

6/23/98

Introduced By: Cynthia Sullivan
Larry Phillips

CW:ac

Proposed No.: 98-363

MOTION NO. **10491**

A MOTION outlining a recommended work plan for the Rural Farm and Forest program.

WHEREAS, both the Countywide Planning Policies and the King County Comprehensive Plan establish policy direction to identify and preserve the farm and forest resource lands in rural King County, and

WHEREAS, as part of the Phase II Work Program for the Countywide Planning Policies, the Growth Management Planning Council in October, 1992 formed the Rural Character Task Force in order to develop rural land use policy recommendations, and

WHEREAS, as a result of the Rural Character Task Force Report, the Countywide Planning Policies direct the county to encourage small-scale farming and forestry, and land and watershed stewardship through a variety of incentive programs and community-based education, and

WHEREAS, Countywide Planning Policy LU-8 established the criteria for rural farm and forest districts and required that the county identify such districts by December 31, 1995, and

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2 WHEREAS, the 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan adopted rural farm and
3 forest study areas where farming and forestry are to be encouraged and expanded through
4 incentives and additional zoning protection, and

5 WHEREAS, in 1995, King County designated these study areas as rural farm and
6 forest districts, and

7 WHEREAS, the Farm and Forest Initiative Study was funded by proceeds of the
8 Arts and Natural Resources Initiative to explore the barriers to agriculture and forestry in
9 King County and to identify potential incentives to overcome those barriers, and

10 WHEREAS, the King County Agriculture Commission, the Farmland Advisory
11 Committee, and the Forestry Advisory Committee participated in this study and made
12 recommendations on various acquisitions, zoning and incentive programs felt to be most
13 effective in preserving and promoting local agriculture and working forests, and

14 WHEREAS, in 1996 the council adopted by Motion 10000 the report entitled
15 "Farm and Forest: A Strategy for Preserving the Working Landscapes of Rural King
16 County," and

17 WHEREAS, Motion 10000 included adoption of a work program to implement the
18 recommendations of the Farm and Forest study, and

19 WHEREAS, King County Comprehensive Plan policy R-108 directs the county to
20 achieve, through either regulatory or incentive programs, a density of one home per 20
21 acres for forest district properties and one home per 10 acres for farming district properties,
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WHEREAS, policy R-108 further directs the county to provide incentive programs to property owners no later than 1998 that are based on the zoning of the district properties as of the effective date of the 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan and to develop and implement a monitoring program in 1997 to evaluate the success of the incentives programs and issue an annual report, and

WHEREAS, the county has instituted a number of policy-directed incentive and education programs to encourage rural farming and forestry, and

WHEREAS, the county has not succeeded in meeting the deadlines established for the rural farm and forest district work program;

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

A. The Executive is requested to provide to the council no later than August 30, 1998 a work program and schedule for the complete implementation of all policy directives contained in the Countywide Planning Policies and the King County Comprehensive Plan relating to Rural Farm and Forest Districts, as well as implementation of all incentive programs necessary for their realization. In the event that the executive finds inconsistency in policy directives, the report should include an assessment of the amendments to either the Countywide Planning Policies or the King County Comprehensive Plan recommended to achieve consistency and a proposed schedule for the consideration of these amendments.

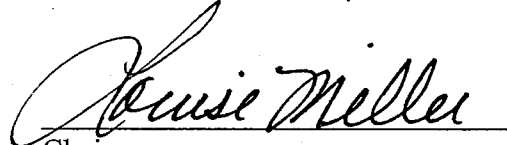
B. In order for the council to assess outstanding issues relating to the implementation of the policy direction for the rural farm and forest districts, this report should include a complete status report pursuant to Attachments E & F of Motion 10000 and Attachment A of Motion 10189 .

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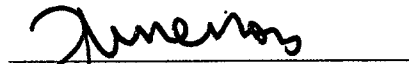
C. In order to determine the effectiveness of current incentives, this report should include the annual monitoring report for both the farm and forest districts.

PASSED by a vote of 13 to 0 this 29th day of June,
1998.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Chair

ATTEST:


Clerk of the Council

Attachments: