current 2020-2025 levy is expected to generate approximately **\$851 million** over the six-year levy period, based on OEFA's August 2024 forecast.¹⁵ This is approximately a 5% increase over the originally projected amount of \$810 million.

Table 2 also shows the estimated effective levy rate for each year of the levy period. For the current levy, the effective levy rate (which is calculated based on the limit factor, AV, and new construction) as of 2025 is 19.73 cents per \$1,000 AV.¹⁶ If, hypothetically, the current levy was extended into 2026 at a status quo continuation (applying the 2026 limit factor and AV assumptions to the 2025 levy collections), the effective rate for 2026 would have been 19.52 cents.

The March 2025 OEFA forecast was adopted by the Forecast Council on March 17, 2025. Based on the March 2025 OEFA forecast, total anticipated levy collections over six years is still \$1.5 billion. The annual estimates are shown below.

¹³ Inflation from Seattle CPI-W June Value in OEFA March 2024 Forecast.

¹⁴ Population forecast from OEFA March 2024 Forecast.

¹⁵ The current levy generated \$115.7 million in 2020, \$253.6 million in 2021-2022, an estimated \$307.9 million in 2023-2024, and is expected to generate \$169.8 million in 2025.

¹⁶ Based on August 2024 OEFA Forecast.

**Table 2. Estimated Annual Parks Levy Collections and Effective Levy Rate
(August 2024 OEFA Forecast)**

	Current Levy	Proposed 2026-2031 Levy					
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Estimated Proceeds ¹⁷	\$170 million	\$226 million	\$238 million	\$245 million	\$261 million	\$273 million	\$285 million
Estimated Effective Levy Rate ¹⁸ (per \$1000 AV)	\$0.1973	\$0.2443	\$0.24150	\$0.23896	\$0.23621	\$0.23260	\$0.22971

**Estimated Annual Parks Levy Collections and Effective Levy Rate (Adopted
March 2025 OEFA Forecast)**

	Current Levy	Proposed 2026-2031 Levy					
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Estimated Proceeds ¹⁹	\$170 million	\$220 million	\$232 million	\$246 million	\$258 million	\$271 million	\$285 million
Estimated Effective Levy Rate ²⁰ (per \$1000 AV)	\$0.1973	\$0.2443	\$0.2503	\$0.2547	\$0.2595	\$0.2614	\$0.2666

Impact to Household with Median-Valued Home. For the owner of a King County single-family home with a median AV of \$844,000 (based on 2024 assessed values²¹), an initial levy rate of **24.43 cents** per \$1,000 AV would cost this owner approximately **\$206.19** annually (\$17.18 per month) in property tax.

- For comparison, the effective levy rate of the current levy was approximately 19.43 cents per \$1,000 AV in 2024, which would cost the same homeowner approximately \$163.99 annually. For 2025, the effective levy rate of the current levy is approximately **19.73 cents** per \$1,000 AV, which would cost the same homeowner approximately **\$166.52** annually based on 2024 assessed values.
- To this homeowner, comparing the proposed 2026 rate with the effective 2025 rate, the proposed levy represents an approximate increase of \$39.67 annually (\$3.31 per month).

¹⁷ Based on August 2024 OEFA Forecast.

¹⁸ The effective levy rate is a function of assessed value, new construction, and the limit factor.

¹⁹ Based on adopted March 2025 OEFA Forecast.

²⁰ The effective levy rate is a function of assessed value, new construction, and the limit factor.

²¹ According to Executive staff, this value comes from Median Assessed Value (AV) by Levy or District data, provided by the King County Assessor's Office. The tax roll was certified by the Assessor's Office on January 27, 2025.

Prorating Considerations. Based on current prorating analysis from the OEFA's August 2024 forecast, it is not currently expected that the proposed levy would have a prorating impact on other taxing districts. In other words, levy suppression and prorating are not currently projected as an issue for the proposed levy as transmitted.

Prorating mitigation is not identified as an eligible levy expenditure in the PO. Whether or not to designate a specific reserve out of levy proceeds in the PO for any potential prorating mitigation would be a policy choice.

Based on the August 2024 OEFA forecast, assuming an initial parks levy rate of 24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV in 2026, there would be about \$1.09 of room in 2026, and between \$0.73 to \$1.09 in the next six years, before the closest district would hit the \$5.90 limit. During the 2026-2031 time frame, the closest levy district to reaching the \$5.90 limit would be Vashon Island, with about \$0.73 of room in 2027.²² This calculation includes the AFIS levy renewal passed in early 2025. The Executive is expected to transmit a proposed EMS levy renewal later in 2025; EMS levies are not subject to the \$5.90 limit.

Funding Categories Overview. This section provides an overview of the proposed levy allocations as stated in the PO, as well as the more detailed proposed investments listed in the proposed allocation plan that is Attachment 4 to this staff report. (Note that the allocation plan is not explicitly referenced in the PO and therefore is not part of the legislation; this level of detail would not be adopted by adopting the ordinance. PM 2025-0077 would adopt a funding allocation plan for the proposed 2026-2031 levy.)

Proposed Allocations as Stated in Proposed Ordinance. PO 2025-0070 would allocate levy proceeds for the following purposes, which are explicitly stated in the ordinance language:

- Up to \$42 million for Woodland Park Zoo;
- Up to \$15 million for Seattle Aquarium;
- Up to \$9 million for Friends of Waterfront Park;
- Up to \$2.5 million for Memorial Stadium;
- Up to \$30 million for Parks Capital and Open Space Grants; and
- Up to \$46 million for Aquatic Facilities Grants.

Note that the “up to” language in these allocations means that anywhere between \$0 and the maximum amount listed could be spent. The Executive’s proposed allocation plan indicates that the Executive does intend to spend the maximum for each of these categories.

Of remaining levy proceeds (approximately \$1.35 billion), PO 2025-0070 would explicitly allocate money as follows:

²² State law currently removes regular park and recreation district property tax levies from the \$5.90 limit if levied on an island within a county with a population over two million (i.e., Vashon Island). This exemption, unless changed by state law, expires January 1, 2027. (House Bill 1034, Chapter 117, Laws of 2021)

- 43% of remaining proceeds for operations and maintenance of the open space system²³ and for the Healthy Communities and Parks Grants Program;²⁴
- 48% of remaining proceeds to parks acquisition, conservation, stewardship, capital improvement, community partnerships and grants, and the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center;²⁵ and
- 9% of remaining proceeds to towns, cities, and parks districts.

Proposed Allocation Plan. Executive staff have transmitted a proposed allocation plan, which is Attachment 3 to this staff report and summarized in Table 3. Note that the proposed allocation plan is neither explicitly referenced in, nor identified as an attachment to the transmitted PO, and therefore this level of detail would not be adopted by adopting the ordinance.

Whether to amend the ordinance to adopt the proposed allocation plan, introduce a companion motion to adopt the proposed allocation plan, and/or to include additional specific allocations in the PO, is a policy choice for members to consider. For the 2020-2025 Parks Levy, the Council adopted, simultaneous to levy ordinance adoption,²⁶ a companion motion²⁷ that included the adopted current allocation plan (referred to herein as the “2020-2025 Parks Levy motion.”)

For the proposed 2026-2031 levy, a proposed companion motion (Proposed Motion 2025-0077) has been introduced. Proposed Motion 2025-0077 would adopt a funding allocation plan attached to the motion. While the attachment to the motion is currently the Executive’s proposed allocation plan, members may choose to amend the allocation plan; this would be a policy choice.

The Proposed Motion would stipulate that the amounts in the allocation plan may be modified when deemed advisable or necessary in the judgment of the Council, through adoption of an appropriations ordinance. If the Executive wished to make changes to allocations within the allocation plan, a report would be required to be submitted to the Council detailing the proposed changes. This process mirrors what was adopted in the 2020-2025 Parks Levy Motion. These processes are also policy choices.

²³ Defined in Section 1 as “the system that includes parks, trails, natural areas, resource lands, and structures or buildings owned or otherwise under the jurisdiction of the parks and recreation division of the department of natural resources.”

²⁴ No more than \$30M to Healthy Community and Parks Grants, formerly known as Targeted Equity Grants.

²⁵ Executive staff state that inclusion of the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center in this category is an error, and that it was intended to be an off-the-top allocation of up to \$22 million.

²⁶ Ordinance 18890.

²⁷ Motion 15378.

Table 3. Executive Proposed Allocation Plan for 2026-2031 Parks Levy

Parks Levy Grants and Community Partnerships		\$117 million
	Aquatic Facilities Capital Grants	\$46 million
	Parks Capital and Open Space	\$30 million
	Healthy Communities and Parks Fund (formerly known as Targeted Equity Grants)	\$30 million
	Community Partnerships and Grants ²⁸	\$11 million
Pass-Through		\$209 million
	King County cities, towns, and park districts	\$119 million
	Woodland Park Zoo	\$42 million
	Seattle Waterfront	\$9 million
	Seattle Aquarium	\$15 million
	Memorial Stadium	\$2.5 million
	Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center ²⁹	\$22 million
King County Parks Operations and Maintenance		\$551 million
	Operations, Maintenance, Program Delivery and Internal Supports	\$517 million
	Parks Patrol Expansion	\$4.3 million
	Safety Program Expansion	\$3.2 million
	Asset Management Program	\$4.1 million
	Land Use Stewardship and Encroachment Program	\$10.4 million
	Youth Conservation Corps Program Expansion	\$4.8 million
	Jobs & Housing Program	\$5 million
	Tribal, Indigenous, & Historic Interpretive Program	\$1.8 million
King County Parks Capital Program		\$624 million
	Climate resilience and stewardship	\$217.5 million
	Regional trails and other public trails system	\$179 million
	New park development and improvements	\$51 million
	Active recreation repair and renovation	\$177 million
Election Costs		\$1.5 million
Additional assumed costs		\$18 million
	Fixed income exemption ³⁰	\$3 million
	1% undercollection assumption ³¹	\$15 million

²⁸ Defined in Section 1 as "the program through which King County provides monies to recreation-oriented groups, sports associations and community-based organizations to undertake any combination of developing, operating or maintaining a public park or recreation facility or program in King County and King County cities for public benefit."

²⁹ Executive staff state that inclusion of the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center was intended to be an off-the-top allocation of up to \$22 million; its inclusion in the PO under Section 4.E (as part of the capital distribution) was an error and was intended to be included under Section 4.D.

³⁰ As authorized by RCW 84.36.381.

³¹ According to Executive staff, the 1% undercollection assumption is a consistent rate assumed countywide with other levies. The first four years of the Parks levy has seen less than 1% of the undercollection rate. Though FY 2024 year-end reconciliation is still underway and is expected to be finalized by April 2025, FY 2024 shows a little over that rate, consistent with the trajectory in the King County 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

Comparison with Current Parks Levy. Table 4 summarizes a comparison of the current 2020-2025 Parks Levy and the proposed 2026-2031 Parks Levy.

Table 4. Comparison of Current Parks Levy vs. Proposed Parks Levy Renewal

	2020-2025 Parks Levy Adopted Allocations	2020-2025 Parks Levy Actual Investment ³²	Proposed 2026-2031 Parks Levy Investment (Allocation Plan ³³)
Levy Rate			
Initial Levy Rate	Initial rate of 18.32 cents per \$1,000 AV in 2020; Effective rate is 19.73 cents per \$1,000 AV in 2025		Initial rate of 24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV
Total Levy Collection over 6-year period	\$810 million	\$851 million	\$1.5 billion
Estimated Annual Cost to Homeowner of Median-Valued King County Home	\$166.52 ³⁴		\$206.19 ³⁵
Pass-Through Investments			
Woodland Park Zoo	\$36 million	\$39 million	\$42 million
Seattle Aquarium	\$8 million	\$8 million	\$15 million
Seattle Waterfront	<i>Not in current levy</i>	<i>Not in current levy</i>	\$9 million
Memorial Stadium	<i>Not in current levy</i>	<i>Not in current levy</i>	\$2.5 million (in first two years)
Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center	\$8 million	\$8 million	\$22 million
Cities, Towns, and Park Districts ³⁶	\$60 million	\$62 million	\$119 million
King County Parks operations and maintenance	\$277 million	\$299 million	\$551 million
King County Parks capital program			
Climate resilience, conservation, and stewardship	\$98.5 million	\$102.2 million	\$217 million
Regional and other public trails system	\$165.65 million	\$170.15 million	\$179 million
New park development and improvements	<i>Not in current levy</i>	<i>Not in current levy</i>	\$51 million
Active recreation repair and renovation	\$41.5 million	\$55.2 million	\$177 million
Grants			
Parks Capital and Open Space Grant	\$25 million	\$25 million	\$30 million
Aquatic Facilities Grant	\$36 million	\$36 million	\$46 million
Healthy Communities and Parks Grant (formerly Targeted Equity Grant)	\$10 million	\$10 million	\$30 million
Community Partnership Grants	\$9.57 million	\$9.8 million	\$11 million
Open Space River Corridors Grant	\$22 million	\$22 million	<i>Not continued</i>

³² Based on current levy forecast within the August 2024 OEFA forecast. FY 2024 expenditures are expected to be finalized by April 2025. FY 2025 expenditures are expected to be finalized by April 2026.

³³ Note that the proposed allocation plan is not explicitly referenced in the proposed ordinance, and therefore this level of detail would not be adopted by adopting the ordinance.

³⁴ Based on effective 2025 levy rate and 2024 median assessed value.

³⁵ Based on proposed 2026 levy rate and 2024 median assessed value.

³⁶ Park Districts were not included in the 2020-2025 Parks Levy.

Operations and Maintenance. After off-the-top distributions for educational and civic venues, two grant programs, and election costs, the PO specifies that 43% of the remainder of Parks Levy moneys would be used for:

- Operations and maintenance of the County's Open Space System, and
- Healthy Community and Parks Grants program, which is referred to as the Target Equity Grant program in the 2020-2025 Parks Levy.

The PO would set a maximum of \$30 million that could be expended on the Healthy Community and Parks Grants program, with no minimum spending amount specified. Further details on this program can be found in the Grant Programs section of this staff report.

The PO and its attachments do not provide any further specificity on how funding in this category would be spent. The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive intends to spend the maximum-allowed \$30 million on the Healthy Communities and Grants Program, leaving an estimated \$550.6 million for operations and maintenance of the County's open space system. This represents a roughly 84% increase in funding for this category compared to current forecasts for the 2020-2025 levy.

Update for 3/26 BFM staff report: In response to inquiry from Councilmembers, Central staff requested from Executive staff an analysis of how much of the increase in operations and maintenance costs were due to maintaining current service levels, compared with inflation or new capacity. Executive staff provided, and Council staff shared with members, a document that was included in the 3/12 staff reports as Attachment 4 (Inflation Analysis).

Under that prior analysis, the \$550.6 million request for maintenance and operations included:

- \$302 million for current service levels
- \$33 million for inflationary costs
- \$182 million to increase the capacity of the parks system
- \$33.6 million for new and expanded programs

On March 19, Council staff were informed that the previously provided analysis was incorrect. According to Executive staff, \$302 million reflects the total operations during the 2020-2025 levy, and the \$33 million inflationary impact was calculated incorrectly based on that number and therefore does not account for annual increases in the next levy period.

Executive staff provided Council staff with updated numbers, which are summarized below and detailed at length in the "Answers to Councilmember Questions from 3/12 BFM" section of the staff report. Under the new analysis, Executive state that Parks would need **\$466.6 million** over the 2026-2031 levy period to maintain current levels of service, accounting for inflation.

\$466.6 million	To maintain current levels of service from 2026-2031, including accounting for inflation
\$50.2 million	To increase capacity of parks system
\$33.6 million	For new and expanded programs
\$550 million	Total Maintenance and Operations Request

Additionally, in the responses to Councilmember questions raised in the 2/26 BFM meeting, which Council staff shared at the 3/12 BFM meeting, Executive staff provided an estimate that they expect to fund 150-170 FTE during the 2026-2031 levy with this requested amount.

Council staff followed up to inquire how these additional positions correspond with the requested funding. According to Executive staff, the 150 FTE includes 85 positions to increase the capacity of the parks system, 27 positions for new and expanded programs, conversion of 28 TLT to FTE, and 10 Youth Conservation Corps intern positions.

85 positions	85 FTE, corresponds to \$50.2 million request to increase capacity
27 positions	27 FTE, corresponds to \$33.6 million request for new and expanded programs
28 positions	TLT to FTE conversions
10 positions	Youth Conservation Corps intern positions
150 positions	Total Additional Positions

For reference, the Parks operating budget for 2025 was \$70 million, which included 345 FTE and 28 TLT. In 2020, at the start of the current levy, the operating budget was \$43 million, which included 253 FTE and 1 TLT. According to Executive staff, Parks has been growing the workforce by about 8% per year for a total of 47% over the course of 2020-2025 levy.

The following subsections break down the Executive's planned spending on operations and maintenance as contained in the proposed allocation plan.

Operations, Maintenance, Program Delivery, and Internal Supports. The vast majority (\$517 million or 93%) of operations and maintenance funding would go towards maintaining the current King County open space system. The allocation plan states that this money would cover the system's day-to-day operational needs, including but not limited to personnel, supplies, services, fleet, equipment, and administrative costs.

The \$517 million in this category also includes \$2.4 million that would be split between the King County Fair, Washington State University 4-H Program, and King County

Search and Rescue operations. These three programs are currently funded by Parks Levy dollars. The Parks Levy Operations Financial Plan,³⁷ which was transmitted with the PO but not formally attached to the levy ordinance, provides the following breakdown of funding for these programs:

- King County Search and Rescue - \$1.2 million (double what was initially planned for the 2020-2025 investment, but level funding with that which began in the 2023-2024 biennial budget)³⁸
- WSU Cooperative / 4-H - \$906,000 (level funding with current)

The amount going to the King County Fair is not explicitly stated, but subtracting the \$2.4 million listed in the proposed allocation plan for these programs from the numbers above would leave \$300,000 for the King County Fair. For comparison, the allocation plan adopted by the 2020-2025 Parks Levy motion set aside \$300,000 for the Fair over the life of that levy.

Parks Patrol Expansion. King County Parks currently has a service level agreement with the King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) to provide a Parks Patrol Program through which two KCSO deputies are assigned full time to the King County parks system. The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive would spend \$4.3 million over the life of the levy to expand the program. Executive staff state that the expansion would include increased enforcement and education related to parks rules by adding two additional deputies over the levy period. They further state that the proposed expansion of this program would help to continue to address safety issues, provide quick response times, and consistent communication for concerns raised by staff or the public about the parks system.

Safety Program Expansion. According to Executive staff, Parks' safety program currently supports personnel, equipment, and training to implement a modern, comprehensive safety program for the division. Goals of the Safety Program include accident and injury prevention, ensuring compliance with safety regulations, and promoting a proactive and team-oriented safety-first culture. The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive would spend \$3.2 million over the life of the levy to expand the program. Executive staff state that this expansion would enable Parks to invest funds into planning, training, comprehensive workplace and practice evaluations, targeted safety program and initiative development, and procedures.

Asset Management Program. The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive would spend \$4.1 million on an asset management program. The proposal would expand Parks' existing asset management program. Funding for this program would provide staffing and resources required to operate, maintain and enhance the asset management system which includes a complete inventory of physical park assets. Executive staff state that the expanded program would require an additional 4 FTEs. The expansion of the work program would include:

³⁷ Attachment 9 to this staff report.

³⁸ Executive staff state that the \$600,000 figure in the Operations Financial Plan is incorrect.

- A focus on performing ongoing asset condition inspections along with creating and implementing preventative maintenance programs based on asset life cycle data.
- Collecting new asset data, updating existing data, managing system upgrades, troubleshooting system problems, training parks staff on how to use the system, documenting standard operating procedures, and implementing system enhancement.

Land Use Stewardship and Encroachment Program. According to Executive staff, the Land Use Stewardship and Encroachment Program incorporates the department's enforcement of land use guidelines to comply with the permit system requirements in K.C.C 14.30. The proposed funding would support property services, permitting for use of Parks property, and enforcement of the Parks Land Use Guidelines,³⁹ which Parks does not currently have resources to do. The Parks Land Use Guidelines require the Parks to review and make recommendations on Special Use Permit applications requesting use of Parks' property for non-park purposes.

Youth Conservation Corps Program Expansion. The 2020-2025 Parks Levy motion directed the Executive to develop a plan to implement Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) beginning in 2020. The YCC is currently active as a summer internship program and, according to its website,⁴⁰ youth interns participate in the following activities:

- Engage in discussions about the intersections of race and the environment;
- Lead conversations with other interns on self-selected topics;
- Develop and build-upon career skills such as writing, public speaking, and interviewing;
- Become familiar with land management practices and the multiple facets of a park agency;
- Network with Parks staff, community leaders, and environmental professionals;
- Explore solutions to problems impacting human and environmental health; and
- Participate in workshops about local environmental challenges.

The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive would maintain an expanded YCC program by investing an \$4.8 million over the life of the levy. In the current six-year levy period, the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) Program is funded at \$2.4M for the annual summer internship program that provides environmental learning opportunities for ten high school-aged youth. In FY 2024, the program received additional funding (\$750k) through a Flood Control District grant to expand the program to include twenty additional internship opportunities, two staff members and program related supplies. The expansion proposal, which adds \$2.4M to the existing funding, for a total of \$4.8M, would maintain the continuity of the current program expansion when the grant funds sunset in 2025.

³⁹ King County Parks: Land Use Guidelines October 2020. Last accessed February 19, 2025.
https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/ls05t2bj3gk7tybd3xax7/KCP_Land_Use_Guidelines.pdf?rlkey=fqg5q6u3fnf71a7q688ed12xl&e=2&dl=0

⁴⁰ King County Parks: Youth Conservation Corps. Last accessed February 15, 2025.
<https://kcpyouthcorps.org/>

Jobs and Housing Program. The Jobs and Housing Program was established by the Council in the COVID 7 budget⁴¹ passed in 2021, using Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery (CLFR) dollars. This initiative was intended to support a jobs and rehousing program for individuals experiencing homelessness. Funding was housed in the Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget (PSB).

The Jobs and Housing Program began operations in 2021 and provided temporary jobs, career preparation, and housing and support services within King County and other local organizations. These temporary jobs lasted up to one year and included paid ORCA transit pass and other transportation assistance, housing support, career support, and coaching services for one year. Of the 87 temporary jobs provided, 37 of were with King County Parks.

The 2025 Annual Budget⁴² appropriated the last of the CLFR funding for the Jobs and Housing Program, with the program intended to sunset at that time. Simultaneously, however, the budget appropriated \$851,000 to continue the Parks portion of the program, known as the Parks Beautification Program, through 2025, using solely Parks Levy moneys.

The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive would use \$5 million of operations and maintenance funding to continue the Jobs and Housing program through the life of the levy. This represents roughly level annual funding with that appropriated for 2025. Executive staff have confirmed that the \$5 million only includes the “jobs” portion of the Jobs and Housing program, and that Parks is not currently responsible for housing or support services but will evaluate potential partnerships with other agencies for continued collaboration. PSB has been responsible for working with housing and service providers on this program; however, as mentioned above, PSB’s CLFR funding is expected to be exhausted in 2025.

Tribal, Indigenous, and Historic Interpretive Program. The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive would use \$1.8 million in operations and maintenance funding for a new Tribal, Indigenous, and Historic Interpretive Program. The allocation plan states that this program would “support work with Tribes, indigenous organizations, and historic preservation organizations to strengthen government-to-government relationships and improve conservation and recreational planning.” Executive staff state that this program is the result of a recommendation by the Community Advisory Committee to strengthen partnerships with Tribal organizations and to collaborate with Tribes to better achieve common objectives.

They further state that the program would be developed in partnership with area tribes, indigenous organizations, and historic preservation organizations, and that resources would be invested in, but not limited to, the following:

- Improving conservation and recreational planning so that public use can be better balanced with protecting and honoring traditional cultural places;
- Supporting storytelling and interpretation that honors site-based history and context; and

⁴¹ Ordinance 19289.

⁴² Ordinance 19861.

- As appropriate, feasible, and if desired by those Parks would be working with, incorporating traditional cultural knowledge and practices in land management efforts and programs.

Capital Projects and Aquatic Center. After off-the-top distributions for educational and civic venues, two grant programs, and election costs, the PO specifies that 48% of the remainder of Parks Levy moneys would be used for:

- Acquisition, conservation, and stewardship of additional open space lands, natural areas, resource or ecological lands, rights of way for regional trails, and urban green spaces;
- Acquisition of rights of way for and development of regional and other public trails;
- Capital improvement projects and major maintenance repair or replacement of open space system infrastructure;
- The community partnerships and grants program; and
- Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center.

The PO and its attachments do not provide any further specificity on how much money would be appropriated to each of these categories or what projects they might entail. Executive staff state that proposed allocations are not explicitly enumerated in the ordinance as they are planning-level estimates and may change in the future.

Executive staff state that the inclusion of the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center in this 48% category was an error, and that it was intended to be an off-the-top allocation of up to \$22 million for major maintenance capital investments to the Aquatic Center.

The Executive's proposed allocation plan provides further information on the expected allocations, which are discussed below. Further details on The Community Partnerships and Grants program can be found in the Grant Programs section of this staff report.

Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center. The Executive's proposed allocation plan states that \$22 million is expected to go to the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center over the life of the levy. Executive staff state that, as the facility is 35 years old, there are significant deferred maintenance and end of lifecycle needs that would be covered by this funding.

Climate Resilience and Stewardship. The Executive's proposed allocation plan creates a new subcategory, "Climate Resilience and Stewardship," that replaces the "Open Space Acquisition/Land Conservation" subcategory in the adopted 2020-2025 Parks Levy allocation plan (Motion 15378) and includes several of the same spending items.

Table 5 below shows the difference between the 2020-2025 adopted allocation plan and the 2026-2031 proposed allocation plan for this subcategory.

Table 5. Comparison of Climate Resilience and Stewardship/Open Space Acquisition Funding, Current Parks Levy vs. Proposed Parks Levy Renewal

Subcategory	2020-2025 Allocation Plan (\$123.5 million)	2026-2031 Proposed Allocation Plan (\$217.5 million)⁴³
King County Open Space Acquisition/Land Conservation	\$78 million	\$96 million
Towns and Cities Open Space	\$25 million	Now categorized as Parks Capital and Open Space Grants (\$30 million)
Stewardship of Lands Acquired (O&M)	\$18 million	\$20 million
Fish Passage Program	Not included	\$10 million
Climate Resilience	Not included	\$33 million
Environmental Stewardship	Not included	\$58.5 million
Water Access Acquisition on Lake Washington	\$2.5 million ⁴⁴	Not included

Each of these subcategories is discussed in more detail below.

King County Open Space Acquisition/Land Conservation and Stewardship (\$116 million). The proposed allocation plan estimates that \$96 million would be used for King County's acquisition and conservation of open space lands, with an additional \$20 million proposed for stewardship of lands acquired with this money.

Attachment B to the PO includes Acquisition Guidelines for Parks Levy funding used to acquire open space and natural lands⁴⁵ in coordination with the County's Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) program. Attachment B gives the following process, which aligns with the process the Executive uses currently (but was not spelled out in the 2020-2025 Parks Levy ordinance or motion):

1. Early each calendar year, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) would set a proposed allocation for open space from levy funds for the following fiscal year.
2. Staff would generate proposals for the use of these funds, taking into account opportunities to leverage resources with funding from Conservation Futures, as well as from other local, state, and federal funding sources.

⁴³ Total does not include Parks Capital and Open Space Grants, which are proposed to move to another category.

⁴⁴ The allocation was directed to be used for properties located in proximity to the Burke-Gilman Trail. Waterfront property near the Burke-Gilman Trail in the City of Lake Forest Park was acquired.

⁴⁵ Neither of these terms is defined in the PO. In the County's [Open Space Plan](#), "open space" is a catch-all term, of which "natural areas" is a subset meaning "ecological lands managed almost exclusively for environmental protection and enhancement."

3. An overall proposal allocating the open space funds to specific projects would be developed and discussed with the Conservation Futures Advisory Committee (CFAC) that is responsible for developing CFT funding recommendations.
4. Taking the CFAC's recommendations into account, DNRP would develop a proposed budget for these parks levy funds.
5. The DNRP-proposed budget for parks levy funding would be reviewed by the County Executive, and ultimately County Council, as part of the overall budget process for the following year.

Executive staff have stated that the entire \$96 million is intended to be allocated through the CFT process. This is a policy choice. Council may wish to clarify exactly what funding is subject to Attachment B.

As noted in Table 5, the allocation plan for the 2020-2025 Parks Levy motion⁴⁶ also included funding for towns and cities open space. Via the 2020-2025 Parks Levy motion, the Council directed establishment of the Parks Capital and Open Space Grant Program, and the \$25 million was used for those purposes. The current proposal for the Parks Capital and Open Space Grant Program is discussed in the Grant Programs section of this staff report.

Fish Passage Program (\$10 million). The Fish Passage Restoration Program removes barriers for salmon to reach historic spawning and rearing habitat in order to restore healthy populations. Executive staff have confirmed that the \$10 million would only be used for work on Parks-owned properties or land where Parks has easements. Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funding is expected to supplement the \$10 million.

Executive staff state that the fish passage projects anticipated for the 2026-2031 levy are consistent with the Motion 15378 Report. Between 2022 and 2024, Parks completed eight projects that remedied ten fish passage barriers. The 2026-2031 Levy proposal provides funding for eight additional projects, with further fish passage projects needing completion after 2031.

Climate Resilience (\$33 million). Investments in climate resilience would include the following.

- *Parks' Forest Stewardship Program and Projects.* Parks' Forest Stewardship webpage⁴⁷ states that Parks manages over 29,000 acres of public forest land, 3,800 of which are designated as working forests. Types of stewardship actions listed there include development of stewardship plans, variable thinning management, red alder conversion, and root rot treatment.
- *Potential Stormwater Park Pilot Projects.* Stormwater parks are community facilities that both manage stormwater from a larger area and provide

⁴⁶ Motion 15738.

⁴⁷ King County Parks: Forest Stewardship. Last accessed February 15, 2025.

<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dnrp/nature-recreation/parks-recreation/king-county-parks/natural-working-lands/forest-stewardship>.

recreational opportunities.⁴⁸ Executive staff state that the locations of the pilot projects have not been identified yet, and that identifying sites would be part of a scoping and feasibility study effort that would be completed jointly between Parks Division and Water and Land Resources Division.

- *Establishment of a Climate Response Fund.* The proposed allocation plan states that this fund would support community response projects and programming. Executive staff state that projects and programming could include, but wouldn't be limited to:
 - Adding electric vehicle charging stations for both county-fleet and public vehicles at parks;
 - Converting existing Parks facilities that still run on fossil fuels to electric;
 - Adding solar panels to existing Park facilities;
 - Adding air-conditioning to publicly accessible Park facilities;
 - Urban tree planting projects; and
 - Adding splash pads, misters and/or sprinklers at parks.

Environmental Stewardship (\$58 million). The proposed allocation plan states that investments in environmental stewardship will support:

- Early actions to safeguard sites for public use following acquisition;
- Structure demolitions to deliver full ecological and recreation benefits;
- Improvements to existing maintenance facilities and acquisitions;
- Natural resource and site management planning;
- Multi-benefit river corridor projects; and
- Landscaping/restoration/mitigation site monitoring and maintenance.

Regional and Other Public Trails. The proposed allocation plan includes \$179 million in investments for regional trails and other public trails. In comparison, the 2020-2025 Parks Levy motion included \$165.7 million in investments to this category.

Table 6. Comparison of Regional and Other Public Trails Funding, Current Parks Levy vs. Proposed Parks Levy Renewal

Subcategory	2020-2025 Allocation Plan (\$165.65 million)	2026-2031 Proposed Allocation Plan (\$179 million)
Eastrail	\$50.5 million	\$65 million
Lake to Sound Trail	\$16 million	\$55 million
Green River Trail North Extension	\$6 million	\$6 million
Interurban Trail South	\$5.5 million	\$8 million
Soos Creek Trail	\$4 million	\$7 million
Other New Regional Trails		\$38 million
East Lake Sammamish Trail	\$32 million	
Capital improvements for existing regional trail system	\$18 million	

⁴⁸ Puget Sound Regional Council: Stormwater Parks. Last accessed February 15, 2025.
<https://www.psrc.org/our-work/stormwater-parks>

Green to Cedar Rivers Trail North A	\$9 million	
Regional trails acquisition	\$2 million	
Foothills Trail	\$5 million	
East Lake Sammamish Trail – Redmond Light Rail Extension	\$4 million	
Wayne Golf Course Trail Connector Improvements	\$2 million	
Interurban Trail to Burke Gilman Connection	\$7.5 million	
Interurban Trail Connection	\$150,000	
Kirkland Green Loop Trail	\$2.5 million	
Missing Link of Green River Trail	\$1.5 million	

The proposed allocation plan includes the following investments:

Eastrail (\$65 million). The proposed levy would support construction of two additional segments of Eastrail, construction of an Eastrail connection to Coulon Park, paving the Central Wilburton segment, and completing design on the Eastrail to Lake to Sound Trail connection.

Eastrail is anticipated to be an uninterrupted 42-mile trail that would connect Renton, Bellevue, Kirkland, Woodinville, Snohomish, and Redmond. Approximately 16 miles are open, of which 7.5 miles are owned by King County. Trail segments currently under construction⁴⁹ are the Wilburton Trestle,⁵⁰ the I-90 Bridge Trail segment,⁵¹ and the Central Wilburton Trail Segment.⁵²

According to Executive staff, the proposed \$65 million allocation to Eastrail would support the I-90 Steel Bridge Crossing, Central Wilburton Paving, 124th to 145th Interim Trail, Coulon Park North Entrance to South Entrance, Coulon Park North Entrance to Mile Post 5, and Mile Post 5 to Ripley Lane.

Lake to Sound Trail (\$55 million). The proposed levy would support construction of two additional segments of the Lake to Sound Trail and the completion of the design to connect Lake to Sound Trail to SeaTac Airport. The Lake to Sound Trail is a multi-jurisdiction, multiple segment trail that extends 16 miles from the Cedar River at Lake Washington in Renton to Des Moines Beach Park on Puget Sound.

⁴⁹ King County Parks: Eastrail. Last accessed February 15, 2025.

<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dnrp/nature-recreation/parks-recreation/king-county-parks/capital-projects/eastrail>

⁵⁰ Construction started May 2024; anticipated opening summer 2026; costs \$37 million, of which \$20.5 million came from the 2020-2025 Parks Levy; other funding sources are Amazon, Washington State, City of Bellevue, and Kaiser Permanente.

⁵¹ Construction 2028-2030; anticipated opening 2030; costs \$49 million, of which \$2 million came from the 2020-2025 Parks Levy, along with a \$25 million federal RAISE Grant and \$12 million from Washington State's Climate Commitment Act.

⁵² Construction 2025-2026; anticipated opening 2026; costs \$2.5 million funded by Amazon.

Green River Trail Extension – North (\$6 million). The proposed levy would support construction of the Green River Trail North to Seattle. The Green River Trail is a regional trail of more than 19 paved miles from the south edge of Seattle to the City of Kent, passing through industrial lands near the Duwamish Waterway in Tukwila to the broad Green River Valley. The North extension project would extend the existing Green River Trail north from Cecil Moses Park in Tukwila, along West Marginal Place South, to the Seattle City limits near South Park.⁵³

Interurban Trail South Investments (\$8 million). The proposed levy would complete full rehabilitation of the Interurban Trail South. The Interurban Trail links Tukwila, Kent, Auburn, Algonia, and Pacific along a 14-mile trail following the Interurban Rail Line.

Soos Creek Trail (\$7 million). The proposed levy would support construction of Soos Creek Trail Segment 5a and plan for future Soos Creek Trail segments. The Soos Creek Trail is a 6-mile paved trail in the East Hill area of Kent with a gentle grade for strolls, bicycle rides, and horse rides.⁵⁴

Other New Regional Trails (\$38 million). Of this amount, \$18 million would support planning, acquisition, and preliminary design for potential future trail segments and connections, including, but not limited to: Green River Trail, Preston-Snoqualmie Trail, Soos Creek Trail, Cedar River Trail, Green to Cedar Trail, and Snoqualmie Valley Trail.

The remaining \$20 million would support emergent needs on the regional trail system, including, but not limited to: surface improvements, lighting, access control improvements, and intersection improvements.

New Park Development and Improvements. The proposed allocation plan includes \$51 million in investments for new park development and improvements.

Dog Parks (\$3 million). According to Executive staff, King County Parks completed a Draft Dog Park Feasibility Study in 2024. One of the prioritization criteria for locations assessed in the study was whether a community identified off-leash parks as a need in the King County Department of Local Services Community Needs Report. Based on this, feasible sites identified in that study include:

- North Shorewood Park
- Lake Geneva Park
- Skyway Park (if it aligns with the Community Center plan)

Executive staff state that King County Parks is also actively looking for potentially suitable locations on Vashon Island and in Fairwood near Petrovitsky Park.

⁵³King County Parks: Green River Trail North Extension. Last accessed February 15, 2025.
<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dnrp/nature-recreation/parks-recreation/king-county-parks/capital-projects/green-river-trail-north-extension>

⁵⁴King County Parks: Soos Creek Trail. Last accessed February 15, 2025.
<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dnrp/nature-recreation/parks-recreation/king-county-parks/trails/leafline-trails/soos-creek-trail>

As background, Ordinance 19771, passed in 2024, adopted several changes to King County Code Title 7, including allowing off-leash dog parks at County parks other than Marymoor Park.

Lakeland Park North (\$10 million). This would support design and construction of a 20-acre nature park at Lakeland North Urban Park between Auburn and Federal Way including trails, nature-based play area, shelter, restroom and parking.

Skyway Park Planning and Community Center (\$13 million). This would support design, construction, and initial operational costs at Skyway Park Community Center. Approximately \$20 million in additional funding would be needed for construction and is expected to come from REET and bond financing.

Backcountry Trail: new trails (\$3 million). According to Executive staff, new trails may be created at the sites that are listed under Major Maintenance and would also be created at future sites to be acquired.

Ballfield and Sports Courts: new facilities (\$3 million). According to Executive staff, potential projects may include adding pickleball courts at existing parks, adding recreational cricket facilities at existing parks, and adding light to existing courts or fields.

Natural Grass to Synthetic Turf Field Conversion (\$19 million). This would support design and construction at South County Ballfields in Federal Way.

Active Recreation Repair and Renovation, and Other Park Repair and Renovation. The proposed allocation plan includes \$177 million in investments to active recreation repair and renovation, and other pair repair and renovation. In comparison, the 2020-2025 Parks Levy motion included \$41.5 million in investments to this category.

Major maintenance existing infrastructure (\$90 million). This includes:

- General Infrastructure: \$23 million
- Playground rehabilitation: \$7 million
- Play amenities rehabilitation: \$6 million
- Parks building system rehabilitation: \$8 million
- Ballfield synthetic turf replacement: \$12 million
- Pools, water access, docks rehabilitation: \$2 million
- Ballfields and sports court rehabilitation: \$6 million
- Backcountry trail rehabilitation: \$6 million
- Drainage infrastructure rehabilitation: \$12 million
- Other agency projects (Sound Transit, WSDOT, KC Roads, etc.): \$8 million

ADA and accessibility rehabilitation (\$12 million). According to Executive staff, these projects would be identified by the ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan, which are currently in progress.

Regional trails rehabilitation (\$55 million). This would support keeping the existing regional trail system clean, safe, and open and includes, but is not limited to, repair/replacement of bridges and trestles, trail surface repairs/rehabilitation, safety updates, repairs to meet current guidelines and standards, and landscaping/mitigation maintenance and monitoring.

Marymoor Park rehabilitation (\$16 million). This would fund rehabilitation of infrastructure and facilities throughout Marymoor Park to keep the park clean, safe, and open. It also includes funding for improvements to address growing user demand including, but not limited to, signage, utilities, pedestrian facilities, buildings, roadways, velodrome rehabilitation, and concert venue updates. This program is expected to be supplemented with Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funding.

Sunset Park Renovation and Repair (\$4 million). According to Executive staff, the exact updates are still to be determined as part of a public engagement process, but may include, restroom renovation, parking improvements, court and field improvements, and adding additional amenities such as play area.

Grants Programs. The PO includes four grant programs that would be funded through the 2026-2031 Parks Levy. All four programs are continuations of existing grant programs, though modifications are proposed to three of the four. One program from the 2020-2025 Parks Levy, the Open Space - River Corridors Grant Program, is not proposed to continue. Table 7 below compares funding in the allocation plan of the current 2020-2025 Parks Levy and the allocation plan for the proposed 2026-2031 Parks Levy.

Table 7. Comparison of Grant Program Funding, Current Parks Levy vs. Proposed Parks Levy Renewal

Program Name	2020-2025 Allocation Plan (\$102.57 million)	2026-2031 Allocation Plan (\$117 million)
Parks Capital and Open Space Grants (PCOS)	\$25 million ⁵⁵	\$30 million
Aquatic Facilities Grants	\$36 million	\$46 million
Healthy Communities and Parks Grants ⁵⁶	\$10 million	\$30 million
Community Partnerships and Grants	\$9.57 million	\$11 million
Open Space – River Corridors Grants	\$22 million	\$0

Table 7 shows that varying levels of increases are proposed for four of the programs, the largest of which would be a tripling of funding for the Healthy Communities and Parks Grants. Executive staff state that since 2022, the Healthy Communities and Parks Program received 404 applications requesting \$50.7 million, but King County was only able to approve about a quarter of the requests, or 105 applications (\$6.53 million), due to limited funding availability. This led the Parks Levy Oversight Board to recommend an increase in total funding for this grant program in the next levy to meet current and future demand. Executive staff state that their community engagement found support for increasing grant funding generally as well.

Executive staff state that the Open Space - River Corridors Grant Program is not proposed to continue because “during this program’s request for application cycles in 2022 and 2023 in the current levy period, there were not enough applicants to use all the allocated funding. Over half of the grants awarded in this program went to King County Parks or Water and Land Resources (WLR) Division (17 of 31). Parks and WLR plan to continue open space river corridor work without the grant program in the next levy cycle under several program areas, including the Environmental Stewardship Program and the Climate Resilience Program.”

For the PCOS, Aquatic Facilities, and Healthy Communities and Parks Grant Programs, the Executive proposes new program requirements through Attachment A to the PO. Existing program requirements, including eligible entities, eligible project types, advisory committee makeup, and selection process and criteria, are currently set by Ordinance 19166 (“the 2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance”). Analysis is ongoing as to whether the 2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance would need to be repealed in order to prevent conflicts with Attachment A to the PO.

As Tables 8, 9, and 10 show, the current programs have requirements around their advisory committees, project selection criteria, and approval process that are not included in Attachment A to the PO. Executive staff state that they propose to set those

⁵⁵ Note that in the 2020-2025 Allocation Plan, this is named “Towns and Cities Open Space” under the Open Space Acquisition category.

⁵⁶ Called “Targeted Equity Grant Program” in the 2020-2025 Parks Levy.

parameters internally for the 2026-2031 levy period, and anticipate making the following changes:

1. Defining a consistent grant framework in terms of goals;
2. Establishing consistent biennial grants cycles; and
3. Providing Council notification of awards, rather than Council approval.

Further detail on Executive's staff's proposed changes can be found in the Policy Issues section of this staff report. Whether to add guidance or requirements on these topics, with or without changes to what is in the 2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance, is a policy choice.

Because Attachment A is a formal attachment to the PO, the guidelines contained therein would not be able to be changed throughout the six-year levy period. This is also a policy choice.

Details of each grant program are discussed below.

Parks Capital and Open Space (PCOS) Grants. The PCOS Grant Program was a new program under the 2020-2025 Parks Levy. The PO defines the program as one that "provides moneys to metropolitan park districts, towns, or cities located in King County to achieve capital improvement projects and major maintenance repair, or replacement of parks or recreation infrastructure."

The PO includes an off-the-top allocation of up to \$30 million for the PCOS Grant Program. The proposed allocation plan indicates that the Executive intends to spend the full \$30 million over the levy period.

Table 8. below shows the key elements of the program, as described in Attachment A to the PO, compared to the existing program under the 2020 Parks Levy Grant Ordinance. Yellow highlighting indicates areas of difference between the existing program and proposed one.

Table 8. PCOS Grant Program Requirements Comparison⁵⁷

Program Element	2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance Requirements	Proposed 2026-2031 Levy Attachment A Requirements
Eligible Entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities and towns • Metropolitan park districts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities and towns • Metropolitan park districts • Public entities that serve King County
Eligible Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital projects to develop new or existing parks/trails/open space, at any stage • Acquiring land for parks/trails/open space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital projects to develop new or existing parks/trails/open space, at any stage • Acquiring land for parks/trails/open space⁵⁸
Advisory Committee	Representatives of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities • School Districts • Nonprofit Organizations Council gives input on representatives	No advisory committee structure given
Project Selection Criteria	Criteria given for weighing relative merits of applications.	No additional criteria given for weighing relative merits of applications.
Approval Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory committee makes recommendations • Executive transmits grant funding ordinance biennially 	No approval process given

Adding other public entities as an eligible entity, and removing eligibility of agricultural open space, is a policy choice.

Aquatic Facilities Grants. The Aquatic Facilities Grant Program was a new program begun under the 2020-2025 Parks Levy. The PO defines the program as one that “provides moneys to publicly owned pools for: capital improvement projects, including planning, feasibility studies, preconstruction and design, and construction; and major maintenance repair or replacement projects.”

⁵⁷ Terms are summarized here; Council staff has noted inconsistency in terminology though could be rectified.

⁵⁸ Except land primarily in agricultural use.

The PO includes an off-the-top allocation of up to \$46 million for the Aquatic Facilities Grant Program. The proposed allocation plan indicates that the Executive intends to spend the full \$46 million over the life of the levy.

Table 9 shows the key elements of the program, as described in Attachment A to the PO, compared to the existing program under the 2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance. Yellow highlighting indicates areas of difference between the existing program and proposed one.

Table 9. Aquatic Facilities Grant Program Requirements Comparison

Program Element	2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance Requirements	Proposed 2026-2031 Levy Attachment A Requirements
Eligible Entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities and towns • Metropolitan park districts • School districts • Other public entities that own public aquatic facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities and towns • Metropolitan park districts • School districts • Other public entities that own public aquatic facilities • Nonprofits that operate public aquatic facilities
Eligible Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All stages of capital projects related to public aquatic facilities, including land acquisition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All stages of capital projects related to public aquatic facilities, including land acquisition⁵⁹
Advisory Committee	Same advisory committee as PCOS Grant Program	No advisory committee structure given
Project Selection Criteria	Criteria given for weighing relative merits of applications.	No additional criteria given for weighing relative merits of applications.
Approval Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory committee makes recommendations • Executive transmits grant funding ordinance biennially 	No approval process given

Adding nonprofits as an eligible entity is also a policy choice. Executive staff state that nonprofit-operated aquatic facilities are present but not numerous in King County, citing Whitewater Aquatics, which runs the Evergreen Aquatic Center in White Center as one example. Executive staff state that “opening the grant program to nonprofits that operate public aquatic facilities will increase access to aquatics for King County residents.”

⁵⁹ The exact terminology used is different between the 2020 Parks Grant Ordinance and Attachment A, but they are understood to cover the same project types.

Healthy Communities and Parks Grants. The Targeted Equity Grant Program was a new program established under the 2020-2025 Parks Levy. The PO would rename this program to “Healthy Communities and Parks Grant Program” and define it as a program that “provides moneys in order to achieve equitable opportunities and access to parks and recreation for traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities, located in unincorporated King County and King County towns and cities.”

The PO includes up to \$30 million for the Healthy Communities and Parks Program, under the 43% allocation that also includes operations and maintenance of King County’s open space system. The proposed allocation plan indicates that the Executive intends to spend the full \$30 million over the life of the levy.

Table 10 shows the key elements of the program, as described in Attachment A to the PO, compared to the existing program under the 2020 Parks Levy Grant Ordinance. Yellow highlighting indicates areas of difference between the existing program and proposed one.

Table 10. Targeted Equity/Healthy Communities and Parks Grant Program Requirements Comparison⁶⁰

Program Element	2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance Requirements	Proposed 2026-2031 Levy Attachment A Requirements
Eligible Entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King County • Cities and towns • Tribal Organizations • Nonprofit organizations • Community organizations without a 501(c)(3) status partnering with a fiscal agent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities and towns • Tribal Organizations • Nonprofit organizations • Community organizations without a 501(c)(3) status partnering with a fiscal agent • Metropolitan park districts
Eligible Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity Building/Outreach/Planning • Land Acquisition in specific communities of need⁶¹ • Capital projects or programs that address unmet needs in underserved areas • Projects providing access for those with disabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land acquisition; • Feasibility study; • Planning and design; and/or • Construction.
Advisory Committee	<p>Representatives of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities and park districts • Open Space Equity Cabinet • Nonprofit and community-based organizations <p>Council gives input on representatives</p>	No advisory committee structure given
Project Selection Criteria	Criteria given for weighing relative merits of applications.	No additional criteria given for weighing relative merits of applications.
Approval Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory committee makes recommendations • Executive transmits grant funding ordinance annually 	No approval process given

King County is proposed to be removed as an eligible entity and metropolitan park districts added. Executive staff state that “King County Parks received 403 applications for this grant program over the 2020-2024 levy period. No King County agency has

⁶⁰ Terms are summarized here based on Council staff understanding of Executive intent; Council staff has noted inconsistency in terminology that could be rectified.

⁶¹ Either opportunity areas under K.C.C. 26.12 or areas determined to have been based on the Determinants of Equity.

applied. Based on this data and given the program popularity and needs identified by nonprofit organizations, 'King County' was removed as an eligible entity. Currently, Metropolitan Parks Districts (MPDs) are eligible to apply for the Aquatics Grant Program, but no other Parks Levy grant programs. This gap is noted as a missing opportunity from the Parks Levy Community Advisory Committee since MPDs are parks and recreation service providers for a largely unincorporated geographic area where King County Parks and cities/towns do not own/operate parks." Changes to eligible entities is a policy choice.

Council staff asked Executive staff whether there was an intent to change the eligible project types, or if the categories proposed in Attachment A, along with verbiage about "traditionally underserved areas and communities" in the program purpose section, are intended to capture the same range of projects contained in the 2020 Parks Levy Grants Ordinance. Executive staff state the intent is that the same types of projects be eligible as currently.

Community Partnerships and Grants. The PO would direct that an unspecified amount of money from the 48% allocation, which also includes capital projects and the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center, be used for the Community Partnerships and Grants (CPG) program. The proposed allocation plan states that the Executive plans to use \$11 million for the CPG program over the life of the levy. In previous levies, the CPG program amount has not been explicitly stated in the ordinance, and this practice is continued in the PO. Whether to add a funding amount for the CPG program in the PO is a policy choice.

The CPG Program originated in 2002. The goals of the CPG program, as adopted by the Council in 2003, are:

- Address present and future regional public parks, sports, and recreation facility needs without new tax funded operations and maintenance costs;
- Empower user groups, sports associations, and other community-based organizations to leverage their commitment, passion, and resources into long-term, high quality, self-sustaining public parks, sports, and recreation facilities; and
- Develop a region-wide support network of users, organizations, and citizens, in general, whose successes are interconnected with the political, financial, and operational successes of the region's parks, sports, and recreation system.⁶²

The PO defines the CPG program as "the program through which King County provides moneys to recreation-oriented groups, sports associations, and community-based organizations to undertake any combination of developing, operating, or maintaining a recreation facility or public park in unincorporated King County and King County towns and cities for public benefit."

For a typical CPG project, King County contributes the use of park land, as well as a grant to support the project. The community partner contributes the additional capital

⁶² Motion 11680

and in-kind resources needed to develop or renovate the facility, and signs a lease or use agreement with the County, through which it commits to carry out the operations, maintenance, and programming for the facility for a set period of time.

King County code sets the requirements for when Council involvement is required in disbursement of a CPG grant, shown in Table 11.⁶³

Table 11. Community Partnership and Grants – Council Involvement

Private Investment Amount	Council Involvement
<\$10,000	None
\$10,000 - \$99,999	Notification 30 days prior to signing of agreement to Transportation, Economy, and Environment chair and Councilmember in whose district the project is located
>\$100,000	Council approval by ordinance

City, Town, and Park District Distributions. King County cities and towns received funding from the past three voter-approved levies. The 2020-2025 levy allocated 8% of levy proceeds to these entities. The proposed 2026-2031 Parks Levy would increase the allocation to 9% of levy proceeds and add certain park districts within King County to the allocation list. Administrative costs are set at 1% of the allocation, which is \$190,000 for cities, towns, and park districts. Executive staff state that certain parks districts were added as recipients of the annual minimum allocation based on feedback from the Community Advisory Committee. Under the current levy, these parks districts were eligible for levy moneys if the district applied for grants supported by the levy. Staff state that these parks districts are parks and recreation service providers for specific geographic areas that own and operate parks but that are not directly supported by King County Parks or city/town parks.

Table 12 provides a high-level comparison of the proposed distributions in the 2026-2031 Parks Levy and the current levy.

⁶³ K.C.C. 7.08.110

**Table 12. City, Town, and Park District Distributions,
Proposed Levy vs. Current Levy**

	2020-2025 Current Levy	2026-2031 Proposed Levy
Allocation Percentage & Dollar Amount	8% (\$60 million)	9% (\$119 million)
Annual Minimum Allocation	\$25,000 annually to each city, and an additional \$75,000 annually to each city with a population greater than 4,000.	\$100,000 to each town and city in King County, as well as Fall City Metropolitan Park District, Si View Metropolitan Park District, and Vashon Park District.
Allocation of Remainder	50% distributed in proportion to each town or city's population; 50% distributed in proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city.	60% would be distributed in proportion to each town or city's population; 40% would be distributed in proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city.

Table 13 shows the total six-year pass-through allocations for each city, town, and park district in the current levy under the current parks levy, in a status quo scenario for the proposed levy, in the Executive-proposed new levy with a split of 60% in proportion to population/40% in proportion to assessed parcel values, and a scenario in which the new levy pass-through allocation remains a 50/50 split.

Executive staff state that the rationale for changing the remainder allocation from a 50/50 split to 60/40 was to more equitably distribute the levy proceeds to communities across King County. Staff state that smaller towns and cities would still receive an increase in annual levy distributions due to the increase in minimum annual allocation to \$100,000; staff state this would offset the impacts of changing the remainder allocation formula.

Table 13. City, Town, and Park District Allocation Comparison

Jurisdiction	Current Parks Levy Allocation (6-year total, 2020-2025)	Status Quo Scenario (6-year total, 2026-2031)	Executive Proposal Allocation Formula: 60% Pop / 40% AV (6-year total, 2026-2031)	Executive Proposal w/ Current Formula 50% Pop / 50% AV (6-year total, 2026-2031)
Algona	\$210,510	\$292,097	\$736,398	\$733,755
Auburn	\$1,901,032	\$3,655,252	\$3,596,019	\$3,475,892
Beaux Arts Village	\$161,301	\$176,539	\$622,761	\$624,981
Bellevue	\$4,661,610	\$10,137,999	\$9,148,563	\$9,578,066
Black Diamond	\$734,293	\$915,363	\$900,894	\$896,850
Bothell	\$1,397,709	\$2,473,284	\$2,277,614	\$2,363,312
Burien	\$1,426,232	\$2,540,264	\$2,528,210	\$2,426,360
Carnation	\$190,045	\$244,039	\$690,645	\$688,519
Clyde Hill	\$302,846	\$508,933	\$897,611	\$937,861
Covington	\$942,767	\$1,404,931	\$1,400,041	\$1,357,677
Des Moines	\$1,109,525	\$1,796,533	\$1,795,407	\$1,726,290
Duvall	\$758,890	\$973,127	\$958,361	\$951,222
Enumclaw	\$808,935	\$1,090,648	\$1,087,137	\$1,061,844
Fall City MPD	\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$600,000
Federal Way	\$2,099,470	\$4,121,249	\$4,155,022	\$3,914,533
Hunts Point	\$206,498	\$282,676	\$703,964	\$724,887
Issaquah	\$1,480,034	\$2,666,609	\$2,521,995	\$2,545,287
Kenmore	\$1,055,812	\$1,670,397	\$1,620,659	\$1,607,559
Kent	\$2,912,018	\$6,029,381	\$5,925,949	\$5,710,646
Kirkland	\$2,833,374	\$5,844,697	\$5,401,809	\$5,536,805
Lake Forest Park	\$868,282	\$1,230,015	\$1,194,994	\$1,193,029
Maple Valley	\$1,084,866	\$1,738,626	\$1,715,841	\$1,671,782
Medina	\$371,554	\$670,282	\$1,017,526	\$1,089,738
Mercer Island	\$1,424,720	\$2,536,714	\$2,286,070	\$2,423,018
Milton	\$181,778	\$224,625	\$670,605	\$670,244
Newcastle	\$896,063	\$1,295,252	\$1,244,737	\$1,254,437
Normandy Park	\$742,228	\$933,997	\$911,929	\$914,390
North Bend	\$765,516	\$988,687	\$965,495	\$965,869
Pacific	\$709,879	\$858,032	\$858,030	\$842,884
Redmond	\$2,440,512	\$4,922,128	\$4,560,158	\$4,668,396
Renton	\$2,463,220	\$4,975,455	\$4,853,794	\$4,718,591
Sammamish	\$2,138,362	\$4,212,581	\$3,923,342	\$4,000,503
SeaTac	\$1,095,634	\$1,763,912	\$1,764,761	\$1,695,584
Seattle	\$16,494,538	\$37,925,610	\$35,738,135	\$35,734,393
Shoreline	\$1,650,740	\$3,067,484	\$3,003,754	\$2,922,629
Si View MPD	\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$600,000

Skykomish	\$153,082	\$157,237	\$606,904	\$606,812
Snoqualmie	\$873,949	\$1,243,323	\$1,212,419	\$1,205,556
Tukwila	\$1,087,392	\$1,744,556	\$1,663,988	\$1,677,364
Vashon PD	\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$600,000
Woodinville	\$927,672	\$1,369,483	\$1,301,957	\$1,324,310
Yarrow Point	\$221,534	\$317,986	\$736,503	\$758,125
TOTAL	\$61,784,423	\$119,000,000	\$119,000,000	\$119,000,000

Notes:

WA OFM Population: Sourced from the Washington Office of Financial Management's April 1 population estimate for 2024. Any cities partially in other counties are allocated funding based on the portion of the population living within King County.

KCAO Taxable AV: Based on the tax rolls as of October 2024. The calculation assumes that the ratio of both population and assessed value between the cities remains fixed throughout the duration of the levy.

Current Parks Levy Allocation: \$25K/yr to all cities and towns; \$75K/yr to all cities and towns with populations greater than 4,000; remaining disbursement according to formula (50/50 split between population and total assessed value).

Status Quo Scenario: Using same formula as "Current Parks Levy Allocation," with funds totaling \$119M.

Executive Proposal Allocation: \$100K/yr to all cities, towns, and park districts largely serving unincorporated areas; remaining disbursement according to adjusted formula (60/40 split between population and total assessed value).

Executive Proposal w/ Current Formula: Same as "Executive Proposal Allocation," using current formula for comparison (50/50 split between population and total assessed value).

Educational and Civic Venue Distributions. The Woodland Park Zoo and the Seattle Aquarium have both received distributions in past levies; the zoo in the past three levies, and the aquarium in the current levy. The 2026-2031 Parks Levy provides allocations to those venues, as well as new allocations to Friends of Waterfront Park and Memorial Stadium; Executive staff state "alignment with Parks Levy goals" as the rationale for making distributions to each of these organizations. Tables 14 and 15 below compare the allocations to the Woodland Park Zoo and the Seattle Aquarium as proposed and in the current levy.

Table 14. Woodland Park Zoo Allocation Comparison

	2020-2025 Current Levy	2026-2031 Proposed Levy
Dollar Amount Allocated	\$36 million	Up to \$42 million
Allowed Uses	Environmental education, emphasizing accessibility to traditionally underserved populations throughout the County; Horticulture and	Environmental education with an emphasis on accessibility to traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities; Horticulture and maintenance of buildings and grounds; Conservation of threatened species; and Development of conservation and education strategies to mitigate impacts to

2020-2025 Current Levy		2026-2031 Proposed Levy
	maintenance of buildings and grounds; Conservation of threatened species; and Development of conservation and education strategies to mitigate impacts to animals and habitats from climate change.	animals and habitats from climate change.

Executive staff state that additional specific use of the allocation includes community learning and engagement programs, family engagement programs, program-funded admissions and transportation for School to Zoo, volunteer engagement, education program registration and management, visitor research and program evaluation, empathy initiatives, creative services/signage, zoo keeper talks and tours (raptor program), website development and support, and information technology support of zoo programs.

Table 15. Seattle Aquarium Allocation Comparison

2020-2025 Current Levy		2026-2031 Proposed Levy
Dollar Amount Allocated	\$8 million	Up to \$15 million
Allowed Uses	Capital costs for the Ocean Pavilion project to amplify the aquarium's existing global conservation efforts.	Environmental education with an emphasis on accessibility to traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities; Maintenance of buildings and grounds; Conservation of threatened species; and Development of conservation and education strategies to mitigate impacts to animals and habitats from climate change.

According to Executive staff, more specific uses of the Seattle Aquarium allocation include supporting school groups, offering free community tickets, discounts for seniors and tribal members, summer camps, scholarships, beach naturalist program, Cedar River salmon journey program, community science program, youth ocean advocates program, Community Day events, urban kelp research, microplastic research, and symposiums around species reintroduction, habitat restoration, and ocean policy.

New in the proposed levy are the following allocations:

- Up to \$9 million for distribution to Friends of Waterfront Park, which shall be used solely for: accessibility to traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities; support for a clean and safe environment; free arts, culture, wellness, and recreation programming to all visitors; and inclusive community partnerships; and
- Up to \$2.5 million for distribution to the Memorial Stadium project, which shall be used solely for capital costs. Seattle Public Schools (SPS), the City of Seattle, and One Roof Stadium Partnership (a consortium of Seattle Kraken, One Roof Foundation, and Climate Pledge Arena) plan for a new multiuse student and community events facility to replace the 77-year-old Memorial Stadium with a new facility for year-round athletics, education, entertainment, and a focus on expanding the ways the stadium serves students and other youth from all backgrounds. Funding from sources other than the Parks Levy include:
 - \$66.5 million from the 2022 SPS Capital Levy;
 - \$41 million from the City of Seattle; and
 - \$4 million in state funding.

One Roof Stadium Partnership will invest in, design, build, operate, and maintain the new stadium, with SPS continuing to own the stadium and maintain priority use.

Administrative costs are set at 1% of the allocation which totals \$685,000 for educational and civic venues.

When asked whether these venues were eligible for or have received proceeds from the Doors Open Levy, Executive staff stated initial research into this program confirmed that Woodland Park Zoo and the Seattle Aquarium are eligible to apply for funding via that levy, but because the funding amounts were capped at certain dollar amounts (i.e., \$1 million for these large organizations), those proceeds were deemed insufficient to supplement or replace funding from the Parks Levy.

Oversight Board. Parks levy oversight boards have been in place since the 2004-2007 Parks Levy to monitor the expenditures of levy proceeds.

The structure and nomination process of the board has not changed from the current levy and is as follows:

- Nine members with each Councilmember nominating a candidate for the board who resides in the Councilmember's district no later than March 31, 2026.

- The Executive must appoint the candidate by May 31, 2026. If the Executive does not meet that deadline, the Executive must request that the Councilmember nominate another candidate by June 30, 2026.
- All members must be confirmed by the Council.
- Members may not be elected or appointed officials of any unit of government, however individuals serving in a civic capacity on a local board or commission are eligible.

Duties of the board include reviewing and reporting on the expenditure of levy proceeds in 2026 to the Executive, the Council, and the Regional Policy Committee by December 31, 2027, and then annually thereafter. The board expires on December 31, 2032.

Exemptions. As in the current levy, the proposed levy allows exemption for low-income senior citizens, disabled veterans, and other people with disabilities from the regular property tax increase on their residences if they have been approved for an exemption under RCW 84.36.381. Taxpayers who have combined disposable income of \$84,000 or less AND meet one of the following requirements as of December 31st of the year before the taxes are due would be exempt:

- At least 61 years of age or older;
- Retired from regular gainful employment due to a disability; or
- Veteran of the armed forces of the United States receiving compensation from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs at one of the following:
 - Combined service-connected evaluation rating of 80% or higher.
 - Total disability rating for a service-connected disability without regard to evaluation percent.

Executive staff state that exemptions are already removed from the assessed value that is assumed in the proposed levy revenue model and do not impact the total estimated revenue for the levy period at the proposed rate. The \$3 million listed in the proposed levy allocation plan is a forecast of the cost to the levy of new exemptions being added to tax rolls and/or changes in assessed value that make exempt property a larger overall share of total assessed value.

Table 16 shows the value of current property tax exemptions across King County, according to the most recent data from the King County Assessor. In total, based on assessed values (AV) for 2025, \$128.2 billion of property has an exemption and if it were taxed at the proposed levy rate of \$0.2443 per \$1,000 in AV, the exempted property would generate approximately \$31.3 million annually in levy revenue, or approximately \$188 million in revenue over the life of the proposed levy.

Table 16. Total Countywide Property Tax Exemptions, By Type

Exemption Type	Total Appraised	Total Taxable	Exempt Assessed Value	Estimated Levy Revenue Reduction from Exemption (2026)	Six-year total*
Current Use	\$3,514,574,105	\$2,308,003,056	\$1,206,571,049	\$294,765	\$1,768,592
Exempt (mostly Gov-owned)**	\$109,319,435,407	\$20,750,700	\$109,298,684,707	\$26,701,669	\$160,210,012
Senior	\$18,978,189,170	\$12,620,050,594	\$6,358,138,576	\$1,553,293	\$9,319,760
Home Improvement	\$415,554,000	\$387,141,200	\$28,412,800	\$6,941	\$41,647
Historic Property	\$979,620,500	\$336,143,782	\$643,476,718	\$157,201	\$943,208
Multi-family tax exemption	\$69,985,440	\$18,162,900	\$51,822,540	\$12,660	\$75,961
Multiple Exemptions	\$21,621,927	\$11,487,388	\$10,134,539	\$2,476	\$14,855
Non-Profit	\$10,595,600,951	\$24,685,952	\$10,570,914,999	\$2,582,475	\$15,494,847
No Exemptions	\$829,378,195,296	\$829,378,195,296	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personal Property Exemptions	\$19,945,334,465	\$19,927,374,340	\$17,960,125	\$4,388	\$26,326
Total	\$993,218,111,261	\$865,031,995,208	\$128,186,116,053	\$31,315,868	\$187,895,209

*Six-year estimate assumes no AV growth or changes in levy rate due to inflation or population growth.

**Exempt is primarily government owned, but also includes some Multifamily Property Tax Exempt (MFTE) and non-profit exemptions.

If members wish for processing costs for tax exemptions to be an eligible use of levy proceeds, the levy ordinance would need to be amended.

Policy Issues. This section briefly summarizes key policy issues identified by Council staff for the Council's consideration. Additional information on these topics can be found in the Analysis section of the staff report.

Levy Rate. The proposed initial levy rate of 24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV would represent an increase over the status quo rate, which would have been approximately 19.52 cents per \$1,000 AV if the current levy rate and limit factor were extended into 2026 and future years. In other words, if hypothetically, the current levy was extended into 2026 at a status quo calculation (applying the 2026 limit factor and assessed value assumptions to the 2025 levy collections), the effective rate for 2026 would have been 19.52 cents. The proposed initial levy rate for the 2026-2031 Parks Levy represents a policy choice for members.

Specificity in the Levy Ordinance. The Executive transmitted a proposed allocation plan, which gives detail on specific projects, programs, and funding amounts that are not included in the PO or its attachments. In other words, this level of specificity is not included in the legislation before the Council. As a result, the County could, at a later date, choose not to fund these projects or programs, or change the funding amounts. Depending on the level of specificity, these changes might not be immediately apparent in a budget ordinance.

Executive staff state that proposed allocations are not explicitly enumerated in the ordinance as they are planning-level estimates and may change in the future.

Whether to amend the ordinance to adopt the proposed allocation plan, introduce a companion motion to adopt an allocation plan, and/or to include additional specific allocations in the PO, is a policy choice for members to consider.

For the 2020-2025 Parks Levy, the Council adopted, simultaneous to levy ordinance adoption,⁶⁴ a companion motion⁶⁵ that included the allocation plan.

For the proposed 2026-2031 levy, a proposed companion motion (Proposed Motion 2025-0077) has been introduced. Proposed Motion 2025-0077 would adopt a funding allocation plan attached to the motion. While the attachment to the motion is currently the Executive's proposed allocation plan, members may choose to amend the allocation plan; this would be a policy choice.

The Proposed Motion would stipulate that the amounts in the allocation plan may be modified when deemed advisable or necessary in the judgment of the council, through adoption of an appropriations ordinance. If the Executive wished to make changes to allocations within the allocation plan, a report would be required to be submitted to the Council detailing the proposed changes. This process mirrors what was adopted in the 2020-2025 Parks Levy Motion. These processes are also policy choices.

Changes to Town/City/Park District Allocations. The PO would increase the minimum annual allocation for all towns and cities to \$100,000 from a population-based range of \$25,000 to \$75,000, adds certain parks districts to the list of recipients eligible for the minimum annual allocation, and changes the allocation of the remainder from a 50/50 split to 60% distributed in proportion to each town or city's population and 40% distributed in proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city. Whether to approve these changes or maintain the allocations under the current levy is a policy choice for members.

New Educational and Civic Venue Funding Recipients. Increases to funding levels for the Woodland Park Zoo and the Seattle Aquarium, as well as adding new allocations to Friends of the Waterfront Park and Memorial Stadium, are policy choices for the members.

Grant Program Changes. The PO increases funding maximums (to varying degrees) for four existing grant programs, and eliminates one existing grant program, the Open Space - River Corridors Grant Program. These changes are a policy choice.

For the PCOS, Aquatic Facilities, and Healthy Communities and Parks Grant Programs, guidance related to advisory committee structure, project selection criteria, and approval process would not be carried forward into the new levy. Executive staff state that they

⁶⁴ Ordinance 18890.

⁶⁵ Motion 15378.

intend to set these processes internally for the current levy. Executive staff provided the following anticipated changes to the current process:

1. *Defining a consistent grant framework in terms of goals*
 - i. *Ordinance 19166 legislation uses terms interchangeably and inconsistently (goals, priorities).*
2. *Establishing consistent biennial grants cycles*
 - ii. *Reduce burden for applicants (extensive requirements to apply, contract, report, etc.).*
 - iii. *Allows for larger number of grant funds available within given request for application timeframe.*
3. *Establishing a streamlined grant approval process so that grantees can receive awards sooner*
 - iv. *Provide notification of the award to Council verses legislative approval (similar to Youth and Amateur Sports Grants).*
 - v. *The legislative process can take several months which impacts distribution of funds to grantees; grantees have provided feedback that this delay is an obstacle for their organizations to begin work on key parks and recreation projects. Currently, it can take anywhere from 6-8 months from application to receipt of funds.*

Whether to formally adopt committee structure, project selection criteria, and approval processes for these three grant programs, with or without changes, is a policy choice.

For the same three programs, changes are proposed to eligible entities and projects. These changes are a policy choice.

Overall Allocations. The PO would make changes to various allocations compared to the 2020-2025 Parks Levy. These allocations could be modified or other allocations could potentially be included by members. Depending on their nature, changes to allocations could potentially necessitate reductions or changes to the estimated amounts for the currently planned programming found in the proposed allocation plan.

Attachments A and B. Attachment A (General Requirements for King County Parks Levy Grant Programs) and Attachment B (Open Space, Natural Lands, and Urban Green Space Acquisition Guidelines) specify processes and eligibility criteria for use of levy proceeds for grant programs and open space acquisitions. Because these processes and criteria would be part of the levy ordinance, the County would not be able to deviate from them in the future once approved by voters. Whether to adopt these guidelines as part of the ordinance or adopt them by companion motion (if one were introduced) is a policy choice.

ANSWERS TO COUNCILMEMBER QUESTIONS FROM 3/12 BFM Meeting

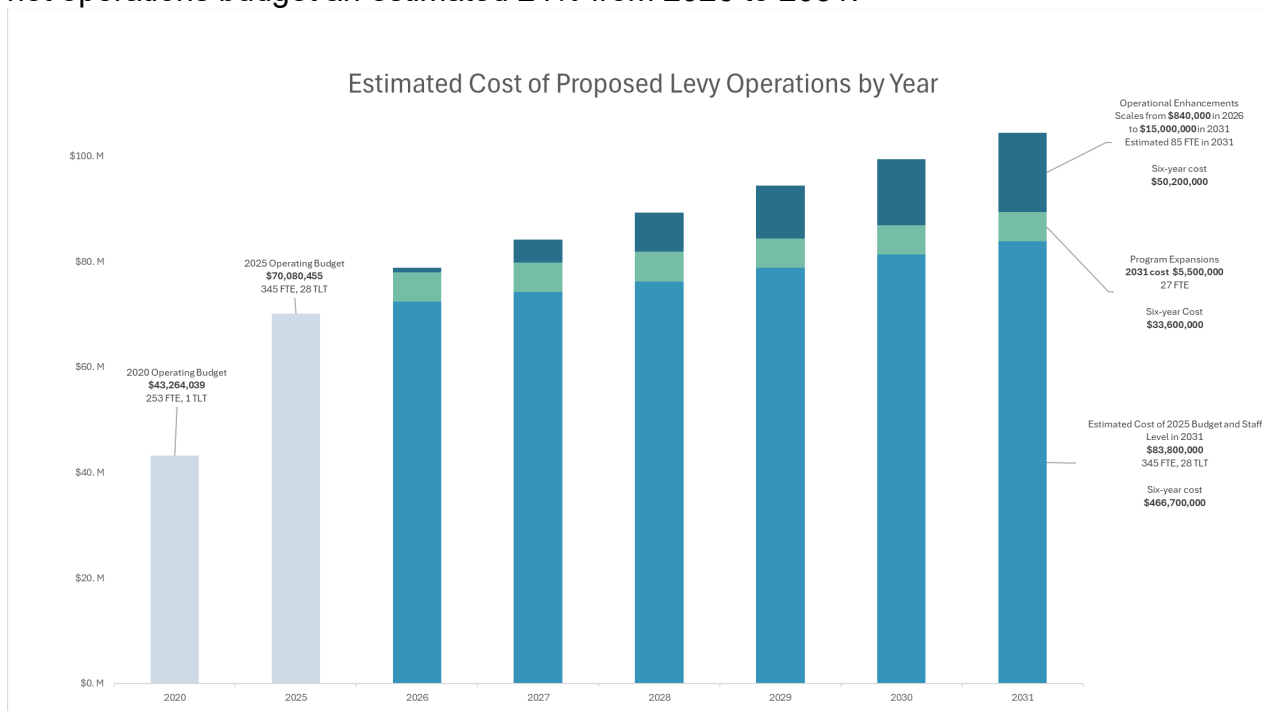
1. Woodland Park Zoo and Aquarium levy investment detail.

Please see the Zoo and Aquarium Levy Investments document (Attachment 15 to this staff report).

2. Do you have any additional information to provide to support the increase in Parks operations and maintenance? What would not be done without this increase?

The proposed increase to operations funding is necessary to maintain existing levels of service for our growing Parks system. If the current levy allocation is carried forward (\$299M over six years), that level of funding would require the division to reduce staff, which would risk a significant degradation of existing parks and make delivering planned capital projects during the levy period nearly impossible.

The ongoing portion of the 2025 adopted Parks operating budget, minus business revenue, totals about \$70M and accounts for 345 FTE positions, 28 TLT positions, and supporting costs for their work (central rates, equipment, supplies). As shown in the chart below, sustaining the current level of operational investment is projected to cost **\$466.7M** over the life of the proposed levy. In percentage terms, the proposed operating growth from first year to last would be slower than the current levy. From 2020 to 2025 the net operating budget grew 62%. The proposed levy would grow the net operations budget an estimated 24% from 2026 to 2031.



New or Expanded Programs – Beyond the existing staffing level, the proposed levy would fund 27 positions dedicated to new or expanding programs listed under the operations section of the allocation plan. Without the proposed increase in

operational funding, none of the new and expanded programs would move forward -- this would include:

- Ending the Jobs and Housing program once the current allocation of COVID relief funding is exhausted
- Not expanding the Parks patrol program or the safety program
- Not cataloging and planning for maintenance of exiting assets,
- Allowing private encroachment on Parks properties
- Not to expand popular programs like the Youth Conservation Corps.

Operational Enhancements – In addition to programs outlined above, the proposed operations funding would support up to 85 positions and associated costs for enhancing existing operations to keep pace with:

- The growth of the King County Parks system during the current levy, and
- The additional growth shown in the CIP section of the proposed allocation plan.

The focus of the operational enhancements is adding frontline staff that support the day-to-day needs of the system. In planning for the proposed levy, Parks estimated that about 60 of the 85 operational enhancement positions would be frontline staff. Over the life of the proposed 2026-2031 Parks levy, Parks estimates that the Parks system will expand by about 3,500 acres of fee-owned land. That is a faster pace than during the current levy period (about 2,400 acres from 2020-2024) because of lower CFT matching requirements that were instituted in 2024. In addition to new acres of parks-owned lands, the proposed levy would increase the operational requirements of existing parks by adding 12 miles of regional trails, a new community center, new dog parks, a new park at Lakeland North, new backcountry trails, at least one new splash pad, and new trailhead parking facilities.

Without additional staff, it will be difficult for the division to maintain these new assets and keep existing assets in working order. In sum, the division will need to continue to be reactive, rather than proactive. This will result in slower response times to public and internal inquiries. In addition, there will be a higher likelihood of facility closures and a likely increase in user complaints due to unaddressed major maintenance needs.

Parks plans to add the remaining positions in areas that support operations and capital delivery, such as project managers, contracting specialists, finance officers, and HR staff. These additions are critical to building the capacity within Parks to hire and support new operations staff, as well as deliver the capital projects in the proposed allocation plan.

Below are Executive staff responses to additional follow up questions from Council staff:

Why are the inflation number provided in February different from the numbers provided in March?

The February analysis incorrectly applied the 6% inflation growth to the 6-year total (\$299M), rather than the last year of the levy (\$70M in 2025).

As shown in [Answers to Councilmember questions from 3/12 BFM], the Parks operations costs were higher in 2025 (\$70M) than they were in 2020 (\$43M). So, the estimated costs to provide the current level of staffing for the life of the levy is \$466.7M. Please note that this level of investment would have implications to service levels, which are detailed in the [Answers to Councilmember questions from 2/26 BFM] responses.

What positions are missing from the most recent response? Where is the remainder of the 150-170 FTE referenced in [Answers to Councilmember questions from 2/26 BFM]?

The [Answers to Councilmember questions from 3/12 BFM] reference “positions,” which includes both TLTs and FTEs.

In [Answers to Councilmember questions from 3/12 BFM]: In addition to the 85 positions for “operational enhancements/increasing capacity” and the 27 positions for “new programs/new and expanded programs”, the proposal also includes 28 TLT to FTE conversions and 10 Youth Conservation Corps intern positions.

3. How would the proposed levy expand access to ballfields?

According to Executive staff:

As noted in previous council responses, several different levy allocations would support expanded access to ballfields. King County Parks provides areas to play in various forms, ranging from developed capital assets (ballfields with lights and synthetic turf) to more informal natural areas where people can throw a frisbee or kick a ball. Expanding the full range of outdoor recreation opportunities is supported by the levy, as summarized below.

Built capital assets

Staff have provided answers to previous Council questions about ballfield access, reserved hours, and improvements. Examples include investments to keep existing ballfields clean, safe, and open (general infrastructure rehab, a portion of \$23M) and investments to expand ballfields and available recreational hours (e.g., converting South County Ballfields to multi-use artificial turf fields, \$19M; investing in new ballfields and sport courts, \$3M).

Natural areas

The levy proposal continues Parks’ strong commitment to the Land Conservation Initiative by sustaining open space acquisition investments to match Conservation Futures funds. The proposed levy would continue investing at a similar level to today (\$16M/year, \$96M total). This body of work includes efforts to improve equitable access in “Opportunity Areas.” A map and more details can be found here: [Opportunity Areas Viewer](#). Ongoing conservation work in urban and rural settings provides more outdoor space for informal play and contact with nature.

Fee Assistance Program

In addition to built assets and improving equitable access through acquisitions in “Opportunity Areas,” the division just published a new Public Rule Chapter 7.08.060

allowing for the implementation of a “Parks & Recreation Facility Fee Assistance Program.” This new program is intended to remove barriers and increase access to recreation facilities for King County’s most underserved communities. Through this new public rule, Parks has the discretionary authority to waive, in whole or in part, user fees or provide or facilitate scholarships for persons or organizations that serve persons meeting an eligibility threshold of two hundred percent of the federal poverty level. This is intended to help ensure that no one is denied access to parks and recreation facilities based solely on an inability to pay.

ANSWERS TO COMMITTEE MEMBER QUESTIONS FROM 3/12 RPC Meeting

4. Is there an opportunity to create better equity in city distributions, particularly for less-funded municipalities?

According to Executive staff:

Yes. The adjustments proposed in the city distribution methodology (e.g., increasing the base annual allocation for cities with fewer than 4,000 residents; shifting the distribution formula to weight population more than assessed value) are intended to create better equity. However, there are many ways to adjust the methodology.

5. Can you provide data on allocations by zip code in the current levy?

Overall Current Distribution of Investments:

Reimbursement of Election Costs	\$736,956	
Seattle Aquarium	\$8,000,000	
Publicly Owned Pools	\$44,000,000	
Open Space River Corridors	\$22,000,000	
King County Parks Operations & Maintenance	\$308,654,547	40%
King County Parks Capital Program	\$362,669,093	47%
Cities and Towns within King County	\$61,730,909	8%
Woodland Park Zoo	\$38,581,818	5%
Total 2020-2025 Estimated Distributions	\$846,373,324	

Operating Expenses by Parks District

The document Parks Operational Investments by Geography (Attachment 15 to this staff report) shows the actual expenditures by Park District and, where possible, by facility. Zip codes associated with each Park District or facility are also provided. Please note that for the years 2020 through 2024, actual expenditures are provided. Information for Parks’ planned budget in 2025 is also provided (actuals are not yet available).

Parks districts do not correspond to Council Districts; please see the King County Parks Map All Districts (Attachment 16 to this staff report) for more detail.

Countywide Operating Expenses

Nearly two-thirds of Parks Operations and Maintenance budget supports countywide needs, and is not easily assigned to a geography. Examples include:

- **Operations:** Section administration and supervision, central maintenance facility, scheduling, programming support, volunteer program, and specialized crews (backcountry trails, noxious weeds, greenhouse, restoration).
- **Capital program:** Examples include Capital planning, land management (addressing encroachments), capital project management, playground program, etc.
- **Other business functions and agency support:** Director's Office, marketing and communications, community engagement, administrative support, finance, human resources, policy support, etc.

Capital Projects in the Current Parks Levy by Council District

Project Type	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7	D8	D9	Multiple	Total
Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center							1				1
Regional Trail Connections			2		3	2		1	1	2	11
Regional Trail Connections (Pass-through Funding)	4				1		1				6
Regional Trail Critical Crossings						3			1		4
Other Improvements to Regional Trails										2	2
Infrastructure Improvement at Existing Sites		1	2				1	1			5
Play Area Rehabilitation	1		2					1	2		6
Synthetic Turf Ballfields Replacement			3						3		6
Ballfield and Sport Court Rehab	1							2	1		4
Trailhead Access Improvement			1					1	1		3
Backcountry Trail Rehabilitation			2				1	1	3		7
Total	6	1	12	0	4	5	4	7	12	4	55

6. Is technical assistance available to cities to help prepare project proposals? How does the County provide technical assistance to help jurisdictions get requests in for funding?

According to Executive staff:

Parks Grants: King County provides technical assistance through grant-writing consultation for small nonprofits (defined as fewer than 20 full-time employees and an operating budget of less than \$4 million per year). We also have several options to help any grant applicant, including cities, with any questions they have about the application, the evaluation process, or specific questions about their proposal. The best way to take advantage of this is to attend one of our open office hours, or if those times don't work, to email ParksGrants@kingcounty.gov and request a specific time.

Parks staff will be available to answer applicant questions during office hours on:

- **Levy Grants** - Wednesdays from February 26 to April 2, 12 to 12:45 p.m.
 - [Download the calendar invitation](#) or [join a meeting in progress](#).
- **YASG** - Wednesdays from April 9 to April 30, 12 to 12:45 p.m.
 - [Download the calendar invitation](#) or [join a meeting in progress](#).

Conservation Futures Program: The Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) Program manager provides technical assistance (TA) to cities and non-profits in two ways:

- It matches applicants with appropriate consultants from a set of five county contractors.
 - These providers help applicants refine their written proposals and prepare presentations to the Conservation Futures Advisory Committee.
 - TA providers are drawn from a pool of consultants often shared by other grant programs, including Parks Levy Grants and Best Starts for Kids.
 - TA capacity is usually far greater than demand, though the project manager tries to prioritize applications that address green space equity if needed (those potentially eligible for a match waiver).
- The program manager also provides project guidance throughout the grant round, as requested by applicants.

7. Can you provide information on how shovel-readiness is prioritized for projects? What criteria does King County use to determine whether its own capital projects are shovel-ready enough to be included for funding in the parks levy? Specifically interested in the criteria used to determine that the work on the Interurban, Green River, and Soos Creek Trails is ready to be funded. If Parks is designing and moving projects forward, how does it prioritize these projects?

According to Executive staff:

The levy proposal includes a portfolio of capital projects in all different phases, from projects that have only been preliminarily scoped and still need to have feasibility studies conducted, to projects that are “shovel ready” (i.e., ready to start construction).

A project is considered shovel ready, when final design and construction documents are completed and all the required permits, approvals, and agreements are in place. If a project is shovel-ready it is a high priority to be included in the levy proposal. However, it is important to have a range of projects in different phases in the capital project levy proposal because different staff and different levels of cash flow are required at each phase. Revenue-backed appropriation covering the full cost of the project is required before a Parks Capital project can be advertised for construction. And while the County can, to a certain extent, plan on future revenue collections for those purposes, Parks receives tax revenue twice a year, and having a diverse pipeline of projects in different phases helps avoid cash flow issues.

Depending on the project complexity and scale, the planning, preliminary design, and final design phases of a capital project can take anywhere from six months to six years to complete and may cost upwards of \$10M. Parks relies on levy funds to get projects shovel ready.

The trails chosen for construction in the levy proposal are from the Regional Trail Needs Report and were evaluated for priority on the following criteria: equity, connectivity, potential use, readiness, whether we have external commitments on the project, and level of community support. The Interurban Trail South, the Green River Trail Extension, and the Soos Creek Trail Segment 5a ranked high enough using these criteria that they were included in the pool of potential projects selected for the next levy. Further elevating their priority is the fact that planning and design work on each of these projects began in the 2020-2025 levy period and Parks is committed to the completion of these projects.

ANSWERS TO COUNCILMEMBER QUESTIONS FROM 2/26 BFM Meeting

- 1. Regarding property tax exemptions, how effective has the county been in enrolling people? What is that process? Do we know how many people are being missed and is there any type of outreach or assistance available to bring more people into the program?**

A 2020 proviso report showed that in 2019, there were 1,808 applications. Approximately 94% of applications were approved. The process of applying for a property tax exemption is either through an online portal⁶⁶ or through paper copies.

According to a December 2024 report by the King County Auditor,⁶⁷ the Department of Assessments has created a comprehensive customer service strategy which includes customer communications, outreach, application support, and creating and maintaining a positive working environment for the team. The strategy includes equity goals like supporting taxpayers regardless of language, resources, or

⁶⁶ [Property Tax Exemption Portal](#)

⁶⁷ *Second Follow-up on Property Tax Exemptions: Stronger Systems Needed to Meet Demand*, pg. 3.

abilities. The King County Assessor's website provides a guide to property tax exemptions.⁶⁸

2. How close are we to the \$5.90 limit that would trigger prorationing?

Based on the August 2024 OEFA forecast, assuming an initial parks levy rate of 24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV in 2026, there would be about \$1.09 of room in 2026, and between \$0.73 to \$1.09 in the next six years, before the closest district would hit the \$5.90 limit. During the 2026-2031 time frame, the closest levy district to reaching the \$5.90 limit would be Vashon Island, with about \$0.73 of room in 2027.⁶⁹ This calculation includes the AFIS levy renewal passed in early 2025. The Executive is expected to transmit a proposed EMS levy renewal later in 2025; EMS levies are not subject to the \$5.90 limit.

3. What is included in this levy proposal related to operating support for trail safety?

According to Executive staff, Parks will soon launch its first Parks Ranger Program to help inform trail users about safe trail practices. The Levy proposal includes funding to sustain and grow Parks' Ranger and safety programs. In addition, Parks implements targeted educational campaigns about trail etiquette when needs arise, which Parks' Community Investments & Engagement team will continue to implement in the next levy.

4. Can you provide further information on the planned trail lighting investments in the CIP list (trail intersection lighting emergent needs) including locations and dollar amounts if known? Are there any other planned investments in lighting?

According to Executive staff, the proposed levy includes \$20M for emergent need projects that arise during the levy period. This includes potential lighting projects. The emergent needs programmatic project is, by design, structured to allow for flexibility as needs arise across the system. As such, locations for lighting investments in 2026-2031 are not yet identified.

Other planned investments in lighting are contingent upon the determination to extend regional trail hours beyond the current time frame of thirty minutes before sunrise and thirty minutes after sunset. This is currently under review.

6. Can you provide a list of the locations of the fish passage barrier removal projects that will be undertaken with the funding for this ordinance? How much additional money would be needed to complete work on all 50ish

⁶⁸ [Guide to Property Tax Exemptions](#)

⁶⁹ State law currently removes regular park and recreation district property tax levies from the \$5.90 limit if levied on an island within a county with a population over two million (i.e., Vashon Island). This exemption, unless changed by state law, expires January 1, 2027. (House Bill 1034, Chapter 117, Laws of 2021)

Parks fish passage barriers? What is the cost and feasibility for completing all the fish passage barrier removal projects?

According to Executive staff, the proposed upcoming fish passage projects are still in the planning stage, and so all information provided is based on planning level estimates. As estimates become firmer, it is possible more projects can be added to the 6-year workplan.

Based on current information, the proposed \$10 million would be allocated to the fish passage project listed below:

- Snoqualmie Valley Trail – Tributary to Horseshoe Lake, north of NE Carnation Farm Rd (FPS-2373)
- Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park – Red Town Trailhead at Coal Creek (FPS-2258 & FPS-1513)
- Foothills Trail – Tributary to Boise Creek (FPS-8175)
- Lower Newaukum Creek Natural Area – Tributary to Newaukum Creek (FPS-13689)

These are planning level cost estimates; however, in current dollars, the total cost for each Parks fish passage project ranges from approximately \$1-5M. The most expensive projects are typically associated with regional trails and roads that cross deep ravines created by streams. On the lower end of the cost range are projects that simply remove a culvert altogether because a crossing is no longer needed. Parks estimates that the total cost to remedy all 50 of the remaining fish passage barriers would range in cost from \$100-250M in current dollars.

7. Please provide a list of participants that advised the levy proposal.

Members of the Community Advisory Committee represented the following organizations or groups:

- Backcountry Horsemen of Washington
- Eastrail Partners
- Federal Way Black Collective
- Issaquah Alps Trail Club
- King County Parks Directors – Multiple Cities
- King County Play Equity Coalition
- Lake Washington Youth Soccer Association
- Leafline Trails Coalition
- Living Well Kent
- Mountains to Sound Greenway
- Open Space Equity Cabinet
- Pacific Northwest Swim
- Parks Levy Oversight Board
- REI
- Seattle Aquarium
- Seattle Parks Foundation
- Si View Metro Parks District

- Skyway Coalition
- SnoValley Chamber of Commerce
- The Wilderness Society
- Trust for Public Land
- Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust
- White Center Community Development Association
- Woodland Park Zoo

8. What is the current allocation per city or town?

This information is provided in Table 16 of the staff report.

9. How does this proposal address unmet regional needs in parks spaces? How are historically underserved areas addressed?

According to Executive staff, During the community engagement process, which included direct engagement with the community and feedback from the Community Advisory Committee, “improving safety and belonging” was identified as a priority for underserved communities. The proposed Levy has a focus on major maintenance, much of which is targeted in underserved communities, which is a key component of making parks feel safe and welcoming.

In response to community feedback, the proposed Levy would invest significant funds for park rehabilitation and development in underserved communities, thus increasing recreational access. Sites for this work include:

- \$10M for the development of a new park near Federal Way (Lakeland North).
- \$19M to convert the existing South County Ballfields complex to synthetic turf, thus increasing access to recreational facilities in South King County.
- \$13M to complete the design and begin construction of the Skyway Community Center.
- \$4M to rehabilitate Sunset Park based on community engagement and input.
- Over \$76M is proposed to advance planning, design, and construction of regional trails connecting communities in South King County to the larger regional trail network, including Lake to Sound Trail, Green River Trail Extension North, Interurban Trail South, and Soos Creek Trail.
- As part of the “Climate Resilience, Conservation and Stewardship” allocation category, funds are also included to be responsive to community requests to activate and improve access to parks and recreation in Opportunity Areas.

10. What is the capacity of Parks to complete these investments in six years? How many additional FTEs would be hired to complete the levy work and at what cost?

According to Executive staff:

Parks’ current workforce capacity is aligned with the needs of the 2020-2025 levy. The adopted 2025 budget appropriation funded by the current Parks Levy is 345.30 regular FTE positions across ten (10) operating sections and work units.

From 2020 to the current 2025 adopted budget, Parks' workforce increased by 47%, an average of 8% annually. In addition, Parks also employed more than 50 term-limited temporary positions to support critical services and projects within day-to-day operations.

In order to deliver the 2026-2031 levy proposal, which was developed to address the unmet needs identified by the advisory committee, Parks expects that a similar level of growth would be required in the Division's workforce during the next levy period. To support the expanded work program for the division, Parks estimates growing its workforce by approximately 45 to 50% (150 to 170 FTEs). Similar to our current levy period, this represents an increase of approximately 8% annually. Note that some workforce growth is necessary to simply catch up with needed maintenance and stewardship of existing assets. Additional hiring would ramp up during the levy period to strategically match system growth and capital project delivery needs. The expansion of the workforce would cost approximately \$200M over six years (fully loaded).

Information on the 150 to 170 FTEs included in the proposed Parks Levy is detailed below. Specific job classifications would be determined in coordination with the Department of Human Resources and resourcing levels would ultimately depend on the adopted scope of work for the Division.

- **More than half (75 to 90 FTE) would directly support Operations and Maintenance needs.**
 - More than 50 FTE would be Park Specialists, working in 250 King County parks every day to catch up and keep up with O&M and system needs. This is in addition to 175 miles of regional trails and 250 miles of backcountry trails that need to be maintained on a regular basis.

The remaining would provide more specialized Operations support: Skilled trades, cultural resources, project management, equipment operations, carpentry, painting, plumbing, electrical, utilities, equipment operators, irrigation, facilities, etc.
- **Approximately 25 FTE would support strategic program expansions and enhancements.** These investments would enhance safety, belonging, programs, and property management (e.g., Safety Program, Parks Patrol, Skyway CC Operations, asset management, encroachments, expansion of the Youth Conservation Corps and Jobs & Housing Program, etc.). Examples of funded positions include PPM III personnel for the Safety Program, additional KCSO deputies, instructors and coordinators for the Skyway Community Center, education specialists and interns for the Youth Conservation Corps program, Parks Specialists I positions for the Jobs and Housing program, a PPM IV position for the indigenous interpretive program, engineers and functional analysts for the asset management program, agents and surveyors for the encroachment program, and a Parks Specialist II position for the expansion of the forestry program.

- **Approximately 25 to 30 FTE to support capital project delivery.** Includes project managers, engineers, contract specialists, legal support, permitting, and agency coordination. This would include 13 conversions of existing TLTs to FTEs.
- **Approximately 25 FTE to support a growing agency and inventory.** Commensurate staffing and resources needed to deliver programs and support a growing division. This would include finance, human resources, administrative, FLEET, and other services.

The Parks Levy Oversight Board, an independent body that assesses Parks' performance, continues to affirm annually that "the Division has complied with the requirements of Ordinance 18890, including Motion 15378 and its associated Attachment C, and is on track to implement the Parks Levy."⁷⁰ As described above, it is reasonable to assert that Parks has the capacity to continue growing and delivering levy commitments in the next levy period with the same high performance as currently demonstrated.

ANSWERS TO COUNCILMEMBER QUESTIONS FROM 2/12 BFM Meeting (Briefing from Executive Staff)

1. Can you provide a detailed list of proposed investments?

This information is provided in Attachment 4 to this staff report.

2. Was the proposed increase in funding for grant programs due to the proposals not being able to meet demand?

According to Executive staff, yes, this was due to the proposals not being able to meet demand. The Parks Levy Oversight Board found that since 2022, the Communities and Parks Fund has received 404 applications requesting \$50.7 million. King County was only able to approve about a quarter of the requests, or 105 applications (\$6.53 million), due to limited funding availability. This led the Parks Levy Oversight Board to recommend an increase in total funding for this grant program in the next levy to meet current and future demand. Additionally, feedback through many of the engagement activities from partners, community advisory committee, the public, and the Parks Levy Oversight Board, identified that an increase in Parks grant programs would be beneficial. The Open Space - River Corridors Grant Program is not proposed to continue due to lack of demand.

3. What was the rationale for changing from 50%/50% to 60%/40% in the towns/cities allocation formula?

According to Executive staff, the adjusted formula for towns/cities (60%/40%) was changed to more equitably distribute the levy proceeds to communities across King County. Smaller towns and cities would still receive an increase in annual levy

⁷⁰ "King County Parks Levy Oversight Board 2023 Annual Report," Oct. 24, 2024.

distributions by receiving a minimum of \$100,000/year, which would offset the impacts by changing the existing formula.

4. Please provide a breakdown of the actuals spent in each category of the current parks levy over the 2020-2025 period, shown side-by-side with proposed allocation plan?

This information is provided in Table 4 of this staff report.

5. For each area of the allocation plan where it is possible, can you provide what portion of the increase is inflation, what is the result of new projects, etc.?

This information is provided in Attachment 4 to this staff report. [3/26 – the information in previous Attachment 4 was incorrect. See answers to 3/12 BFM Questions for updated information.]

6. How does the fish passage work align with the scoping motion? How much more will there be to do if the work funded under the levy is all completed?

According to Executive staff, the fish passage projects proposed in the 2026-2031 Levy are consistent with the Motion 15378 Report. Between 2022-2024, Parks completed eight projects that remedied ten fish passage barriers. The 2026-2031 Levy proposal provides funding for eight additional projects, with further fish passage projects needing completion after 2031.

Since the 2021 Report, the Countywide Fish Passage Restoration Program has generated a capital work plan that targets fish passage work at County-owned barriers prioritized based on benefits for salmon and kokanee. Moving past 2031, Parks plans to continue to remedy Parks' barriers that block salmon access to meaningful upstream habitat (which is represented by about 50 known barriers on Parks-owned parcels).

7. Can you provide a breakdown of non-Parks Levy funding for the Skyway community center, whether the project is fully funded, and when completion is expected?

According to Executive staff, the total estimated planning level cost for the community center is \$40 million:

- Existing funding: \$8 million (from 2021-2022 King County budget)
- Proposed 2026-2031 levy funding: \$13 million
- REET 2 funding: \$19 million (may include some level of debt financing)

The estimated completion and opening year is 2030. Budget requests for this project would follow standard review and approval processes.

8. Can you provide the details of any cricket-specific investments planned?

According to Executive staff, the \$3M *Ballfield and Sports Courts (new facilities)* line item under “New Park Development Improvements” heading is intended to provide funding to develop new facilities in our existing parks. Specific projects have not yet been identified for this line item, as a community engagement process would be used to inform projects. Facilities to support recreational cricket could be funded using this line item.

Additionally, South County Ballfields would be converted to multi-use artificial turf fields. An assessment will be done to determine what types of uses would be beneficial to have at these fields (i.e. lacrosse, cricket, soccer, etc.).

SCHEDULE AND NEXT STEPS

Proposed Ordinance 2025-0070 was transmitted to the Council on February 11, 2025, and has been dually referred first to the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee and second to the Regional Policy Committee.

The BFM and RPC chairs have agreed to the schedule below:

Action	Committee/ Council	Date	Amendment Deadlines
<i>Transmittal</i>		2/11/25	
<i>Exec Staff Briefing</i>	<i>BFM</i>	2/12/25	
<i>Discussion only</i>	<i>BFM</i>	2/26/25	
<i>Discussion only</i>	<i>BFM</i>	3/12/25	
<i>Briefing (Legislation still in BFM control)</i>	<i>RPC</i>	3/12/25	
Discussion and Possible Action	<i>BFM</i>	3/26/25	Striker direction: March 19 Striker distribution: March 21 Line AMD direction: March 24
Discussion and Possible Action	<i>Special RPC</i>	4/3/25	Striker direction: March 28 Striker distribution: March 31 Line AMD direction: April 1
Final Action	<i>Full Council</i>	4/15/25	
Final Action (with courtesy delay)	<i>Full Council</i>	4/22/25 ¹	

Following action by the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee and Regional Policy Committee, the legislation would then go to Full Council for final approval. The following

are key full Council meeting deadlines⁷¹ to place this measure on the August 5, 2025, ballot:

- Last regular Council meeting assuming maximum processing time: April 1, 2025.
- Last regular Council meeting assuming minimum processing time (requires Executive to sign on same day): April 22, 2025.
- Last special Council meeting to pass the ordinance as an emergency: May 2, 2025.
- Deadline for King County Elections to receive effective ordinance: May 2, 2025.

SUMMARY OF BFM ADOPTED AMENDMENTS

On March 26, 2025, the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee passed PO 2025-0070, as amended, and PM 2025-0077, as amended.

PO 2025-0070.2 (as passed BFM) would reduce the initial levy rate in 2026 to **23.51 cents** per \$1,000 AV.

- With this initial levy rate, based on the March 2025 OEFA forecast, the levy would generate approximately \$1.45 billion⁷² over the six-year levy period.
- Executive staff indicate that they expect \$6 million in interest revenue; with an assumed \$6 million in interest revenue, estimated total levy proceeds would be \$1.46 billion.⁷³
- This would be approximately \$56 million less than estimated proceeds under the Executive's proposed initial rate of 24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV (\$1.51 billion).
- Under S1, the cost to the owner of a median-valued home in King County would be approximately \$198.42 annually in 2026, which is approximately \$7.77 less than the annual cost to the same homeowner under the Executive's proposal (\$206.19 annually).

The following table summarizes the estimated levy collections, effective levy rate, and impact to the owner of a median-valued home based on the levy rate in the Executive's proposal (Version 1) and the proposal that passed out of BFM (Version 2) on March 26, 2025.

⁷¹ Council Clerk's memorandum on Deadlines for Adoption of Ballot Measures in 2025 (Attachment 12 to this staff report).

⁷² Based on adopted March 2025 OEFA forecast.

⁷³ Precise numbers based on March 2025 OEFA forecast: \$1,449,721,927 in levy proceeds; with \$6 million in assumed interest revenue, the total revenue would be \$1,455,721,927.

Estimated Annual Parks Levy Collections, Effective Levy Rate, and Impact to Owner of Median-Valued Home

	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Total six-year levy proceeds	Impact to owner of median valued home ⁷⁴
Current 2020-2025 Parks Levy									
Estimated Proceeds ⁷⁵	\$170 million	n/a						\$851 million	\$166.52 Annual
Estimated Effective Levy Rate ⁷⁶ (per \$1,000 AV)	\$0.1973								\$13.88 Monthly
Proposed 2026-2031 Levy: Version 1 Executive Proposal (24.43 cents per \$1,000 AV)									
Estimated Proceeds	n/a	\$220 million	\$232 million	\$246 million	\$258 million	\$271 million	\$285 million	\$1.51 billion	\$206.19 Annual
Estimated Effective Levy Rate		\$0.2443	\$0.2503	\$0.2547	\$0.2595	\$0.2614	\$0.2666	n/a	\$17.18 Monthly
Proposed 2026-2031 Levy: Version 2 Passed BFM 3/26 (23.51 cents per \$1,000 AV)									
Estimated Proceeds	n/a	\$212 million	\$223 million	\$236 million	\$248 million	\$261 million	\$274 million	\$1.45 billion ⁷⁷	\$198.42 Annual
Estimated Effective Levy Rate		\$0.2351	\$0.2408	\$0.2451	\$0.2497	\$0.2516	\$02565	n/a	\$16.53 Monthly

The following is a list of changes made in PO 2025.0070.2 and PM 2025-0077.2, compared with the Executive's proposal. Attachment 18 to this staff report also provides this information with corresponding changes to the ordinance and motion shown side-by-side.

⁷⁴ Based on the assessed value of a median valued home in 2024, which is \$844,000 according to the King County Assessor's Office.

⁷⁵ Based on adopted March 2025 OEFA Forecast.

⁷⁶ The effective levy rate is per \$1,000 of Assessed Value and is a function of assessed value, new construction, and the limit factor.

⁷⁷ This does not include interest revenue. Executive staff indicate that they expect \$6 million interest revenue. With an assumed \$6 million in interest revenue, estimated total levy proceeds would be \$1.46 billion.

Proposed Ordinance 2025-0070.2. PO 2025-0070.2 (as passed BFM) would make the following changes in the ordinance:

- Reduce the levy rate to 23.51 cents.
- Add up to \$10 million in councilmanic Get Active/Stay Active grant funding for youth or amateur sports facilities and activities.
- Add a new Ballfield Access and Preservation grant program, with up to \$13.5 million in funding.
- Add Pacific Science Center as an educational and civic venue, with up to \$6 million in funding for environmental and climate stewardship and education.
- Make Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center an off-the-top allocation of up to \$22 million, rather than an unspecified amount of the capital allocation.
- Make the Community Partnerships and Grants program and Healthy Communities and Parks grant programs off-the-top allocations, rather than subsets of the capital and operating allocations, respectively.
- Add that Community Partnerships and grants is up to \$12.5 million (amount unspecified in Executive proposed).
- Make the following changes to Executive-proposed off-the-top allocation amounts:
 - Healthy Communities and Parks grants – *at least* \$30 million (Executive proposed *up to* \$30 million).
 - Parks Capital and Open Space grants – up to \$25 million (Executive proposed up to \$30 million)
 - Woodland Park Zoo – up to \$40 million (Executive proposed up to \$42 million)
 - Seattle Aquarium – up to \$12 million (Executive proposed up to \$15 million)
 - Seattle Waterfront Park – up to \$6 million. (Executive proposed up to \$9 million)
- Clarify the recipient for Memorial Stadium funding.
- Re-balance percentage allocations based off of new levy rate and off-the-top allocation amounts.
- Specify that money in the capital allocation can also be used for town and city park system infrastructure, and for recreation facilities owned or operated by a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
- Changes the formula by which city, town and park district funding amounts are calculated, as shown in the tables below.

	2020-2025 Current Levy	2026-2031 Executive Proposal	Striker Proposal
Allocation Percentage & Dollar Amount	8% (\$60 million)	9% (\$119 million)	10% (\$119 million)
Annual Minimum Allocation	\$25,000 annually to each city, and an additional \$75,000 annually to each city with a population greater than 4,000.	\$100,000 to each town and city in King County, as well as Fall City Metropolitan Park District, Si View Metropolitan Park District, and Vashon Park District.	\$30,000 to each town and city in King County, as well as Fall City Metropolitan Park District, Si View Metropolitan Park District, and Vashon Park District. Additional \$90K annually

			for jurisdictions over 4,000 people (\$120K annual base) Additional \$20K annually for jurisdictions located in Opportunity Areas (as defined in K.C.C. 26.12.003.J.1 ⁷⁸)
Allocation of Remainder	50% distributed in proportion to each town or city's population; 50% distributed in proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city.	60% would be distributed in proportion to each town or city's population; 40% would be distributed in proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city.	60% would be distributed in proportion to each town or city's population; 40% would be distributed in proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city.

Jurisdiction	Opportunity Areas	Current Parks Levy Allocation	Current Levy Per Person Allocation	Executive Proposal Allocation	Executive Proposal Per Person Allocation	Striker Proposal Allocation	Striker Proposal Per Person Allocation
Skykomish	no	\$153,082	\$928	\$606,904	\$3,678	\$186,895	\$1,133
Beaux Arts Village	no	\$161,301	\$512	\$622,761	\$1,977	\$202,732	\$644
Hunts Point	no	\$206,498	\$449	\$703,964	\$1,530	\$219,487	\$477
Yarrow Point	no	\$221,534	\$195	\$736,503	\$649	\$241,086	\$212
Milton	no	\$181,778	\$111	\$670,605	\$410	\$271,331	\$166
Carnation	no	\$190,045	\$84	\$690,645	\$307	\$306,193	\$136
Medina	no	\$371,554	\$127	\$1,017,526	\$348	\$348,792	\$119
Clyde Hill	no	\$302,846	\$98	\$897,611	\$290	\$368,218	\$119
Algona	yes	\$210,510	\$63	\$736,398	\$221	\$498,578	\$149
Normandy Park	no	\$742,228	\$108	\$911,929	\$133	\$1,027,069	\$150
Black Diamond	no	\$734,293	\$102	\$900,894	\$125	\$1,040,508	\$145
Pacific	yes	\$709,879	\$98	\$858,030	\$119	\$1,164,903	\$161
North Bend	no	\$765,516	\$93	\$965,495	\$117	\$1,205,028	\$146
Duvall	no	\$758,890	\$86	\$958,361	\$109	\$1,167,222	\$133
Enumclaw	yes	\$808,935	\$61	\$1,087,137	\$81	\$1,410,597	\$106

⁷⁸ These are defined as areas that: (1) are located in a census tract in which the median household income is in the lowest one-third for median household income for census tracts in king County; (2) are located in a ZIP code in which hospitalization rates for asthma, diabetes and heart disease are in the highest one-third for ZIP codes in King County; and (3) are within the Urban Growth Boundary and do not have a publicly owned and accessible park or open space within one-quarter mile of a residence, or are outside the Urban Growth Boundary and do not have a publicly owned and accessible park or open space within two miles of a residence.

Jurisdiction	Opportunity Areas	Current Parks Levy Allocation	Current Levy Per Person Allocation	Executive Proposal Allocation	Executive Proposal Per Person Allocation	Striker Proposal Allocation	Striker Proposal Per Person Allocation
Lake Forest Park	no	\$868,282	\$63	\$1,194,994	\$87	\$1,309,453	\$96
Newcastle	no	\$896,063	\$65	\$1,244,737	\$91	\$1,316,081	\$96
Woodinville	no	\$927,672	\$67	\$1,301,957	\$94	\$1,367,873	\$98
Snoqualmie	no	\$873,949	\$60	\$1,212,419	\$83	\$1,402,927	\$97
Covington	no	\$942,767	\$43	\$1,400,041	\$64	\$1,612,837	\$73
Tukwila	yes	\$1,087,392	\$47	\$1,663,988	\$73	\$1,779,514	\$78
Kenmore	no	\$1,055,812	\$43	\$1,620,659	\$67	\$1,702,895	\$70
Mercer Island	no	\$1,424,720	\$55	\$2,286,070	\$89	\$1,742,253	\$67
Maple Valley	no	\$1,084,866	\$37	\$1,715,841	\$59	\$1,870,596	\$64
Bothell	no	\$1,397,709	\$46	\$2,277,614	\$75	\$1,976,982	\$65
SeaTac	yes	\$1,095,634	\$33	\$1,764,761	\$54	\$2,229,945	\$68
Des Moines	yes	\$1,109,525	\$33	\$1,795,407	\$54	\$2,487,815	\$74
Issaquah	no	\$1,480,034	\$36	\$2,521,995	\$61	\$2,639,536	\$64
Burien	yes	\$1,426,232	\$27	\$2,528,210	\$48	\$3,083,326	\$58
Shoreline	no	\$1,650,740	\$27	\$3,003,754	\$49	\$3,230,457	\$52
Sammamish	no	\$2,138,362	\$31	\$3,923,342	\$57	\$3,435,441	\$50
Auburn	yes	\$1,901,032	\$24	\$3,596,019	\$46	\$3,925,070	\$50
Redmond	no	\$2,440,512	\$30	\$4,560,158	\$57	\$4,208,887	\$53
Kirkland	no	\$2,833,374	\$29	\$5,401,809	\$56	\$4,786,409	\$49
Federal Way	yes	\$2,099,470	\$20	\$4,155,022	\$41	\$5,158,309	\$50
Renton	yes	\$2,463,220	\$23	\$4,853,794	\$45	\$5,554,558	\$51
Kent	yes	\$2,912,018	\$21	\$5,925,949	\$42	\$6,789,388	\$48
Bellevue	no	\$4,661,610	\$30	\$9,148,563	\$59	\$9,257,627	\$60
Seattle	yes	\$16,494,538	\$21	\$35,738,135	\$45	\$35,933,182	\$45
Fall City MPD		\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$0	\$180,000	\$0
Si View MPD		\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$0	\$180,000	\$0
Vashon PD		\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$0	\$180,000	\$0
Total		\$61,784,423		\$119,000,000		\$119,000,000	

- Remove Attachment A (Grant Program Requirements) and Attachment B (Acquisition Guidelines). These are separately proposed to be added to PM 2025-0077.
- State that the annual oversight committee report shall include information on funding by Council district.
- Streamline and clarify definitions and terminology used.
- Make technical changes and clarifying changes to match Executive intent.

Proposed Motion 2025-0077.2. PM 2025-0077.2 (as passed BFM) would make the following changes in the motion:

In the body of the motion:

- State that the county should consider using bond financing for capital projects, and direct the executive to study this possibility.
- State that it is the intent of the council that the Skyway Community Center be completed and operational within the period of the levy.
- Request the Executive to undertake community engagement related to Preston Mill Park phase 3, and submit a report.
- Request the Executive to develop a plan to allow alcohol sales in King County parks, and allow alcohol sales in the stands at the stadium at Steve Cox Park no later than May 31, 2025.
- Request the Executive to review permitting standards for vendors, to evaluate and recommend strategies to encourage food vendors to locate in parks, and streamline permitting processes for vendors, and submit a report and proposed ordinance.
- Request the Executive to set aside three parking spaces at each of the ten most highly utilized recreation or multiuse parks for electric vehicle charging and associate equipment
- Request the Executive to keep the lights on at urban unincorporated area parks until at least 10 p.m.
- Request the Executive to develop and implement a policy allowing for unscheduled activities at all active recreation facilities in urban unincorporated areas.

Insert a new version of Attachment A, the allocation plan, with the following changes:

- Reduce the undercollection assumption from \$15M to \$7.5M.
- From the \$46M allocation to Aquatic Facilities Grant Program, new allocations are made to:
 - \$5M to the City of Shoreline.
 - \$2.5M to the City of Kirkland.
 - \$5M to the City of Bellevue.
 - \$2M to Whitewater Aquatics Management to be used for capital projects at, and operations and maintenance of, the Evergreen Aquatic Center.
 - \$500K to Cottage Lake Pool to be used for repairs and rehabilitation.Funding for these projects would go back into the competitive grant program if projects are not shovel ready by 2029.
- Create new category of Ballfields and Sport Courts, combining existing ballfield categories and adding a new grant program. Total of \$60M including:
 - \$13.5M for Ballfield Access and Preservation Grants.
 - \$3M for New Ballfield and Sports Courts.
 - The Parks division would be directed to assess potential sites for cricket fields in the Snoqualmie Valley.
 - \$25.5M for Natural Grass to Synthetic Turf Field Conversion:
 - \$19 million to be allocated to South County Ballfields to be used for Natural Grass to Synthetic Turf Field Conversion.

- \$2.5 million to be allocated to Garfield High School to be used for the Natural Grass to Synthetic Turf installation project.
 - \$1 million to be allocated to Tukwila Community Center to be used for the conversion of field to turf at the Tukwila Community Center Upland Campus.
 - \$3 million to be allocated Des Moines Steven J Underwood Field Renovation to transform three existing worn and dedicated grass softball fields into multi-purpose year-round artificial turf softball and soccer fields.
- \$6M for Ballfields and sports court rehabilitation.
 - Specify that this includes bleacher replacement at Big Finn Hill park
- \$12M for Ballfield synthetic turf replacement.
- Under the Grants and Community Partnerships category, make the following changes:
 - Reduce Parks Capital and Open Space Grants \$30M to \$25M.
 - Increase Community Partnerships and Grants from \$11M to \$12.5M and from this amount allocate \$3M to Starfire Sports and \$1M for equine recreation grants.
 - Allocate \$10M to Get Active/Stay Active - Youth and Amateur Sports Councilmanic Grants.
 - Eliminate Educational and Civic Venue category and move allocations to Grants and Community Partnerships category, then make the following allocations:
 - Reduce allocation to Woodland Park Zoo \$42M to \$40M.
 - Reduce allocation to Seattle Aquarium \$15M to \$12M.
 - Reduce allocation to Seattle Waterfront \$9M to \$6M
 - Maintain Memorial Stadium allocation.
 - Add \$6M allocation to Pacific Science Center for environmental and climate stewardship and education, capital, or operations.
- Under the King County Operations and Maintenance category:
 - Reduce Operations, Maintenance, Program Delivery and Internal Supports from \$517M to \$464M.
 - Merge Park Patrol Expansion (\$4.3M) and Safety Program Expansion (\$3.2M) - rename to Safety and Security Program and allocate \$5M total.
 - Reduce Land Use Stewardship and Encroachment Program from \$10.4M to \$5M .
 - Rename Jobs and Housing Program to Parks Beautification Program, add to footnote 4 that this is just for jobs.
- Under the Climate Resilience, Conservation, and Stewardship category:
 - Reduce Stewardship of Lands Acquired (O&M) from \$20M to \$10M.
 - Increase Fish Passage Program from \$10M to \$20M .
 - Reduce Climate Resilience from \$33M to \$25M. Direct that, of this total:
 - \$5M of this total be used for a district climate resilience grant program evenly divided between council districts, per year.
 - At least \$250,000 be allocated for street trees in White Center.
 - Up to \$1 million be allocated for a surface level cooling feature for children at Steve Cox Park
 - \$700,000 be allocated for capital preconstruction costs for a climate-resilient community center in the Georgetown area.

- Reduce Environmental Stewardship from \$58.5M to \$30M.
- Increase Other New Regional Trails from \$38M to \$41M and make the following allocations:
 - \$5M for Interurban Trail North.
 - \$10M for Kirkland Green Loop.
 - \$5M for Kent Regional Trails.
 - \$2M for Georgetown to South Park Trail.
 - \$1M for Maple Valley Pedestrian overpass/trail connection.
 - Of existing funding, \$3M for Snoqualmie Valley Trail.
- Under the New Park Development and Improvements category:
 - Add \$350K to develop Korean American Hanwoori Garden in Federal Way.
 - Reduce Dog Parks from \$3M to \$2.5M
 - Add \$500K for Fall City Community Center.
 - Add \$1M for City of Bothell McAuliffe Skate Park
 - Remove Backcountry Trails subcategory.
 - Add \$19M for new Water Access on Lake Washington subcategory and make the following allocations:
 - \$15M for Lakepoint Regional Park
 - \$4M for City of Lake Forest Park
- Under the Active Recreation Repair and Renovation and Other Park Repair and Renovation category:
 - Note that Major Maintenance Existing Infrastructure includes completion of the picnic shelter and replacement of the mill shed at Preston Mill Park.
 - State that capital major maintenance programs should prioritize reopening closed restroom facilities and ensuring that all facility restrooms remain clean, safe, and open.
 - Reduce General infrastructure from \$23M to \$20M and make the following allocations:
 - \$200,000 for a digital reader board at Steve Cox Park
 - \$400,000 for handwashing stations in King County parks with playgrounds
 - Increase Water access and docks rehabilitation from \$2M to \$8M and make the following allocations:
 - \$5M Sail Sand Point
 - \$1M Tukwila community center riverside campus renewal and canoe launch.
 - The remaining moneys for repairs and rehabilitation of existing docks and/or boat ramps at Cottage Lake, Lake Joy, Lake Geneva, and Five Mile Lake.
 - Include new trails in the Backcountry Trails subcategory, without change to total investment.
 - Reduce Other agency projects (Sound Transit, WSDOT, KC Roads, etc.) from \$8M to \$5M.

Insert Attachment B, General Requirements for King County Parks Levy Grant Programs, which was previously attached to PO 2025-0070, and make the following changes:

- Changes eligible entities to match grant programs as they exist today:

- In Parks Capital and Open Space Grants, remove “public entities that serve unincorporated King County.”
 - In Aquatic Facilities grants, remove “nonprofit organizations.”
- Add guidelines for Ballfield Access and Preservation grants:
 - Eligible entities are: cities and towns; park districts; school districts.
 - Eligible projects are: construction of or improvements to public ballfields, at any phase of capital development, and operations and maintenance.
- Streamline and clarify terminology in accordance with changes proposed in the striker to PO 2025-0070.

Insert Attachment C, Open Space Acquisition Guidelines, which was previously attached to PO 2025-0070.



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2025-0117.1

Sponsors

1 AN ORDINANCE correcting an error in Ordinance 19909;
2 amending Ordinance 19909, Section 1, and establishing an
3 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

4 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

5 **SECTION 1. Findings:**

6 A. King County and the Central Puget Sound Transit Authority worked
7 cooperatively on the development of the Downtown Redmond Link Extension, portions
8 of which are located on the northern edge of Marymoor park and near the East Lake
9 Sammamish trail. The Downtown Redmond Link Extension is expected to open for
10 service on May 10, 2025.

11 B. On April 1, 2025, the King County council adopted Ordinance 19909
12 authorizing the executive to enter into an operation and maintenance agreement for the
13 portion of the Downtown Redmond Link Extension that is within, or that impacts, King
14 County property. The operation and maintenance agreement describes the
15 responsibilities for operation, inspection, and maintenance of driveways, trails,
16 guideways, drainage infrastructure, ponds, and environmental mitigation in the East Lake
17 Sammamish trail corridor, Marymoor park, and other county facilities.

18 C. Ordinance 19909, Section 1 contains an error. The ordinance erroneously
19 identifies the parties to the operation and maintenance agreement as the King County
20 parks and recreation division of the department of natural resources and parks and the

21 Washington state Department of Natural Resources rather than the correct parties which
22 are King County parks and recreation division of the department of natural resources and
23 parks and the Central Puget Sound Transit Authority.

24 D. This ordinance must be enacted as an emergency ordinance to ensure that the
25 executive is authorized to execute the operation and maintenance agreement with the
26 Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority before the Downtown Redmond Link
27 Extension is open for service.

28 SECTION 2. Ordinance 19909, Section 1, is amended to read as follows:

29 The King County executive is hereby authorized to enter into an operation and
30 maintenance agreement between the King County parks and recreation division of the
31 department of natural resources and parks and the ~~((Washington state Department of
32 Natural Resources))~~ Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority, substantially in the
33 form of Attachment A to ~~((this -o))~~ Ordinance 19909, for the operation and maintenance of
34 the portion of the Downtown Redmond Link Extension that is within King County
35 property.

36 SECTION 3. A. The county council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency
37 exists and that this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace,
38 health or safety or for the support of county government and its existing public institutions.

39 B. The council directs that this ordinance shall take effect immediately after

- 40 Ordinance 19909 and before the executive enters into the operation and maintenance
41 agreement with the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, ____.

Shannon Braddock, County Executive

Attachments: None



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2025-0032.2

Sponsors Zahilay

1 AN ORDINANCE concurring with the recommendation of
2 the hearing examiner to approve, subject to conditions, the
3 application for public benefit rating system assessed
4 valuation for open space submitted by Daniel Klein and
5 David Pfeiffer for property located at 136XX SW 244th
6 Street, Vashon, WA, designated department of natural
7 resources and parks, water and land resources division file
8 no. E24CT006.

9 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

10 SECTION 1. This ordinance does hereby adopt and incorporate herein as its
11 findings and conclusions the findings and conclusions contained in Attachment A to this
12 ordinance, the report and recommendation of the hearing examiner dated March 13,
13 2025, to approve subject to conditions, the application for public benefit rating system
14 assessed valuation for open space submitted by Daniel Klein and David Pfeiffer for
15 property located at 136XX SW 244th Street, Vashon, WA, designated department of
16 natural resources and parks, water and land resources division file no. E24CT006. The

- 17 council does hereby adopt as its action the recommendation or recommendations
18 contained in the examiner's report.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: A. Hearing Examiner Report dated March 13, 2025

March 13, 2025

**OFFICE OF THE HEARING EXAMINER
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Telephone (206) 477-0860

hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov

www.kingcounty.gov/independent/hearing-examiner

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE
METROPOLITAN KING COUNTY COUNCIL**

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources and Parks file no. **E24CT006**
Proposed ordinance no. **2025-0032**
Parcel no. **232202-9084**

DANIEL KLEIN AND DAVID PFEIFFER

Open Space Taxation Application (Public Benefit Rating System)

Location: 136XX SW 244th Street, Vashon

Applicants: **Daniel Klein & David Pfeiffer**
PO 9013
Vashon, WA 98070
Telephone: (206) 261-1889
Email: Weinmail@gmailcom

King County: Department of Natural Resources and Parks
represented by **Megan Kim**
201 S. Jackson Street
Suite 5601
Seattle, WA 98104
Telephone: (206) 477-4788

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Department's Recommendation: Approve 4.0 acres for 30% of assessed value
Conditionally approve 4.0 acres for 20% of assessed value

Examiner's Recommendation: Approve 4.0 acres for 30% of assessed value
Conditionally approve 4.0 acres for 20% of assessed value

PRELIMINARY REPORT:

On February 11, 2025, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) submitted its report on file no. E24CT006 to the Examiner.

PUBLIC HEARING:

After reviewing the preliminary report and examining available information on file with the application, the Examiner conducted a remote public hearing on the application on February 27, 2025. Participants at the public hearing and the exhibits offered and entered are listed in the attached minutes. A verbatim recording of the hearing is available in the Examiner's Office.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

1. General Information:

Owners:	Daniel Klein and David Pfeiffer PO 9013 Vashon, WA 98070
Location:	136XX SW 244th Street, Vashon
STR:	NE-23-22-02
Zoning:	RA5SO
Parcel no:	232202-9084
Total acreage:	5.0 acres

2. The Applicants timely filed an application to King County for the Public Benefit Rating System (PBRs) program current use valuation of the property to begin in 2025. As required by law, notification of the application occurred.

3. A summary of relevant PBRs categories follows. The *asterisk* below represents a category where DNRP finds an award is warranted, but only if certain contingencies or conditions are met.

PBRs categories:	<u>Open Space Resources</u>	
	Aquifer protection area	5
	Significant wildlife or salmonid habitat	5
	Surface water quality buffer	5
	Watershed protection area	5
	<u>Bonus Categories</u>	
	Resource restoration	*
	<hr/> Total	<hr/> 20

The DNRP-recommended score of 20 points results in a current use valuation of 30% of assessed value for the enrolled portion of the property.

4. Additional credit may be awarded administratively under the resource restoration category, subject to submittal of a resource restoration plan by **August 1, 2025**, and subsequent DNRP approval of that plan by **October 1, 2025**. Award of credit under this category will increase the point total by 5 points, resulting in a current use valuation of 20% of assessed value for the enrolled portion of the property. Award of this category may allow approved forestry activities to occur on the property.
5. As to the land area recommended for PBRS enrollment, the Applicants requested 4.0 acres and DNRP recommends 4.0 acres. Enrollment acreage is the entire parcel less the excluded area, as calculated by DNRP. In the event the County Assessor's official parcel size is revised, the PBRS acreage shall be administratively adjusted to reflect that change. Note: Because the watershed protection area category requires a minimum of four acres of native forest cover, and the Applicants are only enrolling exactly four acres, if the Assessor were to downwardly adjust the parcel size, the Applicants and DNRP would need to ensure that at least four acres of native forest cover remain after the adjustment, or—if the adjustment drops the native forest cover total below four—make modifications to boost the total back up to four.
6. Except as modified herein, we find the facts set forth in DNRP's preliminary report and testimony at the February 27, 2025, public hearing correct and we incorporate them by reference. We will provide copies of this report and DNRP's report to the Metropolitan King County Council for final approval.
7. Approval of 20 points and a current use valuation of 30% of assessed value for 4.0 acres, and conditional approval of 5 additional points and 20% of assessed value for those 4.0 acres, are consistent with KCC Chapter 20.36 and with the purposes and intent of King County to maintain, preserve, conserve, and otherwise continue in existence adequate open space lands and to assure the use and enjoyment of natural resources and scenic beauty for the economic and social well-being of King County and its citizens.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. APPROVE a current use valuation of 30% of assessed value for the 4.0-acre enrolled portion of the property.
2. CONDITIONALLY APPROVE additional credit for the resource restoration category, subject to submittal of a resource restoration plan by **August 1, 2025**, and subsequent DNRP approval of that plan by **October 1, 2025**. Award of credit under this category will increase the point total by 5 points, resulting in a current use valuation of 30% of assessed value for the enrolled portion of the property.

DATED March 13, 2025.



David Spohr, Hearing Examiner

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

A party may appeal an Examiner report and recommendation by following the steps described in KCC 20.22.230. By **4:30 p.m.** on ***April 7, 2025***, an electronic appeal statement must be sent to Clerk.Council@kingcounty.gov, to hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov, and to the party email addresses on the front page of this report and recommendation. Please consult KCC 20.22.230 for the exact filing requirements.

If a party fails to timely file an appeal, the Council does not have jurisdiction to consider that appeal. Conversely, if the appeal requirements of KCC 20.22.230 are met, the Examiner will notify parties and interested persons and will provide information about next steps in the appeal process.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2025, HEARING ON THE APPLICATION OF DANIEL KLEIN AND DAVID PFEIFFER, FILE NO. E24CT006

David Spohr was the Hearing Examiner in this matter. Megan Kim participated in the hearing.

The following exhibits were offered and entered into the hearing record:

Exhibit no. 1	DNRP report to the Hearing Examiner
Exhibit no. 2	<i>Reserved for future submission of the affidavit of hearing publication</i>
Exhibit no. 3	Legal notice and introductory ordinance to the King County Council
Exhibit no. 4	Arcview/orthophotograph and aerial map
Exhibit no. 5	Application signed and notarized



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2025-0033.2

Sponsors Zahilay

1 AN ORDINANCE concurring with the recommendation of
2 the hearing examiner to approve, subject to conditions, the
3 application for public benefit rating system assessed
4 valuation for open space submitted by Kerri Grace for
5 property located at east and abutting 13710 SW Reddings
6 Beach Road, WA, designated department of natural
7 resources and parks, water and land resources division file
8 no. E24CT014.

9 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

10 SECTION 1. This ordinance does hereby adopt and incorporate herein as its
11 findings and conclusions the findings and conclusions contained in Attachment A to this
12 ordinance, the report and recommendation of the hearing examiner dated March 13,
13 2025, to approve subject to conditions, the application for public benefit rating system
14 assessed valuation for open space submitted by Kerri Grace for property located at east
15 and abutting 13710 SW Reddings Beach Road, WA, designated department of natural
16 resources and parks, water and land resources division file no. E24CT014. The council

17 does hereby adopt as its action the recommendation or recommendations contained in the
18 examiner's report.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: A. Hearing Examiner Report dated March 13, 2025

March 13, 2025

**OFFICE OF THE HEARING EXAMINER
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Telephone (206) 477-0860

hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov

www.kingcounty.gov/independent/hearing-examiner

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE
METROPOLITAN KING COUNTY COUNCIL**

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources and Parks file no. **E24CT014**
Proposed ordinance no. **2025-0033**
Parcel no. **142202-9039**

KERRI GRACE

Open Space Taxation Application (Public Benefit Rating System)

Location: east and abutting 13710 SW Reddings Beach Road

Applicant: **Kerri Grace**
19314 Beall Road SW
Vashon, WA 98070
Telephone: (206) 321-6695
Email: kerrigrace@msn.com

King County: Department of Natural Resources and Parks
represented by **Megan Kim**
201 S. Jackson Street
Suite 5601
Seattle, WA 98104
Telephone: (206) 477-4788

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Department's Recommendation: Approve 3.20 acres for 30% of assessed value
Conditionally approve 3.20 acres for as little as 10% of
assessed value

Examiner's Recommendation: Approve 3.20 acres for 30% of assessed value
Conditionally approve 3.20 acres for as little as 10%
of assessed value

PRELIMINARY REPORT:

On February 11, 2025, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) submitted its report on file no. E24CT014 to the Examiner.

PUBLIC HEARING:

After reviewing the preliminary report and examining available information on file with the application, the Examiner conducted a remote public hearing on the application on February 27, 2025. Participants at the public hearing and the exhibits offered and entered are listed in the attached minutes. A verbatim recording of the hearing is available in the Examiner's Office.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

1. General Information:

Owner:	Kerri Grace 19314 Beall Road SW Vashon, WA 98070
Location:	east and abutting 13710 SW Reddings Beach Road
STR:	SE-14-22-02
Zoning:	RA10S
Parcel no:	142202-9039
Total acreage:	4.20 acres

2. The Applicant timely filed an application to King County for the Public Benefit Rating System (PBRs) program current use valuation of the property to begin in 2025. As required by law, notification of the application occurred.

3. A summary of relevant PBRs categories follows below. (Plain text represents a category an applicant requested an award for and that DNRP agrees is warranted. *Italics* represents a category an applicant did not request an award for, but that DNRP nonetheless concludes is warranted. And an *asterisk* represents a category where DNRP finds an award is warranted, but only if certain contingencies or conditions are met.)

PBRs categories:	<u>Open Space Resources</u>	
	Aquifer protection area	5
	<i>Buffer to public or current use classified land</i>	3
	<i>Significant wildlife or salmonid habitat</i>	5
	<i>Watershed protection area</i>	5
	<u>Bonus Categories</u>	
	<i>Resource restoration</i>	*
	<i>Conservation easement or historic easement</i>	**
	Total	18

The DNRP-recommended score of 18 points results in a current use valuation of 30% of assessed value for the enrolled portion of the property.

4. Additional credit may be awarded administratively under the conservation easement or historic easement category, subject to recording, with the King County Recorder's Office, a County-approved conservation easement by **December 31, 2025**. Award of credit under this category will increase the point total by 18 points, boosting the total to 36 points and resulting in the lowest possible current use valuation of 10% of assessed value for the enrolled portion of the property.
5. Additional credit may also be awarded administratively under the resource restoration category, subject to submittal of a resource restoration plan by **August 1, 2025**, and subsequent DNRP approval of that plan by **October 1, 2025**. Award of credit under this category will increase the point total by 5 points. If easement credit is also awarded, resource restoration credit will not change the current use valuation (which can go no lower than 10%). However, if easement credit is *not* awarded, resource restoration credit would boost the property's point total from 18 to 23, reducing the current use valuation from 30% to 20% for the enrolled portion of the property.
6. As to the land area recommended for PBRS enrollment, the Applicant requested 3.40 acres and DNRP recommends 3.20 acres. (Enrollment acreage is the entire parcel less the excluded area, as calculated by DNRP. In the event the County Assessor's official parcel size is revised, the PBRS acreage shall be administratively adjusted to reflect that change.)
7. Except as modified herein, we find the facts set forth in DNRP's preliminary report and testimony at the February 27, 2025, public hearing correct and we incorporate them by reference. We will provide copies of this report and DNRP's report to the Metropolitan King County Council for final approval.
8. Approval of 18 points and a current use valuation of 30% of assessed value for 3.20 acres, and conditional approval of up to 23 additional points and 10% of assessed value for 3.20 acres, are consistent with KCC Chapter 20.36 and with the purposes and intent of King County to maintain, preserve, conserve, and otherwise continue in existence adequate open space lands and to assure the use and enjoyment of natural resources and scenic beauty for the economic and social well-being of King County and its citizens.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. APPROVE a current use valuation of 30% of assessed value for the 3.20-acre enrolled portion of the property.
2. CONDITIONALLY APPROVE additional credit for the conservation easement or historic easement category subject to recording, with King County's Recorder's Office, a County-approved conservation easement by **December 31, 2025**. Award of credit under this category will result in a current use valuation of 10% of assessed value for the enrolled portion of the property.
3. CONDITIONALLY APPROVE additional credit for the resource restoration category, subject to submittal of a resource restoration plan by **August 1, 2025**, and subsequent DNRP approval of that plan by **October 1, 2025**. Award of credit under this category will not change the current use valuation if easement credit is also awarded; however, if easement credit is *not* awarded, resource restoration credit would reduce the current use valuation from 30% to 20% for the enrolled portion of the property.

DATED March 13, 2025.



David Spohr
King County Hearing Examiner

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

A party may appeal an Examiner report and recommendation by following the steps described in KCC 20.22.230. By **4:30 p.m.** on **April 7, 2025**, an electronic appeal statement must be sent to Clerk.Council@kingcounty.gov, to hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov, and to the party email addresses on the front page of this report and recommendation. Please consult KCC 20.22.230 for the exact filing requirements.

If a party fails to timely file an appeal, the Council does not have jurisdiction to consider that appeal. Conversely, if the appeal requirements of KCC 20.22.230 are met, the Examiner will notify parties and interested persons and will provide information about next steps in the appeal process.

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2025, HEARING ON THE APPLICATION OF
KERRI GRACE, FILE NO. E24CT014**

David Spohr was the Hearing Examiner in this matter. Megan Kim participated in the hearing.

The following exhibits were offered and entered into the hearing record:

Exhibit no. 1	DNRP report to the Hearing Examiner
Exhibit no. 2	<i>Reserved for future submission of the affidavit of hearing publication</i>
Exhibit no. 3	Legal notice and introductory ordinance to the King County Council
Exhibit no. 4	Arcview/orthophotograph and aerial map
Exhibit no. 5	Application signed and notarized



Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2025-0034.2

Sponsors Zahilay

1 AN ORDINANCE concurring with the recommendation of
2 the hearing examiner to approve, subject to conditions, the
3 application for public benefit rating system assessed
4 valuation for open space submitted by Derek and Lorae
5 Schin for property located at 12633 SW 276th Street,
6 Vashon, WA, designated department of natural resources
7 and parks, water and land resources division file no.
8 E24CT022.

9 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

10 SECTION 1. This ordinance does hereby adopt and incorporate herein as its
11 findings and conclusions the findings and conclusions contained in Attachment A to this
12 ordinance, the report and recommendation of the hearing examiner dated March 13,
13 2025, to approve subject to conditions, the application for public benefit rating system
14 assessed valuation for open space submitted by Derek and Lorae Schin for property
15 located at 12633 SW 276th Street, Vashon, WA, designated department of natural
16 resources and parks, water and land resources division file no. E24CT022. The council

- 17 does hereby adopt as its action the recommendation or recommendations contained in the
18 examiner's report.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: A. Hearing Examiner Report dated March 13, 2025

March 13, 2025

**OFFICE OF THE HEARING EXAMINER
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Telephone (206) 477-0860

hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov

www.kingcounty.gov/independent/hearing-examiner

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE
METROPOLITAN KING COUNTY COUNCIL**

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources and Parks file no. **E24CT022**
Proposed ordinance no. **2025-0034**
Parcel no. **362202-9006**

DEREK AND LORAE SCHIN

Open Space Taxation Application (Public Benefit Rating System)

Location: 12633 SW 276th Street, Vashon

Applicants: **Derek & Lorae Schin**
12633 SW 276th Street
Vashon, WA 98070
Telephone: (703) 474-5327
Email: dbol39@gmail.com

King County: Department of Natural Resources and Parks
represented by **Megan Kim**
201 S. Jackson Street Suite 5601
Seattle, WA 98104
Telephone: (206) 477-4788
Email: megan.kim@kingcounty.gov

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Department's Recommendation: Approve 7.40 acres for 30% of assessed value
Conditionally approve 7.40 acres for 20% of assessed value

Examiner's Recommendation: Approve 7.40 acres for 30% of assessed value
Conditionally approve 7.40 acres for 20% of assessed value

PRELIMINARY REPORT:

On February 11, 2025, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) submitted its report on file no. E24CT022 to the Examiner.

PUBLIC HEARING:

After reviewing the preliminary report and examining available information on file with the application, the Examiner conducted a remote public hearing on the application on February 27, 2025. Participants at the public hearing and the exhibits offered and entered are listed in the attached minutes. A verbatim recording of the hearing is available in the Examiner's Office.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

1. General Information:

Owners:	Derek and Lorae Schin 12633 SW 276th Street Vashon, WA 98070
Location:	12633 SW 276th Street, Vashon
STR:	NW-36-22-02
Zoning:	RA10SO
Parcel no:	362202-9006
Total acreage:	10 acres

2. The Applicants timely filed an application to King County for the Public Benefit Rating System (PBRS) program current use valuation of the property to begin in 2025. As required by law, notification of the application occurred.

3. A summary of relevant PBRS categories follows below. (Plain text represents a category an applicant requested an award for and that DNRP agrees is warranted. *Italics* represents a category an applicant did not request an award for, but that DNRP nonetheless concludes is warranted. And an *asterisk* represents a category where DNRP finds an award is warranted, but only if contingencies or conditions are met.)

PBRS categories:	<u>Open Space Resources</u>	
	Aquifer protection area	5
	Buffer to public or current use classified land	3
	Forest stewardship land	*
	Significant wildlife or salmonid habitat	5
	<i>Watershed protection area</i>	5
	<hr/> Total	<hr/> 18

The DNRP-recommended score of 18 points results in a current use valuation of 30% of assessed value for the enrolled portion of the property.

4. Additional credit may be awarded administratively under the forest stewardship land category, subject to submittal of a forest stewardship plan by **October 31, 2025**, and subsequent DNRP approval of that plan by **December 31, 2025**. Award of credit under this category will increase the point total by 5 points, resulting in a current use valuation of 20% of assessed value for the enrolled portion of the property. Award of this category may allow approved forestry activities to occur on the property.
5. As to the land area recommended for PBRS enrollment, the Applicants requested 8.10 acres and DNRP recommends 7.40 acres. (Enrollment acreage is the entire parcel less the excluded area, as calculated by DNRP. In the event the County Assessor's official parcel size is revised, the PBRS acreage shall be administratively adjusted to reflect that change.)
6. Except as modified herein, we find the facts set forth in DNRP's preliminary report and testimony at the February 27, 2025, public hearing correct and we incorporate them by reference. We will provide copies of this report and DNRP's report to the Metropolitan King County Council for final approval.
 - A. The property is accessed by SW 276th Street, not SW Reddings Beach Road (page 2, section B.4); and
 - B. The forest stewardship plan submittal and approval dates are 2025, not 2024 (top of page 6).
7. Approval of 18 points and a current use valuation of 30% of assessed value for 7.40 acres, and conditional approval of 5 additional points and 20% of assessed value for 7.40 acres, are consistent with KCC chapter 20.36 and with the purposes and intent of King County to maintain, preserve, conserve, and otherwise continue in existence adequate open space lands and to assure the use and enjoyment of natural resources and scenic beauty for the economic and social well-being of King County and its citizens.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. APPROVE a current use valuation of 30% of assessed value for the 7.40-acre enrolled portion of the property.
2. CONDITIONALLY APPROVE additional credit for the forest stewardship land category, subject to submittal of a forest stewardship plan by **October 31, 2025**, and subsequent DNRP approval of that plan by **December 31, 2025**. Award of credit under this category will result in a current use valuation of 20% of assessed value for the 7.40-acre enrolled portion of the property.

DATED March 13, 2025.



David Spohr
King County Hearing Examiner

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

A party may appeal an Examiner report and recommendation by following the steps described in KCC 20.22.230. By **4:30 p.m.** on ***April 7, 2025***, an electronic appeal statement must be sent to Clerk.Council@kingcounty.gov, to hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov, and to the party email addresses on the front page of this report and recommendation. Please consult KCC 20.22.230 for the exact filing requirements.

If a party fails to timely file an appeal, the Council does not have jurisdiction to consider that appeal. Conversely, if the appeal requirements of KCC 20.22.230 are met, the Examiner will notify parties and interested persons and will provide information about next steps in the appeal process.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2025, HEARING ON THE APPLICATION OF DEREK AND LORAE SCHIN, FILE NO. E24CT022

David Spohr was the Hearing Examiner in this matter. Megan Kim participated in the hearing.

The following exhibits were offered and entered into the hearing record:

Exhibit no. 1	DNRP report to the Hearing Examiner
Exhibit no. 2	<i>Reserved for future submission of the affidavit of hearing publication</i>
Exhibit no. 3	Legal notice and introductory ordinance to the King County Council
Exhibit no. 4	Arcview/orthophotograph and aerial map
Exhibit no. 5	Application signed and notarized



Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2025-0035.2

Sponsors Zahilay

1 AN ORDINANCE concurring with the recommendation of
2 the hearing examiner to approve, subject to conditions, the
3 application for public benefit rating system assessed
4 valuation for open space submitted by Timothy and Teri
5 Farno for property located at 28403 NE 112th Way, Duvall,
6 WA, designated department of natural resources and parks,
7 water and land resources division file no. E24CT010.

8 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

9 SECTION 1. This ordinance does hereby adopt and incorporate herein as its
10 findings and conclusions the findings and conclusions contained in Attachment A to this
11 ordinance, the report and recommendation of the hearing examiner dated March 13,
12 2025, to approve subject to conditions, the application for public benefit rating system
13 assessed valuation for open space submitted by Timothy and Teri Farno for property
14 located at 28403 NE 112th Way, Duvall, WA, designated department of natural resources
15 and parks, water and land resources division file no. E24CT010. The council does

- 16 hereby adopt as its action the recommendation or recommendations contained in the
17 examiner's report.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: A Hearing Examiner Report dated March 13, 2025

March 13, 2025

**OFFICE OF THE HEARING EXAMINER
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Telephone (206) 477-0860

hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov

www.kingcounty.gov/independent/hearing-examiner

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE
METROPOLITAN KING COUNTY COUNCIL**

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources and Parks file no. **E24CT010**
Proposed ordinance no. **2025-0035**
Parcel nos. **312607-9003** and **312607-9009**

TIMOTHY AND TERI FARNO

Open Space Taxation Application (Public Benefit Rating System)

Location: 28403 NE 112th Way, Duvall

Applicants: **Timothy & Teri Farno**
23538 NE 122nd Court
Redmond, WA 98053
Telephone: (323) 841-0140
Email: timfarno@comcast.net

King County: Department of Natural Resources and Parks
represented by **Bill Bernstein**
201 S. Jackson Street
Suite 5601
Seattle, WA 98104
Telephone: (206) 477-4643

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Department's Recommendation:	Approve 16.73 acres for 20% of assessed value
Examiner's Recommendation:	Approve 16.73 acres for 20% of assessed value

PRELIMINARY REPORT:

On February 13, 2025, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) submitted its report on file no. E24CT010 to the Examiner.

PUBLIC HEARING:

After reviewing the preliminary report and examining available information on file with the application, the Examiner conducted a remote public hearing on the application on February 27, 2025. Participants at the public hearing and the exhibits offered and entered are listed in the attached minutes. A verbatim recording of the hearing is available in the Examiner's Office.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

1. General Information:

Owners:	Timothy and Teri Farno 23538 NE 122nd Court Redmond, WA 98053
Location:	28403 NE 112th Way, Duvall
STR:	NW-31-26-07
Zoning:	RA10
Parcel nos:	312607-9003 and 312607-9009
Total acreage:	20.69 acres

2. The Applicants timely filed an application to King County for the Public Benefit Rating System (PBRs) program current use valuation of the property to begin in 2025. As required by law, notification of the application occurred.

3. A summary of relevant PBRs categories follows below. (Plain text represents a category an applicant requested an award for and that DNRP agrees is warranted. Any ~~strike through~~ represents a category an applicant requested an award for, but DNRP disagrees is warranted. And any *asterisk* represents a category where DNRP finds an award is warranted, but only if certain contingencies or conditions are met.)

PBRs categories:	<u>Open Space Resources</u>	
	Aquifer protection area	5
	Buffer to public or current use classified land	3
	Rural open space	5
	Scenic resource, viewpoint or view corridor	5
	Significant plant or ecological site	0
	Significant wildlife or salmonid habitat	0
	Special animal site	0
	Surface water quality buffer	10
	Watershed protection area	5

<u>Bonus Categories</u>	
Unlimited public access	0
Total	33

The DNRP-recommended score of 33 points results in a current use valuation of 20% of assessed value for the enrolled portion of the property.

4. As to the land area recommended for PBRS enrollment, the Applicants requested 18.39 acres and DNRP recommends 16.73 acres. (Enrollment acreage is the entire parcel less the excluded area, as calculated by DNRP. In the event the County Assessor's official parcel size is revised, the PBRS acreage shall be administratively adjusted to reflect that change.)
5. Except as modified herein, we find the facts set forth in DNRP's preliminary report and testimony at the February 27, 2025, public hearing correct and we incorporate them by reference. We will provide copies of this report and DNRP's report to the Metropolitan King County Council for final approval.
6. Approval of 33 points and a current use valuation of 20% of assessed value for 16.73 acres is consistent with KCC chapter 20.36 and with the purposes and intent of King County to maintain, preserve, conserve, and otherwise continue in existence adequate open space lands and to assure the use and enjoyment of natural resources and scenic beauty for the economic and social well-being of King County and its citizens.

RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE a current use valuation of 20% of assessed value for the 16.73-acre enrolled portion of the property.

DATED March 13, 2025.



David Spohr
King County Hearing Examiner

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

A party may appeal an Examiner report and recommendation by following the steps described in KCC 20.22.230. By **4:30 p.m.** on *April 7, 2025*, an electronic appeal statement must be sent to Clerk.Council@kingcounty.gov, to hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov, and to the party email addresses on the front page of this report and recommendation. Please consult KCC 20.22.230 for the exact filing requirements.

If a party fails to timely file an appeal, the Council does not have jurisdiction to consider that appeal. Conversely, if the appeal requirements of KCC 20.22.230 are met, the Examiner will notify parties and interested persons and will provide information about next steps in the appeal process.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2025, HEARING ON THE APPLICATION OF TIMOTHY AND TERI FARNO, FILE NO. E24CT010

David Spohr was the Hearing Examiner in this matter. Bill Bernstein participated in the hearing.

The following exhibits were offered and entered into the hearing record:

Exhibit no. 1	DNRP report to the Hearing Examiner
Exhibit no. 2	<i>Reserved for future submission of the affidavit of hearing publication</i>
Exhibit no. 3	Legal notice and introductory ordinance to the King County Council
Exhibit no. 4	Arcview/orthophotograph and aerial map
Exhibit no. 5	Application signed and notarized



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2025-0036.2

Sponsors Zahilay

1 AN ORDINANCE concurring with the recommendation of
2 the hearing examiner to approve, subject to conditions, the
3 application for public benefit rating system assessed
4 valuation for open space submitted by Fred and Henrlet
5 Schapelhouman for property located at 22312 NE 114th
6 Street Redmond, WA, designated department of natural
7 resources and parks, water and land resources division file
8 no. E24CT013.

9 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

10 SECTION 1. This ordinance does hereby adopt and incorporate herein as its
11 findings and conclusions the findings and conclusions contained in Attachment A to this
12 ordinance, the report and recommendation of the hearing examiner dated March 13,
13 2025, to approve subject to conditions, the application for public benefit rating system
14 assessed valuation for open space submitted by Fred and Henrlet Schapelhouman for
15 property located at 22312 NE 114th Street Redmond, WA, designated department of
16 natural resources and parks, water and land resources division file no. E24CT013. The

- 17 council does hereby adopt as its action the recommendation or recommendations
18 contained in the examiner's report.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: A. Hearing Examiner Report dated March 26, 2025

March 26, 2025

**OFFICE OF THE HEARING EXAMINER
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Telephone (206) 477-0860

hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov

www.kingcounty.gov/independent/hearing-examiner

**REVISED¹ REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION TO
THE METROPOLITAN KING COUNTY COUNCIL**

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources and Parks file no. **E24CT013**
Proposed ordinance no. **2025-0036**
Parcel no. **332606-9027**

FRED AND HENRLET SCHAPELHOUMAN

Open Space Taxation Application (Public Benefit Rating System)

Location: 22312 NE 114th Street Redmond

Applicants: **Fred & Henrlet Schapelhouman**
22312 NE 114th Street
Redmond, WA 98053
Telephone: (425) 829-6308
Email: fredschap@gmail.com

King County: Department of Natural Resources and Parks
represented by **Bill Bernstein**
201 S. Jackson Street
Suite 5601
Seattle, WA 98104
Telephone: (206) 477-4643

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Department's Recommendation:	Approve 4.00 acres for 30% of assessed value
Examiner's Recommendation:	Approve 4.00 acres for 30% of assessed value

¹ The narrative description in paragraph 4. of our initial report and recommendation referenced the wrong category, and it transposed the % number for the *reduction* in taxable value (70%) with the number for the *remaining* taxable value (30%). This revision corrects those; everything else remains the same.

PRELIMINARY REPORT:

On February 13, 2025, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) submitted its report on file no. E24CT013 to the Examiner.

PUBLIC HEARING:

After reviewing the preliminary report and examining available information on file with the application, we conducted a remote public hearing on the application on February 27, 2025.

Participants at the public hearing and the exhibits offered and entered are listed in the attached minutes. A verbatim recording of the hearing is available in the Hearing Examiner's Office.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

1. General Information:

Owners: Fred and Henrlet Schapelhouman
22312 NE 114th Street
Redmond, WA 98053

Location: 22312 NE 114th Street Redmond

STR: NE-33-26-06

Zoning: RA5

Parcel no: 332606-9027

Total acreage: 5.11 acres

2. The Applicants timely filed an application to King County for the Public Benefit Rating System (PBRs) program current use valuation of the property to begin in 2025. As required by law, notification of the application occurred.

3. A summary of relevant PBRs categories follows below. (Plain text represents a category an applicant requested an award for and that DNRP agrees is warranted. *Italics* represents a category an applicant did not request an award for, but that DNRP nonetheless concludes is warranted.)

PBRs categories:	<u>Open Space Resources</u>	
	Buffer to public or current use classified land	3
	Forest stewardship land	5
	<i>Surface water quality buffer</i>	5
	Watershed protection area	5
	<hr/> Total	<hr/> 18

The DNRP-recommended score of 18 points results in a current use valuation of 30% of assessed value for the enrolled portion of the property.

4. As to the land area recommended for PBRS enrollment, the Applicants requested 4.0 acres and DNRP recommends 4.0 acres. Enrollment acreage is the entire parcel less the excluded area, as calculated by DNRP. In the event the County Assessor's official parcel size is revised, the PBRS acreage shall be administratively adjusted to reflect that change. Note: Because the forest stewardship land category requires a minimum of four acres of native forest cover, and the Applicants are only enrolling exactly four acres, if the Assessor were to downwardly adjust the parcel size, the Applicants and DNRP would need to ensure that at least four acres of native forest cover remain after the adjustment, or—if the adjustment drops the native forest cover total below four—make modifications to boost the total back up to four.
5. Except as modified herein, we find the facts set forth in DNRP's preliminary report and testimony at the February 27, 2025, public hearing correct and we incorporate them by reference. We will provide copies of this report and DNRP's report to the Metropolitan King County Council for final approval.
6. Approval of 18 points and a current use valuation of 30% of assessed value for 4.00 acres is consistent with KCC chapter 20.36 and with the purposes and intent of King County to maintain, preserve, conserve, and otherwise continue in existence adequate open space lands and to assure the use and enjoyment of natural resources and scenic beauty for the economic and social well-being of King County and its citizens.

RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE a current use valuation of 30% of assessed value for the 4.00-acre enrolled portion of the property.

DATED March 26, 2025.



David Spohr
King County Hearing Examiner

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

A party may appeal an Examiner report and recommendation by following the steps described in KCC 20.22.230. By **4:30 p.m.** on *April 21, 2025*, an electronic appeal statement must be sent to Clerk.Council@kingcounty.gov, to hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov, and to the party email addresses on the front page of this report and recommendation. Please consult KCC 20.22.230 for the exact filing requirements.

If a party fails to timely file an appeal, the Council does not have jurisdiction to consider that appeal. Conversely, if the appeal requirements of KCC 20.22.230 are met, the Examiner will notify parties and interested persons and will provide information about next steps in the appeal process.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2025, HEARING ON THE APPLICATION OF FRED AND HENRLET SCHAPELHOUMAN, FILE NO. E24CT013

David Spohr was the Hearing Examiner in this matter. Bill Bernstein participated in the hearing.

The following exhibits were offered and entered into the hearing record:

Exhibit no. 1	DNRP report to the Hearing Examiner
Exhibit no. 2	<i>Reserved for future submission of the affidavit of hearing publication</i>
Exhibit no. 3	Legal notice and introductory ordinance to the King County Council
Exhibit no. 4	Arcview/orthophotograph and aerial map
Exhibit no. 5	Application signed and notarized



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2025-0041.2

Sponsors Zahilay

1 AN ORDINANCE concurring with the recommendation of
2 the hearing examiner to approve, subject to conditions, the
3 application for public benefit rating system assessed
4 valuation for open space submitted by Anna Mitros and
5 Seth LaForge for property located at 12003 184th Avenue
6 SE, Redmond, WA, designated department of natural
7 resources and parks, water and land resources division file
8 no. E24CT011.

9 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

10 SECTION 1. This ordinance does hereby adopt and incorporate herein as its
11 findings and conclusions the findings and conclusions contained in Attachment A to this
12 ordinance, the report and recommendation of the hearing examiner dated March 13,
13 2025, to approve subject to conditions, the application for public benefit rating system
14 assessed valuation for open space submitted by Anna Mitros and Seth LaForge for
15 property located at 12003 184th Avenue SE, Redmond, WA, designated department of
16 natural resources and parks, water and land resources division file no. E24CT011. The

- 17 council does hereby adopt as its action the recommendation or recommendations
18 contained in the examiner's report.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: A. Hearing Examiner Report dated March 13, 2025

March 13, 2025

**OFFICE OF THE HEARING EXAMINER
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Telephone (206) 477-0860

hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov

www.kingcounty.gov/independent/hearing-examiner

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE
METROPOLITAN KING COUNTY COUNCIL**

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources and Parks file no. **E24CT011**
Proposed ordinance no. **2025-0041**
Parcel nos. **727310-0151, 727310-0152, and 727310-0153**

ANNA MITROS AND SETH LAFORGE

Open Space Taxation Application (Public Benefit Rating System)

Location: 12003 184th Avenue SE, Redmond

Applicants: **Anna Mitros & Seth LaForge**
12003 184th Ave NE
Redmond, WA 98052
Telephone: (206) 619-1500
Email: aniaseth@ofb.net

King County: Department of Natural Resources and Parks
represented by **Bill Bernstein**
201 S. Jackson Street
Suite 5601
Seattle, WA 98104
Telephone: (206) 477-4643

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Department's Recommendation: Contingently approve 2.17 acres for 50% of assessed value
Examiner's Recommendation: Contingently approve 2.17 acres for 50% of assessed value

PRELIMINARY REPORT:

On February 11, 2025, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) submitted its report on file no. E24CT011 to the Examiner.

PUBLIC HEARING:

After reviewing the preliminary report and examining available information on file with the application, the Examiner conducted a remote public hearing on the application on February 27, 2025. Participants at the public hearing and the exhibits offered and entered are listed in the attached minutes. A verbatim recording of the hearing is available in the Examiner's Office.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

1. General Information:

Owners:	Anna Mitros and Seth LaForge 12003 184th Ave NE Redmond, WA 98052
Location:	12003 184th Avenue SE, Redmond
STR:	SW-20-26-06
Zoning:	RA5
Parcel nos.:	727310-0151, 727310-0152, and 727310-0153
Total acreage:	4.77 acres

2. The Applicants timely filed an application to King County for the Public Benefit Rating System (PBRs) program current use valuation of the property to begin in 2025. As required by law, notification of the application occurred.

3. A summary of relevant PBRs categories follows below. (Plain text represents a category an applicant requested an award for and that DNRP agrees is warranted. Any ~~strike through~~ represents a category an applicant requested an award for but that DNRP disagrees is warranted. And any *asterisk* represents a category where DNRP finds an award is warranted, but only if certain contingencies or conditions are met.)

PBRs categories:	<u>Open Space Resources</u>	
	Aquifer protection area	5*
	Rural stewardship land	0
	<u>Bonus Categories</u>	
	Resource restoration	5*
	<hr/> Total	<hr/> 10

The DNRP-recommended score of 10 *contingent* points would result in a current use valuation of 50% of assessed value for the enrolled portion of the property.

4. Because of extensive invasive vegetation in the area proposed for enrollment (mostly holly and Himalayan blackberry), the property currently does not meet the aquifer protection area category requirement of “a plant community in which native plants are dominant.” KCC 20.36.100.C.2. However, even if the proposed open space area does not currently have a plant community in which native plants are dominant, the aquifer protection area category requirements can be satisfied with “a plan for revegetation... submitted and approved by [DNRP and] implemented according to the plan’s proposed schedule of activities. *Id.*
5. Thus, enrollment in PBRS is contingent on submittal, by **November 1, 2025**, of a resource restoration plan (that addresses controlling invasive species and planting some native shrubs and trees), and subsequent DNRP approval of that plan by **December 31, 2025**. Successful completion of that will meet both the aquifer protection area (five points) and resource restoration (five more points) criteria, resulting in a current use valuation of 50% of assessed value for the enrolled portion of the property.
6. As to the land area recommended for PBRS enrollment, the Applicants seek to enroll 2.20 acres of parcel 727310-0153, and DNRP recommends 2.17 acres. (Enrollment acreage is the entire parcel less the excluded area, as calculated by DNRP. In the event the County Assessor’s official parcel size is revised, the PBRS acreage shall be administratively adjusted to reflect that change.) Note: the Applicants listed 727310-0151 and 727310-0152 on their application (which is why we list those two parcels in this report and recommendation). However, the Applicants did not request acreage for those two parcels, nor does DNRP concludes any areas on those properties would qualify.
7. Except as modified herein, we find the facts set forth in DNRP’s preliminary report and testimony at the February 27, 2025, public hearing correct and we incorporate them by reference. We will provide copies of this report and DNRP’s report to the Metropolitan King County Council for final approval.
8. Award under all categories must be conditioned upon the control and removal of invasive plant species on the property within a three-year period. Such control and removal is mandatory for the property to qualify as credited open space. Failure to meet this condition will cause disenrollment of the property from the PBRS program.
9. Approval of 10 points and a current use valuation of 50% of assessed value for 2.17 acres is consistent with KCC chapter 20.36 and with the purposes and intent of King County to maintain, preserve, conserve, and otherwise continue in existence adequate open space lands and to assure the use and enjoyment of natural resources and scenic beauty for the economic and social well-being of King County and its citizens.

RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE a current use valuation of 50% of assessed value for a 2.17-acre enrolled portion of 727310-0153, CONTINGENT on submittal, by **November 1, 2025**, of a resource restoration plan, and subsequent DNRP approval of that plan by **December 31, 2025**.

DATED March 13, 2025.



David Spohr
King County Hearing Examiner

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

A party may appeal an Examiner report and recommendation by following the steps described in KCC 20.22.230. By **4:30 p.m.** on **April 7, 2025**, an electronic appeal statement must be sent to Clerk.Council@kingcounty.gov, to hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov, and to the party email addresses on the front page of this report and recommendation. Please consult KCC 20.22.230 for the exact filing requirements.

If a party fails to timely file an appeal, the Council does not have jurisdiction to consider that appeal. Conversely, if the appeal requirements of KCC 20.22.230 are met, the Examiner will notify parties and interested persons and will provide information about next steps in the appeal process.

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2025, HEARING ON THE APPLICATION OF
ANNA MITROS AND SETH LAFORGE,
FILE NO. E24CT011**

David Spohr was the Hearing Examiner in this matter. Bill Bernstein participated in the hearing.

The following exhibits were offered and entered into the hearing record:

Exhibit no. 1	DNRP report to the Hearing Examiner
Exhibit no. 2	<i>Reserved for future submission of the affidavit of hearing publication</i>
Exhibit no. 3	Legal notice and introductory ordinance to the King County Council
Exhibit no. 4	Arcview/orthophotograph and aerial map
Exhibit no. 5	Application signed and notarized



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2024-0416.1

Sponsors von Reichbauer

- 1 A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of
- 2 Sercan Hepsener, who resides in council district seven, to
- 3 the King County immigrant and refugee commission.
- 4 BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
- 5 The county executive's appointment of Sercan Hepsener, who resides in council
- 6 district seven, to the King County immigrant and refugee commission, for a partial term

7 to expire on September 30, 2025, is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None



King County

Metropolitan King County Council Committee of the Whole

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Items:	5 and 6	Name:	Melissa Bailey
Proposed No.:	2024-0416 and 2024-0417	Date:	March 25, 2025

SUBJECT

Proposed Motions that would confirm the Executive's appointment of the following persons to the King County Immigrant and Refugee Commission:

- Sercan Hepsener, who resides in Council District Seven, to a partial term to expire September 30, 2025 (Proposed Motion 2024-0416), and
- Wahid Bihroz, who resides in Council District Seven, to a partial term to expire September 30, 2026 (Proposed Motion 2024-0417).

BACKGROUND

In 2018, the King County Immigrant and Refugee Commission (Commission) was established to act as "the focal point for connecting a broad group of stakeholders to identify, elevate and develop shared strategies and solutions, streamline and strengthen efforts, and bring more resources to the most pressing issues affecting immigrant and refugee communities."¹ The Commission also focuses on understanding and addressing challenges faced by immigrant and refugee communities living in suburban cities and unincorporated areas of the county. A non-exhaustive list of the Commission's duties is provided in K.C.C. 2.78.020.

The Commission is comprised of thirteen members with the following membership requirements²:

- A diversity of members reflecting a range of ethnicities, professional backgrounds, socioeconomic status, and places of origin to reflect the diversity of the county's immigrant and refugee communities;
- All members must be residents of King County;
- All members shall demonstrate active and engaged civic participation in one or more immigrant and refugee communities and be well versed on the issues affecting those communities;
- Membership shall reflect gender diversity;

¹ Ordinance 18653 and King County Code Chapter 2.78

² K.C.C. 2.78.030

- At least six members shall be from suburban cities or unincorporated areas;
- At least three members shall have had personal experiences as a refugee or asylee from any location worldwide;
- Membership shall represent a range of age groups, including persons representing youth issues;
- At least five members shall represent and be appointed by an immigrant-led organization serving immigrant communities and of these representatives at least three members shall represent and be appointed by a small grass-roots community-based organization that has an annual budget of less than two-hundred fifty thousand dollars, that supports the needs of distinct immigrant and refugee communities and is composed predominantly of members of those communities;
- At least one member should have familiarity with King County government, systems, and agencies; and
- Persons representing faith-based organizations are encouraged to apply.

Additionally, the Commission may include four nonvoting members who shall be community leaders actively engaged with local government, business, or philanthropic organizations, and add value to the Commission and raise its visibility and capacity through their expertise, relationships, and networks.

Per the County Code, appointments to the Commission are subject to Council confirmation. Passage of the proposed motions would fulfill this requirement.

APPOINTEE INFORMATION

Appointee Hepsener. Proposed Motion 2024-0416 would confirm the appointment of Sercan Hepsener, who resides in Council District Seven, for a partial term to expire on September 30, 2025. He would serve on the Commission as an individual.

According to his application materials, Appointee Hepsener moved to the United States about 11 years ago from Türkiye.³ He spent his first year in San Diego, California where he attended a language school. Appointee Hepsener then moved to Washington State for graduate school to study business administration. As noted in his application, he connects with people from all over the world by attending events held by InterNations.⁴ He is also active in the Turkish community and attends Turkfest⁵ as well as picnics organized by the Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington (TACAWA).⁶ He has experience volunteering at community festivals and celebrations, such as the Georgetown Carnival and Fremont Fair.

When asked about the most pressing issues facing his community, he shared that Turks have often been mischaracterized and seen as "other." In his application, he notes that

³ Turkey, officially the Republic of Türkiye.

⁴ InterNations is an international community for people who live and work abroad. According to its website, it offers global networking opportunities, local events, and expat-relevant information. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁵ TurkFest is an annual festival and is part of the Seattle Center Festál series. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁶ TACAWA is a non-profit organization serving the Turkish American community in the Pacific Northwest since 1973. [\[LINK\]](#)

he would like to help find ways for his community to feel included as part of the wider community of King County.

Appointee Bihroz. Proposed Motion 2024-0417 would confirm the appointment of Wahid Bihroz, who resides in Council District Seven, for a partial term to expire on September 30, 2026. He would serve on the Commission as a representative for an immigrant-led organization, Kabul Washington Bridge, which has a budget below \$250,000.

In his application materials, Appointee Bihroz notes that through his work, he has gained a comprehensive understanding of the needs and challenges faced by immigrants and refugees and has developed strong connections within the community.⁷ He states that he has experience collaborating "with local housing agencies, landlords, and community organizations to secure suitable housing options and navigate the complexities of the rental market." He has also facilitated workshops and information sessions to educate immigrants and refugees about their rights and responsibilities as tenants. Additionally, he has "actively engaged with local policymakers, community leaders, and stakeholders to address systemic barriers and promote policies that support the integration and success of immigrant and refugees."

Appointee Bihroz states in his application that he is "dedicated to fostering a sense of belonging and inclusivity by connecting individuals to vital services, such as housing, education, healthcare, and employment opportunities."

ANALYSIS

Staff has not identified any issues with the proposed appointments. They appear to be consistent with the requirements in the County Code.

INVITED

- Sercan Hepsener, Appointee, Immigrant and Refugee Commission
- Wahid Bihroz, Appointee, Immigrant and Refugee Commission
- Dae Shogren, King County Council, Staff Liaison, Immigrant and Refugee Commission
- Brian Chu, OERSJ, Staff Liaison, Immigrant and Refugee Commission

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2024-0416
2. Transmittal Letter
3. Proposed Motion 2024-0417
4. Transmittal Letter

⁷ At the time he applied to the Commission, Appointee Bihroz served as a Housing Coordinator with the International Rescue Committee and the Executive Director of Kabul Washington Association (now called Kabul Seattle Community Services). Executive staff have confirmed that his current affiliation is with Kabul Washington Bridge.



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2024-0417.1

Sponsors von Reichbauer

- 1 A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of
- 2 Wahid Bihroz, who resides in council district seven, to the
- 3 King County immigrant and refugee commission.
- 4 BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
- 5 The county executive's appointment of Wahid Bihroz, who resides in council
- 6 district seven, to the King County immigrant and refugee commission, for a partial term

7 to expire on September 30, 2026, is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None



King County

Metropolitan King County Council Committee of the Whole

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Items:	5 and 6	Name:	Melissa Bailey
Proposed No.:	2024-0416 and 2024-0417	Date:	March 25, 2025

SUBJECT

Proposed Motions that would confirm the Executive's appointment of the following persons to the King County Immigrant and Refugee Commission:

- Sercan Hepsener, who resides in Council District Seven, to a partial term to expire September 30, 2025 (Proposed Motion 2024-0416), and
- Wahid Bihroz, who resides in Council District Seven, to a partial term to expire September 30, 2026 (Proposed Motion 2024-0417).

BACKGROUND

In 2018, the King County Immigrant and Refugee Commission (Commission) was established to act as "the focal point for connecting a broad group of stakeholders to identify, elevate and develop shared strategies and solutions, streamline and strengthen efforts, and bring more resources to the most pressing issues affecting immigrant and refugee communities."¹ The Commission also focuses on understanding and addressing challenges faced by immigrant and refugee communities living in suburban cities and unincorporated areas of the county. A non-exhaustive list of the Commission's duties is provided in K.C.C. 2.78.020.

The Commission is comprised of thirteen members with the following membership requirements²:

- A diversity of members reflecting a range of ethnicities, professional backgrounds, socioeconomic status, and places of origin to reflect the diversity of the county's immigrant and refugee communities;
- All members must be residents of King County;
- All members shall demonstrate active and engaged civic participation in one or more immigrant and refugee communities and be well versed on the issues affecting those communities;
- Membership shall reflect gender diversity;

¹ Ordinance 18653 and King County Code Chapter 2.78

² K.C.C. 2.78.030

- At least six members shall be from suburban cities or unincorporated areas;
- At least three members shall have had personal experiences as a refugee or asylee from any location worldwide;
- Membership shall represent a range of age groups, including persons representing youth issues;
- At least five members shall represent and be appointed by an immigrant-led organization serving immigrant communities and of these representatives at least three members shall represent and be appointed by a small grass-roots community-based organization that has an annual budget of less than two-hundred fifty thousand dollars, that supports the needs of distinct immigrant and refugee communities and is composed predominantly of members of those communities;
- At least one member should have familiarity with King County government, systems, and agencies; and
- Persons representing faith-based organizations are encouraged to apply.

Additionally, the Commission may include four nonvoting members who shall be community leaders actively engaged with local government, business, or philanthropic organizations, and add value to the Commission and raise its visibility and capacity through their expertise, relationships, and networks.

Per the County Code, appointments to the Commission are subject to Council confirmation. Passage of the proposed motions would fulfill this requirement.

APPOINTEE INFORMATION

Appointee Hepsener. Proposed Motion 2024-0416 would confirm the appointment of Sercan Hepsener, who resides in Council District Seven, for a partial term to expire on September 30, 2025. He would serve on the Commission as an individual.

According to his application materials, Appointee Hepsener moved to the United States about 11 years ago from Türkiye.³ He spent his first year in San Diego, California where he attended a language school. Appointee Hepsener then moved to Washington State for graduate school to study business administration. As noted in his application, he connects with people from all over the world by attending events held by InterNations.⁴ He is also active in the Turkish community and attends Turkfest⁵ as well as picnics organized by the Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington (TACAWA).⁶ He has experience volunteering at community festivals and celebrations, such as the Georgetown Carnival and Fremont Fair.

When asked about the most pressing issues facing his community, he shared that Turks have often been mischaracterized and seen as "other." In his application, he notes that

³ Turkey, officially the Republic of Türkiye.

⁴ InterNations is an international community for people who live and work abroad. According to its website, it offers global networking opportunities, local events, and expat-relevant information. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁵ TurkFest is an annual festival and is part of the Seattle Center Festál series. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁶ TACAWA is a non-profit organization serving the Turkish American community in the Pacific Northwest since 1973. [\[LINK\]](#)

he would like to help find ways for his community to feel included as part of the wider community of King County.

Appointee Bihroz. Proposed Motion 2024-0417 would confirm the appointment of Wahid Bihroz, who resides in Council District Seven, for a partial term to expire on September 30, 2026. He would serve on the Commission as a representative for an immigrant-led organization, Kabul Washington Bridge, which has a budget below \$250,000.

In his application materials, Appointee Bihroz notes that through his work, he has gained a comprehensive understanding of the needs and challenges faced by immigrants and refugees and has developed strong connections within the community.⁷ He states that he has experience collaborating "with local housing agencies, landlords, and community organizations to secure suitable housing options and navigate the complexities of the rental market." He has also facilitated workshops and information sessions to educate immigrants and refugees about their rights and responsibilities as tenants. Additionally, he has "actively engaged with local policymakers, community leaders, and stakeholders to address systemic barriers and promote policies that support the integration and success of immigrant and refugees."

Appointee Bihroz states in his application that he is "dedicated to fostering a sense of belonging and inclusivity by connecting individuals to vital services, such as housing, education, healthcare, and employment opportunities."

ANALYSIS

Staff has not identified any issues with the proposed appointments. They appear to be consistent with the requirements in the County Code.

INVITED

- Sercan Hepsener, Appointee, Immigrant and Refugee Commission
- Wahid Bihroz, Appointee, Immigrant and Refugee Commission
- Dae Shogren, King County Council, Staff Liaison, Immigrant and Refugee Commission
- Brian Chu, OERSJ, Staff Liaison, Immigrant and Refugee Commission

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2024-0416
2. Transmittal Letter
3. Proposed Motion 2024-0417
4. Transmittal Letter

⁷ At the time he applied to the Commission, Appointee Bihroz served as a Housing Coordinator with the International Rescue Committee and the Executive Director of Kabul Washington Association (now called Kabul Seattle Community Services). Executive staff have confirmed that his current affiliation is with Kabul Washington Bridge.



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2025-0015.1

Sponsors Perry

- 1 A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of
- 2 Nandita Sharma, who resides in council district three, to the
- 3 King County women's advisory board, as an executive at-
- 4 large representative.
- 5 BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
- 6 The county executive's appointment of Nandita Sharma, who resides in council
- 7 district three, to the King County women's advisory board, as an executive at-large

- 8 representative, for a partial term to expire on July 1, 2025, is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None



King County

Metropolitan King County Council Health and Human Services Committee

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	5	Name:	Sam Porter
Proposed No.:	2025-0015	Date:	April 1, 2025

SUBJECT

Proposed Motion to confirm the appointment of Nandita Sharma, who lives in Council District 3, to the King County Women's Advisory Board as an Executive at-large representative, for a partial term to expire on July 1, 2025.¹

BACKGROUND

Described in King County Code 2.30, the Women's Advisory Board (WAB) was created to act in an advisory capacity to the King County Executive, the County Council, and make recommendations to ensure the needs, rights, and well-being of women in King County are taken into account in the development and implementation of legislation, policies, programs, and funding. The duties of the WAB are described in K.C.C. 2.30.010 as:

- A. To assess the needs of women in King County and make recommendations regarding how best to meet their unmet needs;
- B. To review county programs serving women, including their budgets, and recommend ways that these programs can be more responsive to the needs of women and more effective in meeting women's needs;
- C. To work with community members and service agencies, to identify, develop, and promote programs that will improve the status and well-being of women;
- D. To act as a proponent within county government to improve the status of women;
- E. To make recommendations to the county council and to the county executive on legislation, policies, programs and funding necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter;
- F. To inform and educate the public regarding the status of women and policies and programs that may affect the status and well-being of women.

¹ Proposed Motion 2025-0015

G. To work with other county boards and commissions, including the children and family commission, to further the purposes of the women's advisory board.

H. To submit an annual report during the first quarter of each year to the executive and council which summarizes the board's accomplishments, identifies recommendations from the past year's work and includes the board's work program for the coming year.

The King County WAB has fifteen members, one nominated from each Council District and six at-large members, of whom four shall be nominated by the Council and two shall be nominated by the Executive. All nominations shall represent a diversity of age, area of residence, profession, and race and ethnicity. Membership cannot include employees or board members of agencies receiving funding through the women's program. Nominees shall be appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council by motion.

APPOINTEE INFORMATION

Nandita Sharma is a Lead Principal Product Manager for AI and Copilot at Microsoft, and currently serves on Microsoft's Diversity and Inclusion Committee and on the Women in E+D Employee Resource Group. According to her application materials, Ms. Sharma has, "led initiatives that improve diverse hiring, help hybrid work environment to support work life balance, provide a learning environment, and enhance growth opportunities for women at work." Additionally, Ms. Sharma states that she is, "particularly passionate about economic justice, gender-based violence, education and workforce development, and I am eager to bring this passion to the board's work."

ANALYSIS

Staff has not identified any issues with the proposed appointment which appears to be consistent with King County Code requirements.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2025-0015
2. Transmittal Letter
3. WAB Board Profile dated January 14, 2025



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2025-0074.1

Sponsors Quinn

- 1 A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of
- 2 Asia Tail, who resides in council district five, to the King
- 3 County cultural development authority (4Culture), as an
- 4 executive at-large representative.
- 5 BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
- 6 The county executive's appointment of Asia Tail, who resides in council district
- 7 five, to the King County cultural development authority (4Culture), as an executive at-

8 large representative, for a three-year term to expire on December 31, 2027, is hereby
9 confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None



King County

Metropolitan King County Council Committee of the Whole

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	7	Name:	Gene Paul
Proposed No.:	2025-0074	Date:	March 25, 2025

SUBJECT

A motion confirming Asia Tail to the 4Culture Board of Directors.

SUMMARY

Proposed Motion 2025-0074 would confirm the appointment of Asia Tail as an Executive at-large appointment to Position 10 of the 4Culture Board for the remainder of the three-year term expiring on December 31, 2027. This is Ms. Tail's first appointment to the 4Culture Board. She is an artist, a co-founder and executive director of yəhaw' Indigenous Creatives Collective, and her application materials describe her as a citizen of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma who was born and raised on Coast Salish territories.

Council staff analysis has determined that the appointment meets the board member criteria established in the 4Culture Charter. In addition, the appointment was nominated and appointed consistent with the process established in the 4Culture Charter and Bylaws.

BACKGROUND

4Culture. 4Culture, King County's Cultural Public Development Authority (PDA), was established in 2002 to administer King County's arts and heritage programs. 4Culture replaced the functions of the County's former Office of Cultural Resources in order to exercise the powers vested in PDAs under state law and realize operating efficiencies through operating independently of county government.¹ 4Culture is currently supported by 37.5 percent of the proceeds from the King County lodging (hotel/motel) tax and the cultural access sales tax, which supports the Doors Open Program.

¹ Ordinance 14482, enacted October 1, 2002. [\[LINK\]](#)

4Culture's name was derived from its four original cultural programs. A fifth cultural program was added through the Doors Open Program in 2024, but 4Culture retained its name. The cultural programs include:

- **Arts.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for individual artists, groups, and community organizations.
- **Heritage.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for organizations focused on building the historical record, preserving and enhancing the character of the region, and sharing local heritage resources.
- **Preservation.** 4Culture provides project, capital, and operating support to aid in the historic preservation of buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes. The organization also provides support for heritage tourism for King County communities.
- **Public Art.** 4Culture manages the County's 1% for Art program and manages arts installations throughout the county for new capital construction projects.
- **Science and Technology.** This fifth cultural area was added through the Doors Open Program. 4Culture provides capital and operating support to eligible organizations that have an explicit focus on science or technology.

4Culture Board. Per 4Culture Charter² and Bylaws³, 4Culture is governed by a fifteen-member Board of Directors. Directors are to have a demonstrated commitment to and knowledge of cultural resources, be active and experienced in community and civic issues and concerns and have the ability to evaluate the needs of cultural constituencies in the region as a whole.

Directors are to represent a range of talents, experience, backgrounds, and viewpoints and to be sought from a range of: professional artists; arts administrators; architects; landscape architects; administrators, professionals and specialists in heritage and historic preservation; administrators, professionals and specialists in cultural education; urban planners and designers; attorneys; community arts and heritage activists; business professionals; and the community at large. Directors must be residents of King County and are to be chosen to reflect the geographic and cultural diversity of the County.⁴

In March 2018⁵ and again in December 2019⁶, the appointment process for the 4Culture Board changed to the following:

- Position 1 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 1;
- Position 2 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 2;

² Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A. [\[LINK\]](#)

³ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment B. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁴ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.2.B. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁵ Ordinance 18684, enacted March 21, 2018. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁶ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019. [\[LINK\]](#)

- Position 3 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 3;
- Position 4 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 4;
- Position 5 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 5;
- Position 6 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 6;
- Position 7 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 7;
- Position 8 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 8;
- Position 9 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 9; and
- Positions 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 are to be appointed by the County Executive.⁷

Appointments are subject to confirmation by the Council by motion.⁸ Board members may begin serving as voting members upon confirmation by the Council.⁹ Board members serve for terms of three years and may serve up to two consecutive full terms, where a partial term of two years or more shall be deemed one full term.¹⁰ Board members are allowed to continue to serve in the position for which the term has expired and a successor has not been duly appointed and confirmed by the Council.¹¹

In addition to the fifteen board members, 4Culture has five ex-officio board members which include one member of the Executive staff, three County Councilmembers, and the 4Culture Executive Director.¹²

Doors Open Program. In December 2023, the Council established the King County Doors Open Program to support cultural organizations. Doors Open is funded through a one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) sales and use tax imposed by the County for seven years beginning in April 2024 and ending in March 2031.¹³ The total revenues collected for the program are forecasted to be approximately \$716 million for all seven years (approximately \$100 million per year on average).¹⁴

Under the Doors Open Program, the 4Culture Board is responsible for advising, monitoring, and providing oversight of the program for achieving the general public, equity inclusion, and geographic inclusion public benefits associated with the program. Under the implementation plan, the 4Culture Board is responsible for the final review and approval of all grant awards.¹⁵ The ordinance does not establish any additional

⁷ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.2.D. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁸ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.2.E. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁹ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment B, Section 1.4. [\[LINK\]](#)

¹⁰ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.3. [\[LINK\]](#)

¹¹ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment B, Section 1.5. [\[LINK\]](#)

¹² Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.8. [\[LINK\]](#)

¹³ Ordinance 19710, enacted December 18, 2023. [\[LINK\]](#)

¹⁴ King County Office of Economic and Financial Analysis's August 2024 forecast [\[LINK\]](#)

¹⁵ Ordinance 19868, enacted December 9, 2024, Attachment B, Section 2.J [\[LINK\]](#)

advisory body for the Doors Open Program, however, the 4Culture Board may create one or more committees to advise on issues relevant to the program.¹⁶

APPOINTEE INFORMATION

Asia Tail is an artist, community organizer, and arts administrator. According to application materials, she is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma who was born and raised on Coast Salish territories. Ms. Tail is the co-founder and executive director of yəhaw' Indigenous Creatives Collective, "a community of intertribal Indigenous artists rematriating 1.5 acres of land in South Seattle."¹⁷ The collective works to "improve Indigenous well-being through art-making, community buildings, and equitable creative opportunities."¹⁸ She also works as a freelance consultant with cross-sector organizations to channel resources to Indigenous communities. She has previously served as an Arts and Culture Consultant for the City of Tacoma's Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality, as a Program Manager for the Native Action Network, and as a Program Officer for the Seattle Foundation. Throughout those roles, Ms. Tail managed programs and funding portfolios, coordinated application and selection processes for artist grant awards, and implemented practices focusing on equity for BIPOC artists and communities. She has also served on the City of Seattle's Indigenous Advisory Council, which advises Seattle's Mayor, City Council, and departments on policies, budgets, programs and services directly affecting Indigenous populations.¹⁹

ANALYSIS

Proposed Motion 2025-0074 would confirm the appointment of Asia Tail as an Executive at-large appointment to the 4Culture Board Position 10 for the remainder of the three-year term expiring on December 31, 2027. This is Ms. Tail's first appointment to the 4Culture Board.

Council staff analysis has determined that the appointment meets the board member criteria established in the 4Culture Charter. In addition, the appointment was nominated and appointed consistent with the process established in the 4Culture Charter and Bylaws.

INVITED

- Asia Tail, Appointee to the 4Culture Board
- Claire Miccio, Government and Community Relations Manager, 4Culture

¹⁶ Ordinance 19710, enacted December 18, 2023, Section 4.B.5. [\[LINK\]](#)

¹⁷ "About Us," yəhaw' Indigenous Creatives Collective. The website includes an audio clip to hear how to pronounce the Lushootseed word yəhaw' that means "to proceed, go forward, do the work." [\[LINK\]](#)

¹⁸ "About Us," yəhaw' Indigenous Creatives Collective.

¹⁹ "About Us," City of Seattle Indigenous Advisory Council [\[LINK\]](#)

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2025-0074
2. Transmittal Letter



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2025-0087.1

Sponsors Dunn

- 1 A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of
- 2 Paul Graves, who resides in council district nine, to the
- 3 Harborview Medical Center board of trustees, as the district
- 4 nine representative.
- 5 BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
- 6 The county executive's appointment of Paul Graves, who resides in council
- 7 district nine, to the Harborview Medical Center board of trustees, as the district nine

8 representative, for the remainder of a four-year term to expire on July 31, 2028, is hereby
9 confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None



King County

Metropolitan King County Council Committee of the Whole

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	8	Name:	Sam Porter
Proposed No.:	2025-0087	Date:	March 25, 2025

SUBJECT

A Proposed Motion to confirm the appointment of Paul Graves as the District Nine representative to the Harborview Medical Center Board of Trustees, for the remainder of a four-year term to expire on July 31, 2028.

BACKGROUND

Harborview Medical Center (HMC) serves as the only Level 1 trauma center in the four-state region of Washington, Alaska, Idaho, and Montana. Harborview prioritizes serving the 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. HMC is owned by King County and operated by the University of Washington. The hospital is governed by the 13-member Board of Trustees. The Board, as the representative authority of the County, is entrusted to oversee the provision of health care services to assure that the county's priorities are addressed, and high-quality health care is made available to County residents irrespective of their ability to pay. Board membership is comprised of one member from each Council district and four at-large members. Nominees are appointed by the King County Executive and confirmed by the Council by motion.¹

In accordance with King County Code 2.42, an effort should be made to assure that diverse geographic, social, cultural, ethnic, racial and economic backgrounds and perspectives are considered for candidate appointments. Candidates should possess demonstrated leadership ability, and recognized experience in management or administration, planning, finance, health service delivery, consumer representation or institutional operation; and the ability to work cooperatively with others of diverse backgrounds and philosophies. During the two years prior to appointment, candidates must not have held a salaried position in County government or any organization that holds a contract with the Hospital. Further, candidates must not be employed in a managerial capacity by or serve on the board of a UW Medicine competitor.

¹ K.C.C. 2.42.040

APPOINTEE INFORMATION

Paul Graves. Mr. Graves works as an attorney for Oak Harbor Freight Lines and serves as president of Enterprise Washington, a research and strategy nonprofit, “aimed at creating an atmosphere in which lawmakers work proactively to help Washington’s private sector thrive.”² Mr. Graves previously served in the Washington House of Representatives, for the 5th Legislative District, and as the House Republican Caucus Appointee to the 2021-22 Washington State Redistricting Commission.

ANALYSIS

Staff has not identified any issues with the proposed appointments which appears to be consistent with King County Code requirements.

INVITED

- Paul Graves, Appointee

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2025-0087
2. Transmittal Letter
3. HMC Board of Trustees Profile, dated February 2025

² Enterprise Washington, <https://enterprisewashington.org/>



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2025-0099.2

Sponsors Zahilay

1 A MOTION confirming the appointment of LeAnn Blanco
2 to the citizens' elections oversight committee as a
3 representative sponsored by a junior taxing district or a city
4 with a population of under twenty thousand.

5 WHEREAS, King County is committed to conducting open, accurate and fair
6 elections, and

7 WHEREAS, the city of Enumclaw, a junior taxing district with a population of
8 under twenty thousand, has identified LeAnn Blanco to represent the district on the
9 citizens' elections oversight committee, and

10 WHEREAS, the citizens' elections oversight committee helps to ensure that
11 accountability and performance of the department of elections is provided in a transparent
12 manner that is meaningful to King County residents, and

13 WHEREAS, in accordance with K.C.C. 2.53.021, the employment and
14 administration committee appoints members to the citizens' elections oversight
15 committee, and

16 WHEREAS, in accordance with K.C.C. 2.53.021, appointments to the citizens'
17 elections oversight committee are subject to confirmation by the full council by motion,
18 and

19 WHEREAS, on April 1, 2025, in accordance with K.C.C. 2.53.021, the
20 employment and administration committee appointed LeAnn Blanco to the citizens'

21 elections oversight committee to fill the vacant position for a representative sponsored by
22 a junior taxing district or a city with a population of under twenty thousand for the
23 remainder of that position's three-year term, to expire on May 26, 2025, and to a new
24 three-year term, to expire on May 26, 2028;

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

26 The appointment of LeAnn Blanco to the citizens' elections oversight committee
27 as a representative sponsored by a junior taxing district or a city with a population of
28 under twenty thousand position for the remainder of that position's three-year term, to

29 expire on May 26, 2025, and to a new three-year term, to expire on May 26, 2028, is
30 confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None



King County

Metropolitan King County Council Employment and Administration Committee

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	4	Name:	Sherrie Hsu
Proposed No.:	2025-0099	Date:	April 1, 2025

Proposed Substitute Motion 2025-0099.2, which would fill a position on the Citizens' Elections Oversight Committee for a representative sponsored by a junior taxing district or city with a population of under twenty thousand, passed out of committee on April 1, 2025 with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion was amended in committee with an oral amendment that inserted the name LeAnn Blanco on lines 8, 20, and 26 of the proposed motion, and to insert City of Enumclaw on line 7 of the proposed motion. The motion as also amended by a title amendment to insert the name LeAnn Blanco on line 1 of the proposed motion.

SUBJECT

The proposed motion would confirm an appointment to the Citizens' Elections Oversight Committee for a representative sponsored by a junior taxing district or a city with a population of under twenty thousand, to fill the unexpired term expiring May 26, 2025, and to a new three-year term expiring May 26, 2028.

BACKGROUND

The current Citizens' Elections Oversight Committee (CEOC) was established by the King County Council in May 2006, under Ordinance 15453.¹ Duties and membership for the CEOC are outlined in King County Code chapter 2.53.

In September 2018,² the Council took action to update the membership of the CEOC. In addition to increasing the number of and changing the composition of CEOC members, the ordinance changed the mission of the committee to "help King County maintain public confidence in elections."

Under King County Code chapter 2.53, sixteen members represent named types of organizations or sectors of the community, including two at-large King County registered

¹ Previously, Council had created a CEOC in July 2003 (Ordinance 14711) and a CEOC in April 2005 (Ordinance 15157); each met for one year and produced a report with recommendations.

² Ordinance 18795

voters, and one ex-officio, nonvoting member representing the Secretary of State's office. Under the Code, appointments and reappointments to the CEOC are subject to review by the Employment and Administration Committee, who make a recommendation to the full Council for final confirmation, via motion.

Table 1 lists the current membership of the CEOC and the organization or constituency they represent.

Table 1: CEOC Membership as of April 2025

Member	Organization/Constituency
Eliseo Juárez Chair	Spanish-speaking community
Mathew Patrick Thomas Vice Chair, Election Monitoring	King County Republican Party
Hillary De La Cruz	Registered voters
Mike Flood	Municipal League Foundation
Hanna Floss	King County Democratic Party
Tyson Hartman	Representative who has experience in technology
Christopher Hays	Registered voters
Stuart Holmes	Office of Secretary of State
Julie Kang	Korean-speaking community
Jason Lambacher	Academic institution with knowledge of elections
Kathy Sakahara	League of Women Voters
Carolyn Stevens	Disability community
Stanley Tsao	Chinese-speaking community
<i>Vacant</i>	Jurisdictional representative
<i>Vacant</i>	Vietnamese-speaking community
<i>Vacant</i>	Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle

APPOINTMENT APPLICANT INFORMATION

Proposed Motion 2025-0099 would appoint a candidate to the CEOC as a representative sponsored by a junior taxing district or a city with a population of under twenty thousand, to fill the unexpired term expiring May 26, 2025, and to a new three-year term expiring May 26, 2028.

The position has been vacant since January 2025, when the former appointee moved outside of King County. The Council provided notice of the vacancy and accepted applications to fill the position from January 13 through February 14, 2025. Two applications were received. An application review subcommittee conducted interviews and recommended that both candidates be interviewed by the Employment and Administration Committee (EAC). The EAC intends to interview the following two candidates at the April 1, 2025 meeting.

- LeAnn Blanco is currently a board member for the City of Enumclaw. LeAnn Blanco would be sponsored by the City of Enumclaw, and the application materials include a letter of support from the Mayor of the City of Enumclaw.
- Nick Jensen is currently Vice Chair for North Bend's Economic Development Committee. Nick Jensen would be sponsored by the City of North Bend, and the application materials include a letter of support from the Mayor of the City of North Bend.

ANALYSIS

Staff has not identified any issues with the proposed appointment. It appears to be consistent with the requirements of the County Code.

AMENDMENT

An oral amendment would be required to insert the name of the appointee on line 8, line 20, and line 26 of the proposed motion, and to insert the name of the sponsoring taxing district or city on line 7 of the proposed motion.

An oral title amendment would be required to insert the name of the appointee on line 1 of the proposed motion.



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2025-0100.1

Sponsors Zahilay

1 A MOTION approving a job description for the position of
2 director of the office of law enforcement oversight; and
3 rescinding Motion 15790 and Motion 15790, Attachment
4 A.

5 WHEREAS, Section 265 of the King County Charter required the council to
6 establish the office of law enforcement oversight ("OLEO") within the legislative branch
7 of King County, and

8 WHEREAS, in October 2006, the council adopted and the executive signed
9 Ordinance 15611, which codified OLEO under K.C.C. chapter 2.75, and

10 WHEREAS, the council desires to update the job description for the position of
11 the director of OLEO;

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

13 A. The job description of the director of the office of law enforcement oversight
14 is approved as Attachment A to this motion.

15 B. Motion 15790 and Attachment A to Motion 15790 are rescinded.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: A. OLEO Director job description revised 04012025

Metropolitan King County Council

Position Descriptions



Position: OLEO Director	FLSA: salaried, overtime exempt
Department: Office of Law Enforcement Oversight (OLEO)	Salary Grade: 134
Council Approved: December 15, 2020	Revised: April 1, 2025

Classification Summary

The OLEO Director is appointed by the King County Council for a four-year term and is subject to reappointment per the provisions of the King County Charter and King County Code. This is a salaried, overtime-exempt classification. This position administratively reports to the Chair of the Council and functionally reports to the Council as a whole, with a dotted-line relationship to the Council Chief of Staff.

Distinguishing Features of this Position

Under King County Code Chapter 2.75, the OLEO Director serves as the lead administrator of the Office of Law Enforcement Oversight (OLEO), which is responsible for representing the interests of the public and increasing confidence in King County police services through independent civilian oversight of the King County Sheriff's Office and its employees.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Lead and manage OLEO in an independent and objective manner that is consistent with King County Code, governing codes of ethics, and equity and social justice principles.
- Provide leadership and management of OLEO's programs related to: receiving complaints and concerns about the Sheriff's Office; monitoring and reviewing sheriff's office investigations of misconduct and serious officer-involved incidents; administering or facilitating alternative dispute resolution processes between community members and officers; attending investigative interviews for internal investigations; conducting systemic reviews of the Sheriff's Office practices; making policy recommendations for improvement of Sheriff's Office practices; community engagement of those served by OLEO and the Sheriff's Office; and investigating complaints of the Sheriff's Office where permitted.
- Establish and ensure OLEO's timely access to information that is required to carry out its duties.
- Engage the various communities served by OLEO and the Sheriff's Office in a two-way exchange that allows for community input into OLEO's work and priorities, and facilitates the sharing of different perspectives between community members and the Sheriff's Office.
- Attend the scenes of serious officer-involved incidents, including deadly use of force and monitoring the subsequent investigation and Sheriff's Office review process.
- Coordinate with the Sheriff's Office in the development of all technology applications for tracking and information sharing regarding complaints, internal investigations, and systemic reviews.
- Receive recommendations from the Community Advisory Committee regarding the handling of allegations of misconduct in the Sheriff's Office, policies, procedures and practices of the director of law enforcement oversight, and public perceptions of the Sheriff's Office.

- Issue an annual report to the clerk of the council and council that includes a statistical analysis of complaints, investigative findings, and final discipline for sustained complaints.
- Serve as primary OLEO attendee at scenes of serious officer-involved incidents or in-custody deaths.
- Comply with the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the King County's Sheriff's Office and the King County Police Officers' Guild, including Article 22 of that agreement.
- Serve as a subject matter expert during labor negotiations between the King County Sheriff's Office and the King County Police Officers' Guild.
- Manage public records requests and disclosures.
- Perform other duties as needed to support the mission of OLEO.

Qualifications

Required Knowledge and Skills

- Well-developed human relations skills, emotional intelligence, and the ability to readily connect with diverse personalities and styles, establish harmony and cooperation, facilitate and moderate group discussions, prepare and deliver influential formal presentations to audiences that may offer argumentative discussion, often in frustrating situations, and carry out advanced negotiations and issue resolution with a variety of stakeholders in situations that may be sensitive, high risk and publicly visible.
- In-depth knowledge of County structure, functions, strategies, programs, policies, investigation processes, resolution of community member and employee-initiated complaints, transparency of the Sheriff's discipline and complaint handling processes and related community issues and challenges.
- Ability to prepare professional reports and presentations suitable for public communication and communication to a variety of stakeholders.
- Well-developed communications skills to present and discuss findings and recommendations and negotiate solutions with policy makers, executive management and other key stakeholders.
- Well-developed knowledge of, and skill in using personal computers, common desktop productivity software, relational databases, decision-sciences and simulation tools, and specialized research applications.
- Ability to understand statistical, financial, and economic analyses and evaluations.
- Professional knowledge of the principles, practices and methods of public sector program evaluation.
- Expertise at conducting thorough, objective investigations, and research and critically analyze issues.
- Knowledge of principles of trauma-informed care and practice and how to apply those principles, with the awareness that many people working in the field of police accountability have experienced trauma.
- Knowledge of policing operations, policies and training for a major urban area, demonstrated experience in law enforcement oversight in major urban area, and skilled or experience in negotiations, as these relate to collective bargaining agreements.
- Lived or direct experience with the criminal legal system.

Required Abilities

- Reputation for integrity and professionalism, and the ability to maintain a high standard of integrity and independence in the office.
- Navigate highly charged situations while maintaining the integrity and reputation of the office.
- Understanding and commitment to the responsibilities of the office.
- Demonstrated leadership and a history of effective management and administration.
- Ability to manage conflict in a constructive and positive manner.
- Earn the trust and respect of both the Sheriff's Office employees and the greater King County community.
- Work effectively with the executive, council, prosecuting attorney, and sheriff, as well as other public agencies, labor organizations, private organizations and community members.
- Open to innovation and new ideas.
- Sensitivity to and knowledge of the particular needs and concerns of historically underrepresented groups in the community and in law enforcement.
- Work under pressure on controversial issues and the ability to effectively communicate with diverse groups.
- Reputation for even-handedness and fairness in dealing with both complaints and regulated parties.
- Pass criminal background check prior to confirmation.
- Maintain appropriate confidentiality regarding investigations or as required by the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the King County Sheriff's Office and the King County Police Officers' Guild.

Supplemental Information:

Appointment by a majority vote of the King County Council. The King County Council shall consider reappointment of the Director at the end of each four-year term. The Director may be removed prior to the end of a four-year appointment for cause and upon a majority vote of the King County Council. Among other forms of cause is a determination that the Director failed to comply with the provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the King County Sheriff's Office and the King County Police Officers' Guild.

Education and Experience

Education and experience may be combined to demonstrate the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for this position.

- At least five (5) years of progressively responsible experience leading an organization and performing complex investigations or reviews related to personnel or labor issues, human or civil rights issues, or law enforcement related issues.
- Minimum of a bachelor's degree in a related field or Juris Doctorate will demonstrate sufficient formal education, but experience may be substituted for education.



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2025-0088.1

Sponsors Zahilay

1 A MOTION adopting the King County 2025 Federal
2 Legislative Priorities.

3 WHEREAS, the King County council and the King County executive work
4 together through their respective government relations staff and desire to bring their
5 positions on federal issues to the attention of the 119th Congress, and

6 WHEREAS, King County desires to work cooperatively with other local
7 governments and other organizations to achieve its 2025 federal legislative goals, and

8 WHEREAS, King County is dependent on a strong fiscal partnership with the
9 federal government for addressing local needs in transit, transportation, infrastructure,
10 public health, behavioral health, veterans and human services, affordable housing,
11 poverty, homelessness, public safety, flood control, and many other areas, and

12 WHEREAS, the King County council and the King County executive will
13 continue to review congressional developments for possible revisions of King County's
14 2025 federal legislative goals;

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

16 The King County council hereby adopts the King County 2025 Federal

- 17 Legislative Priorities, Attachment A to this motion, as King County's highest priorities
18 for federal action.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None



King County

Metropolitan King County Council Committee of the Whole

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	9	Name:	Mac Nicholson
Proposed No.:	2025-0088	Date:	March 25, 2025

SUBJECT

A Motion adopting the King County 2025 Federal Legislative Priorities.

SUMMARY

Proposed Motion 2025-0088 would adopt the 2025 Federal Legislative Priorities. The document is a statement of King County Federal policy priorities and provides direction to the County's Federal advocacy team.

BACKGROUND

Each year, King County develops Federal Legislative Priorities. The Council and the Executive work together through their respective government relations staff, and in consultation with County departments, to decide on the policy positions that are most important to bring to the attention of the U.S. Congress and Federal bureaucracy. These are then reduced to writing in the form of a Legislative Priorities document.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2025-0088



Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2025-0114.1

Sponsors Balducci and Barón

1 A MOTION appointing the King County executive.

2 WHEREAS, Dow Constantine resigned the position of King County executive
3 effective March 31, 2025, and

4 WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 680.10 of the King County Charter,
5 Shannon Braddock began serving as interim King County executive immediately upon
6 Dow Constantine's resignation, and

7 WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 680.10 of the King County Charter, on
8 April 1, 2025, the King County council selected Shannon Braddock to temporarily serve
9 as acting King County executive, and

10 WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 680.10 of the King County Charter and
11 pursuant to general law for nonpartisan county elective offices, the council shall appoint a
12 qualified person to hold the office of King County executive until a successor has been
13 elected at the general election on November 4, 2025, and the successor has been
14 qualified, and

15 WHEREAS, Shannon Braddock meets the qualifications to hold the office of
16 King County executive under Section 630 of the King County Charter;

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

18 The metropolitan King County council hereby appoints Shannon Braddock to
19 serve as the King County executive until a successor to the executive office has been

20 elected at the general election on November 4, 2025, and the successor has been
21 qualified.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None



Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2025-0116.1

Sponsors Dunn

1 A MOTION establishing a process for appointing the King
2 County executive.

3 WHEREAS, in 2024, Executive Constantine designated deputy executive
4 Shannon Braddock as his first choice to serve as the interim executive should he no
5 longer be able fulfill his duties as King County executive, and

6 WHEREAS, Dow Constantine resigned the position of King County executive
7 effective March 31, 2025, and

8 WHEREAS, by operation of the King County Charter, Shannon Braddock
9 became the interim King County executive on April 1, 2025, and

10 WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 680.10 of the King County Charter, on
11 April 1, 2025, the King County council selected Shannon Braddock to temporarily serve
12 as acting King County executive, and

13 WHEREAS, when Executive Constantine designated Shannon Braddock as his
14 preferred selection to serve as the interim executive, Executive Constantine also
15 designated, in order of precedence, Dwight Dively, Karan Gill, Whitney Abram, and
16 Jennifer Hills to serve as interim executive, should Ms. Braddock be unable to serve in
17 that position, and

18 WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 680.10 of the King County Charter and
19 pursuant to general law for nonpartisan county elective offices, the council shall appoint a
20 qualified person to hold the office of King County executive until a successor has been

21 elected at the general election on November 4, 2025, and the successor has been
22 qualified, and

23 WHEREAS, the challenges facing an appointed county executive during the
24 intervening months before the November election will be enormous and might include a
25 substantial budget shortfall as well as unprecedented uncertainty in the federal
26 government, and

27 WHEREAS, the council desires a recommendation from leaders within King
28 County to inform the council's deliberations on the matter of appointing the executive,
29 and

30 WHEREAS, the council previously established a blue-ribbon selection committee
31 to make recommendations on appointing a King County executive when the position last
32 became vacant in May 2009;

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

34 A. In order to inform the council's deliberations on appointing the King County
35 executive, a blue-ribbon selection committee is hereby established for the express
36 purpose of reviewing former executive Constantine's designees to serve as interim county
37 executive as eligible candidates for appointment to the office of county executive. The
38 committee shall establish an expedited process that will promptly inform the council's
39 final decision.

40 B. The committee shall consist of one mayor representing the southern third of
41 King County, one mayor representing the eastern third of King County, and the mayor of
42 Seattle, or designee, representing the western third of King County. The work of the

43 committee shall be facilitated by the chief of staff of the King County council who shall
44 also serve on the committee as an ex-officio member.

45 C. The appointed members of the committee are:

46 1. City of Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell, or designee, representing the western
47 third of King County;

48 2. Mayor _____, representing the southern third of King County;

49 3. Mayor _____, representing the eastern third of King County; and

50 4. Stephanie Cirkovich, chief of staff to the King County council. serving as
51 facilitator and ex-officio member.

52 D. The committee shall only review the qualifications of former executive
53 Constantine's designees to serve as interim King County executive in the designation of
54 July 10, 2024, Attachment A to this motion.

55 E. The committee shall meet no later than April 25, 2025, and shall electronically
56 file its recommendations to the council by May 7, 2025, with the clerk of the council,
57 who shall retain an electronic copy and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers.

58 F. The committee's recommendation shall include its top choice for serving as
59 the appointed King County executive and an alternate choice.

60 G. The committee's recommendation shall address the positions of the top choice
61 and alternative on substantive policy issues likely to arise during the remainder of 2025,
62 including, but not limited to:

63 1. Addressing the King County general fund budget deficit;

64 2. Maintaining operations of the youth jail and alternatives to confinement;

- 65 3. Public safety and criminal justice, including the operating level of the
66 sheriff's office;
- 67 4. Proposal and implementation of new taxes; and
- 68 5. Implementation and governance of major capital and operational expansions
69 including Harborview operations, the county hospital tax levy, and the Crisis Care
70 Centers levy.

- 71 H. It is the intent of the council to use the committee's recommendation to inform
72 its final decision when appointing the King County executive on May 13, 2025.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: A. Delegation of Authority During Absence of the Executive and Line of Succession

Return Address:

NORM ALBERG
201 S JACKSON ST
SEATTLE WA 98104



20250327000259

MISCELLANEOUS
3/27/2025 9:33 AM
KING COUNTY, WA

Rec: \$305.50

Please print or type information **WASHINGTON STATE RECORDER'S Cover Sheet** (RCW 65.04)

Document Title(s) (or transactions contained therein): (all areas applicable to your document must be filled in)

1. ~~WILL~~ LINE OF SUCCESSION 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____

Reference Number(s) of Documents assigned or released:

Additional reference #'s on page _____ of document

Grantor(s) Exactly as name(s) appear on document

1. NORM ALBERG, _____
2. _____, _____

Additional names on page _____ of document.

Grantee(s) Exactly as name(s) appear on document

1. PUBLIC, _____
2. _____, _____

Additional names on page _____ of document.

Legal description (abbreviated: i.e. lot, block, plat or section, township, range)

Additional legal is on page _____ of document.

Assessor's Property Tax Parcel/Account Number
assigned

☐ Assessor Tax # not yet

The Auditor/Recorder will rely on the information provided on this form. The staff will not read the document to verify the accuracy or completeness of the indexing information provided herein.

"I am signing below and paying an additional \$50 recording fee (as provided in RCW 36.18.010 and referred to as an emergency nonstandard document), because this document does not meet margin and formatting requirements. Furthermore, I hereby understand that the recording process may cover up or otherwise obscure some part of the text of the original document as a result of this request."

Signature of Requesting Party

Note to submitter: Do not sign above nor pay additional \$50 fee if the document meets margin/formatting requirements



King County

An Executive Order superseding Executive Order ACO 8-1-39-EO dated November 15, 2023, delegating authority when the Executive is absent and designating a line of succession in the event of a vacancy in the elective office of the County Executive.

WHEREAS, I, Dow Constantine, am the duly elected King County Executive, having assumed said position on November 24, 2009, and

WHEREAS, from time to time the King County Executive may be absent from King County or otherwise unavailable to sign official documents or take other official actions; and

WHEREAS, it will be necessary during those occasions for various official documents and ordinances to be signed to carry on King County's business and for various orders and directions to be given on behalf of the Executive; and

WHEREAS, the King County Executive may be unavailable to direct implementation of the King County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to satisfy Federal and Washington State legal requirements that the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan indicate the name of the individuals responsible for implementing the Plan during periods of natural or war-caused disaster; and

WHEREAS, in the event of an emergency, King County Code Section 12.52.030 delineates the emergency powers of the King County Executive after the Executive has formally proclaimed in writing the existence of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, Article 8, Section 850, of the King County Charter provides for the delegation of Executive powers and duties, except the veto power, to be assumed and carried out in the Executive's absence; and

WHEREAS, Article 6, Section 680.10, of the King County Charter requires the Executive to designate an interim official in the event of a vacancy in the elective office of the County Executive;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dow Constantine, King County Executive, do hereby order and direct that the following individuals are designated to act on my behalf in my absence and delegate to each my powers and duties, except the veto power, to be assumed and carried out by:

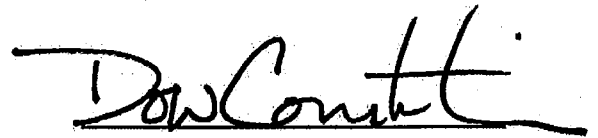
- (1) Deputy County Executive: Shannon Braddock
- (2) Chief Operating Officer/Director of Performance, Strategy and Budget: Dwight Dively
- (3) Chief People Officer: Whitney Abrams
- (4) Chief of Staff: Karan Gill

(5) Deputy Chief Operating Officer: Jennifer Hills

FURTHERMORE, I officially designate the following individuals to serve as interim County Executive in the event of a vacancy in the elective office of the County Executive:

- (1) Deputy County Executive: Shannon Braddock
- (2) Chief Operating Officer/Director of Performance, Strategy and Budget: Dwight Dively
- (3) Chief of Staff: Karan Gill
- (4) Chief People Officer: Whitney Abrams
- (5) Deputy Chief Operating Officer: Jennifer Hills

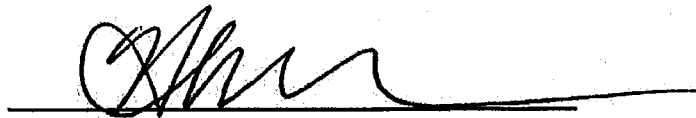
Dated and effective this 10 day of JULY, 2024



Dow Constantine

King County Executive

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 10 day of JULY, 2024.



Printed Name: HARRIETTE KILLHAM
NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the state of
Washington, residing at SEATTLE
My Commission Expires 3/8/2026





KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2025-0097.1

Sponsors Zahilay

- 1 A MOTION confirming the executive's reappointment of
- 2 Rita Alcantara, who resides in council district two, to the
- 3 King County children and youth advisory board.
- 4 BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
- 5 The county executive's reappointment of Rita Alcantara, who resides in council
- 6 district two, to the King County children and youth advisory board, for a three-year term

7 to expire on January 31, 2028, is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2025-0108.1

Sponsors Zahilay

- 1 A MOTION confirming the executive's reappointment of
- 2 Aaron Johnson, who resides in council district two, to the
- 3 King County children and youth advisory board.
- 4 BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
- 5 The county executive's reappointment of Aaron Johnson, who resides in council
- 6 district two, to the King County children and youth advisory board, for a three-year term

7 to expire on January 31, 2028, is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None