

January 29, 1987
0560B/DE/hdm

Introduced by: Greive, Gruger,
Laing

Proposed No.: 87-22

MOTION NO. 6730

A MOTION requesting the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to reconsider its decision regarding allocation of Section 8 Certificates and Housing Vouchers; directing the executive to forward copies of subject motion to the state congressional delegation.

WHEREAS, the 1987 King County Annual Action Plan, adopted by the county council Motion No. 6644 identifies nearly 37,000 renter households that are in need of housing assistance in addition to the hundreds of individuals with special housing needs, and

WHEREAS, King County's housing needs have diversified in recent years and the general population has increased substantially, factors which are not accounted for by HUD, and

WHEREAS, the needs of special populations are increasingly recognized by King County and limited resources must be further stretched to meet the housing needs of the mentally ill, alcohol and substance abusers, developmentally disabled and the homeless, and

WHEREAS, local emergency shelter providers report increases in the number of homeless individuals and families, and

WHEREAS, King County, Seattle, United Way, and shelter providers have previously cited a lack of affordable and appropriate housing as a cause of homelessness, and

WHEREAS, methodology used by United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to determine housing need does not account for changes in the economy or the housing market that affect the housing needs of lower income households in King County, and

1 WHEREAS, by oversimplifying the method of determining housing
2 need, HUD has demonstrated that King County has been overfunded in
3 relation to need since 1980, and

4 WHEREAS, the role of King County Housing Authority (HACK) is
5 to develop and manage low income rental housing, and

6 WHEREAS, the Federal Section 8 Certificate and Housing Voucher
7 Program provides housing rental and payment assistance to low
8 income families and individuals in the private housing market, and

9 WHEREAS, HACK's 1986 application for additional Section 8
10 Certificates and Housing Vouchers was turned down by HUD in 1987,
11 and

12 WHEREAS, HUD methodology in part, effectively penalizes HACK
13 for 1986 allocations because of units previously developed by the
14 private sector with government subsidies many years ago, and

15 WHEREAS, according to the county executive, HACK has
16 demonstrated the continued need for housing resources based on the
17 fact that it stopped accepting applications for vouchers in
18 August, 1986, when waiting lists for assistance reached about 800
19 households and the wait became one and a half years, and
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33

1 WHEREAS, HUD's funding decision reverses King County's program
 2 in providing housing to income eligible mentally ill persons by
 3 not providing any new Section 8 Certificates or Housing Vouchers
 4 to HACK in 1987 beyond the present 29 dedicated to rental
 5 rehabilitation;

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

7 A. The Regional Administrator - Regional Commissioner, U. S.
 8 Department of Housing and Urban Development, Seattle Office,
 9 Region I is urged to reconsider his decision not to fund HACK's
 10 request for additional Section 8 Certificates and Housing
 11 Vouchers, and to work with the county and HUD headquarters
 12 (Washington D.C.) to obtain a special allocation of a minimum of
 13 35 certificates or vouchers to serve the chronically mentally ill.

14 B. The executive is directed to forward copies of this motion
 15 to the Washington State Congressional delegation and to the
 16 Secretary of HUD.

17 PASSED this 9th day of February, 1987.

18 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
 19 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

20
 21 Gary Grant
 22 Chairman

23
 24 ATTEST:

25
 26 Jameth M. Owens
 27 Clerk of the Council