

June 20, 1991
DS/ds houlevmo

Ron Sims, Greg Nickels, Bruce Laing
Cynthia Sullivan, Audrey Gruger
Introduced by: Brian Derdowski

Proposed No.: 91-505

MOTION NO. 8344

A MOTION approving the proposed regional housing levy program, setting a target date for the levy election and requesting educational presentations to key community groups.

WHEREAS, the King County council recognized the need to take action to deal the with growing lack of affordable housing by adopting the affordable housing policy plan in 1987, and

WHEREAS, the first policy and accompanying work program in the affordable housing plan commits the county to work to increase the supply of housing affordable for low-income households at greatest risk for homelessness by completing a low-income housing financing plan, and

WHEREAS, housing needs assessments completed in 1989 and 1990 showed that the cost of housing had grown twice as fast as income over the previous decade resulting in an estimated 85,000 low-income households in King County unable to afford adequate housing without assistance and only 28,000 low-income housing units available, three quarters of which are in Seattle, and

WHEREAS, the same assessments projected an increase of 30,000 low-income households in the next decade, three quarters of which will live outside of Seattle, and

WHEREAS, in 1990, as called for in Motion No. 7910, an affordable housing finance plan was developed by the planning and community development division in conjunction with a regional working group and submitted to the executive, and

WHEREAS, the affordable housing finance plan recommended a nine-year, \$147.5 million levy to finance the acquisition, rehabilitation and/or construction of at least 2,200 affordable housing units for low-income families and individuals as well as necessary residential support services, and

1 WHEREAS, the council requested in Motion No. 8190 and the
2 executive agreed to a joint process for reviewing and
3 finalizing the levy proposal in cooperation with elected
4 officials from the city of Seattle, suburban cities and key
5 groups interested in the issues of homelessness and affordable
6 housing, and

7 WHEREAS, the staff and citizen advisory groups appointed
8 by the county, Seattle and the suburban cities reached
9 agreement on the specifics of a regional housing levy program
10 and presented the final proposal to the representative group of
11 regional elected officials on June 5, 1991, and

12 WHEREAS, the proposal is for an eight-year, \$150 million
13 levy to develop a range of emergency, transitional and
14 permanent housing and related residential support services
15 available to people in need, where they live on the Eastside
16 and in South County as well as Seattle, and able to leverage
17 and mobilize to maximum effect all other available public and
18 private resources, and

19 WHEREAS, the final proposal is designed to serve more
20 people over the full length of the program than originally
21 proposed without significantly increasing costs to the tax
22 payers and to encourage cooperation between jurisdictions and
23 subregions within the county through the oversight and
24 direction of a regional policy board of representative elected
25 officials and the advice of a citizen advisory board, and

26 WHEREAS, it was the consensus of elected officials
27 meeting on June 5, 1991 that the proposal was now complete, and
28 ready to be presented to the public and other interested groups
29 with their backing and the backing of the citizens' advisory
30 committee, and

31 WHEREAS, the citizens' advisory committee strongly
32 recommended that time and effort be taken to properly inform
33 and educate key community groups and the public at large about
34 the issues of homelessness and affordable housing and how the
35 proposed levy program addresses them;

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

2 1. The attached description of the regional housing levy
3 program is accepted and approved as the basis for developing an
4 ordinance placing the proposed levy on the ballot no later than
5 February 1992. To ensure maximum voter participation and ease
6 of balloting, it is requested that the director of elections
7 conduct the election by mail for any election date other than a
8 September primary or November general election.

9 2. The county and city staff working group, the citizens'
10 advisory committee and the Human Services Roundtable are
11 requested to develop a program of presentations to key
12 community groups including city councils, the League of Women
13 Voters, the Municipal League, school superintendents and
14 boards, chambers of commerce and groups representing the
15 financial, real estate and development industries prior to the
16 introduction of the ordinance to place the levy proposal on the
17 ballot.

18 PASSED this 15th day of July, 1991.

19 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
20 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

21 Lois North
22 Chair

23 ATTEST:

24 Gerald A. Pater
25 Clerk of the Council