

June 23, 1988  
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BILL REAMS  
INTRODUCED BY: Grant/Gruger

PROPOSED NO. 88-268

MOTION NO. 7214

A MOTION authorizing the Executive to issue a request for proposals to establish a new paramedic unit in Redmond and requesting the county executive to develop a proposed master service delivery plan to address alternative methods of providing paramedic services in King County.

WHEREAS, paramedic services in King County are funded by a six-year voter-approved property tax levy, and

WHEREAS, in 1985 the voters approved the levy at the statutory maximum of \$.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value, and

WHEREAS, paramedic services ("advanced life support" services) are provided by eight paramedic units located throughout western King County, and

WHEREAS, the paramedic units are staffed on a 24-hour basis, for 365 days per year, and the paramedics are dedicated to the single function of providing advanced life support services, and

WHEREAS, between 1982 and 1987, the volume of calls for service increased by 45 percent, and

WHEREAS, in 1987, the average response time for four of the eight paramedic units exceeded the 10-minute response time standard considered ideal in maximizing patient survival, and

WHEREAS, in response to increasing workload and response times the executive has proposed adding a ninth paramedic unit in Redmond by July, 1989, and

WHEREAS, the Executive has noted potential limitations of the Redmond location due to traffic congestion and changes in geographic patterns of demand, and

1           WHEREAS, the council recognizes that if historical trends  
2 continue, average response times for all but three units will  
3 exceed the 10-minute standard by 1989, and will deteriorate  
4 further thereafter, and

5           WHEREAS, both the council and the executive agree that a ninth  
6 unit is needed to address the increasing response times in the  
7 short-term, and

8           WHEREAS, because the levy is already at the statutory maximum,  
9 the need for any subsequent units beyond a ninth may be  
10 constrained by availability of funding resources, and

11           WHEREAS, there may be more cost-effective methods of  
12 delivering paramedic services, and

13           WHEREAS, the county cannot afford to continue the current  
14 system of providing paramedic services and meet the county's  
15 long-term needs for quality and timely paramedic services;

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

17           A. The county executive is hereby authorized and directed to  
18 issue a request for proposals and select an agency to operate a  
19 new paramedic unit located in Redmond.

20           B. The county executive is hereby authorized to execute an  
21 advanced life support services contract with the agency selected  
22 to operate the new paramedic unit.

23           C. The county executive is requested to evaluate the  
24 performance of the new nine-unit service delivery configuration in  
25 terms of workload and response time and to propose to the council  
26 any necessary changes in the configuration.

27           D. The council finds that alternative methods of providing  
28 paramedic services should be examined. The council requests the  
29 executive develop and submit for council approval a paramedic  
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1 service delivery master plan. The master plan should, at a  
2 mimimum:

3 1. Analyze paramedic service data to determine why workload  
4 and response times are increasing.

5 2. Evaluate the existing as well as alternative service  
6 delivery models. Criteria used to evaluate the models should  
7 include cost, quality of service, and long-term effectiveness, as  
8 well as any other salient factors.

9 3. Recommend a service delivery model to be operational as  
10 soon as practical, but no later than January, 1992.

11 E. Following council review of the master plan, the executive  
12 shall develop and submit for council approval a plan for  
13 implementing an approved service delivery model.

14 F. The council further finds it is necessary to develop a  
15 work program and schedule to guide the development of the master  
16 plan. The council, therefore, requests that within 75 days of  
17 approval of this motion, the executive develop and submit for  
18 council approval a work program and schedule which shall include:

19 1. An outline, schedule and assignment of work tasks to be  
20 performed.

21 2. A proposal to create a technical steering committee to  
22 guide the overall development of the master plan. The committee  
23 shall consist of staff representatives from the budget office, the  
24 department of public health, the county council, paramedic service  
25 providers, fire departments and districts, and the medical  
26 community.

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3. A draft request for proposal that would be used to hire a consultant to assist in performing the analysis, evaluating alternatives and planning implementation, along with estimates of the costs of performing this work.

PASSED this 27th day of June, 1988.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

*Nancy Grant*  
Chairman

ATTEST:

*Jane M. Owens*  
Clerk of the Council

**MOTION 7214**

**EVALUATION OF PARAMEDIC SERVICE AREAS  
IN KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

**MARCH, 1988**

***ATTACHMENT(S) AVAILABLE IN ARCHIVES***