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April 19, 1990  
GN/TC/REET

Introduced by: Nickels  
Proposed No.: 90 - 386

MOTION NO. ~~7916~~

1  
2 A MOTION requesting the King County Open Space  
3 Oversight Committee to review and recommend a plan  
4 for expenditure of the local option real estate  
5 excise tax for open space acquisition and requesting  
6 the King County executive to provide the necessary  
7 staff resources to assist the Committee.

8 WHEREAS the Washington State Legislature, by passage of  
9 Substitute Senate Bill 6639, has authorized counties to submit  
10 for voter approval a 1 percent real estate excise tax of up to  
11 1 percent dedicated to the acquisition and maintenance of open  
12 space lands, and

13 WHEREAS, by the overwhelming passage of the 1989 Open Space  
14 Bond measure the voters of King County declared their  
15 commitment to acquiring and preserving our diminishing open  
16 space resources, and

17 WHEREAS, the authority outlined in Substitute Senate Bill  
18 6639 provides King County with the unique and timely ability to  
19 acquire remaining open space within its boundaries and preserve  
20 for future generations our environment and quality of life, and

21 WHEREAS, it is appropriate to acquire open space with  
22 revenues derived from a tax generated by growth and inflation  
23 of property values which combine to threaten open space, and

24 WHEREAS, this authority is available to all Washington  
25 State counties and presents an opportunity for King County to  
26 join with its neighboring jurisdictions in the Puget Sound  
27 region to create a comprehensive open space system unparalleled  
28 in this nation, and

29 WHEREAS, the dramatic growth this region is experiencing  
30 and the unprecedented increase in land values makes it  
31 imperative that we take immediate, decisive and unprecedented  
32 action to preserve the natural heritage of our great Pacific  
33 Northwest;

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

2 A. The King County Open Space Citizens Oversight  
3 Committee is requested to review and recommend to the King  
4 County council and the King County executive, by July 1, 1990 a  
5 plan for expenditure of up to 1 percent real estate excise tax  
6 for the acquisition and maintenance of open space.

7 B. This plan shall be developed in consultation with the  
8 cities of King County and with the benefit of public input.

9 C. The plan shall provide for sunseting this taxing  
10 authority and shall review the question of whether affordable  
11 housing transactions can legally be exempted.

12 D. The plan shall recommend methods to exempt affordable  
13 housing transactions from the tax if legal and constitutional.

14 E. The Citizens Oversight Committee is further directed  
15 to explore the interest of other Puget Sound counties in  
16 developing a coordinated ballot measure for submittal to the  
17 voters.

18 BE IT FURTHER MOVED,

19 The King County executive is requested to join with the  
20 county council in providing sufficient staff resources to the  
21 Citizens Oversight Committee to perform the assigned task.

22 PASSED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May,  
23 1990.

24 KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
25 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

26 Lois North  
27 Chair

28 ATTEST:

29 Gerald A. Peterson  
30 Clerk of the Council