

Introduced By: Greg Nickels

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Proposed No.: 1999-0676

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MOTION NO. 10828

A MOTION establishing the FY 2001 federal legislative agenda for King County.

WHEREAS, the joint King County Legislative Steering committee has the responsibility to recommend a state and federal lobbying agenda to the Committee of the Whole and then to the full council, and to coordinate the county's federal and state legislative activities in order to carry out that agenda, and

WHEREAS, the metropolitan King County council and the King County executive have worked through the joint King County Legislative Steering Committee to develop a federal legislative agenda and desire to bring their positions on issues facing the second session of the 106th Congress to the attention of the United States Congress, and

WHEREAS, King County desires to work cooperatively with other local governments and other organizations such as the National Association of Counties, the American Public Transit Association, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, the American Public Works Association, the National Association of County Engineers, the Association of Washington Cities, the Washington Transit Association, Regional Transit Authority, Washington Association of County Officials and

20 the Washington State Association of Counties to achieve its FY 2001 federal legislative
21 goals, and

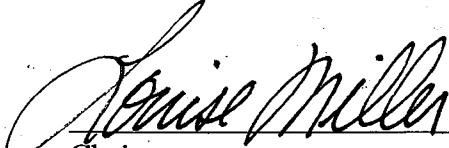
22 WHEREAS, counties have been recognized by Congress as partners with the
23 federal government in the delivery of such critical services as transportation, criminal
24 justice, public health, community and human services and water resources, and

25 WHEREAS, the King County council and the King County executive will continue
26 to review legislative developments for possible revisions of King County's FY 2001
27 federal legislative program;

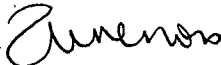
28 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
29 The specific objectives set forth in the attachment to this motion are King County's highest
30 priorities for passage during the second session of the 106th United States Congress.

31 PASSED by a vote of 13 to 0 this 13th day of December, 1999.

32 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
33 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

34 
35 Chair

36 ATTEST:

37 
38 Clerk of the Council

39 Attachment: King County, Washington FY 2001 Federal Agenda,

**KING COUNTY WASHINGTON
FY 2001 FEDERAL AGENDA**

108284

	ITEM	DESCRIPTION
1	Salmon Recovery	Diversify sources of federal funding by seeking funds through Commerce and Interior Department budgets and the Corps of Engineers. Support authorization of the Puget Sound Ecosystem Restoration Initiative through the Water Resources Development Act 2000. Support opportunities for EPA funds to assist local estuary and watershed protection activities.
2	Endangered Species Act	Complete the Tri-County proposal for Puget Sound Chinook habitat and ensure its inclusion in the 4(d) rule proposed by NMFS. Continue working with USFWS in response to the bull trout listing and the development of their 4(d) rule.
3	Lands Legacy Fund	King County will seek grants from the Lands Legacy fund for salmon habitat and open space acquisitions.
4	Transportation Projects	Coordinate with the federal lobbyists for Sound Transit, surrounding counties and communities to ensure that one request for a regional package is submitted and advocated collectively.
5	Fuel Cell Demonstration Project	Secure \$2.5 million for the Fuel Cell Demonstration. Secured funding of \$5 million for 1998 and 1999. Approximately \$14 million in federal funds is needed to complete construction of this project.
6	Sunset Interchange and Connecting Arterial	Secure funding for the Sunset Interchange and the Issaquah CDB Bypass in recognition of the regional benefits associated with the Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program.
7	Urban Amenities	Secure \$2 million funding for Seattle, Redmond, Renton and SeaTac to acquire and develop urban open spaces.
8	Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO)	Passage of legislation (such as 1998's H.R. 4242, Combined Sewer Overflow Control and Partnership Act) authorizing additional grant funding for CSO projects.
9	Flood Hazard Reduction	Additional funding for the Snoqualmie flood hazard reduction project and the North Bend Area flood hazard reduction project.
10	Brownfields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure \$150,000 for supplemental pilot grant funding for brownfields assessments and separate funding for brownfields assessment and cleanup that is not subject to CERCLA (Superfund) restrictions. • Secure \$500,000 from the EPA revolving loan grant fund for cleanup loans. (work in coordination with City of Seattle) • Secure extension of existing King County/City of Seattle Brownfields Showcase designation past the end of 2000. • Secure extension of loaned EPA staff to King County/City of Seattle showcase community past 2000. • Secure continued funding for the Brownfields Economic Development Initiative through HUD.
11	Justice (LLEBG)	King County supports securing funding sources in the Local Law Enforcement Block grant program for justice issues.
12	Mental Health Court	King County will support congressional proposals to establish grant authority to partially fund Mental Health Courts.

LEGISLATIVE INTERESTS

Legislative Interests are advocated for in partnership with national organizations or issue-specific coalitions and are part of a national program.

	ITEM	DESCRIPTION
A	Preemption – Internet Taxation	Advocate for a strong local government voice in the federal internet taxation dialogue. As internet sales gain an increasing share of the market, counties lose sales tax revenues because the sale cannot be taxed.
B	Tax credits	Support increases in the private activity bond cap and low income housing tax credit program in the budget and tax bills.
C	Housing	Advocate for increases or at least maintain HUD appropriations for Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) programs, homeless assistance (McKinney programs), and public housing operating subsidies, rental certificates/vouchers, and Section 8 contract renewals.
D	Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)	Federal support for state and local agencies to develop TMDLs. Specifically, funding to support the efforts of King County to determine TMDLs on rivers and streams that are important to area salmon populations. Also, work with EPA to obtain agreement on models and plans for determining TMDL's on rivers and streams within King County.
E	Civil Rights	Oppose efforts to weaken Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act that would allow local governments to effectively prohibit group homes but support provisions that allow cities and counties to encourage dispersal of such facilities in neighborhoods throughout the city and the county in a fair and equitable manner.
F	State Enhancement Program (SEP)	Support federal participation in the establishment of as SEP for the State of Washington, which will enable the State to overcome the barriers to greater participation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), the nation's largest conservation program administered by the federal government. In addition, establishment of a SEP will allow the State to tailor the CRP so that it will more effectively address the State's unique conservation challenges, particularly as they relate to salmon habitat protection and restoration.
G	Superfund	Support adoption of an amendment to Superfund that would exempt Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW's) from liability.
H	Forestry Bonds	Advocate for passage and enactment of the forestry bond legislation, such as H.R. 4301 introduced in 1998.
I	Payment-in-lieu-of-Taxes (PILT)	Advocate for full funding of PILT.
J	Water Reuse	Support authorization and expansion of federal assistance for local water reuse programs. Funding under current programs has been extremely limited. Additional authority is needed in order to make funds available for King County.

	ITEM	DESCRIPTION
K	Federal Flow Control	Reinstatement of flow control by Congress for at least the period that will pay off the bonded indebtedness. King County, as well as many other counties in the state, has based the financing of its solid waste management services on revenues received under their flow control authority. Capital improvements for the system are paid for through general obligation bonds and a considerable amount of bonded indebtedness remains.
L	FEMA	Seek modifications to FEMA's interim policy barring reimbursement of the cost of replanting trees and shrubs as part of repairs made to river facilities, detention/retention areas, water quality sites and stream and river bank stabilization areas.
M	FEMA	Seek variance for Pacific Northwest to Corps of Engineers and FEMA disaster assistance eligibility criteria. Currently, levees and other flood works that contain vegetation are ineligible for assistance from the Corps under P.L. 84-99 and FEMA funding for repairs under the Stafford Act.
N	FEMA	Seek federal funds from FEMA and other agencies with flood hazard mitigation programs to support the removal of structures within the flood plain and the restoration of important habitat.
O	Seismic Infrastructure	Federal funding to improve the seismic reliability of public facilities in most threatened regions of King County.
P	Justice	Support that a percentage of Local Law Enforcement Block Grant funds are made available to local correctional facilities to provide additional training to correction's staff, and to provide education, job training, and other skill development classes for adults and juveniles detained in local correctional facilities.
Q	Medicaid	Support allowing Washington State to use Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) funds for children newly enrolled in Medicaid.
R	Vaccinations	Support preventive health care measures for families, such as vaccinations, etc.
S	Mental Health	Assist in modifying 42 CFR, Part 2 – data sharing between systems (mental health and substance abuse). King County needs improvements in the law to allow information sharing between the two disciplines. Support opportunities for local government to create demonstration projects to apply confidentiality standards differently, and request one-time funds to mobilize and train staff in implementation of the pilot model.
T	HIV/AIDS	Support program on a pilot basis that involves mental health, substance abuse and HIV/AIDS.
U	Housing	Support revisions to the tax code to support homeownership for households earning 120 percent of median income or less.
V	Housing	Seek appropriations and tax code revisions to support a King County House Land Trust to purchase land to construct owner-occupied housing for moderate- and median-income households.
W	Homeless	Support "hold harmless" provision in legislation to block grant federal homeless assistance funding for the Seattle-King County area to maintain current funding levels and support maximum flexibility for local jurisdictions in the use of the funds.

MONITOR AND REPORT

The federal contract lobbyist will monitor federal legislation and regulations continuously and report to King County the status of these activities. The federal lobbyist will provide a monthly status update at the beginning of the month on the agenda and grant applications. The federal lobbyist also notifies the county when participation in the process is beneficial to the county. The federal lobbyist will also coordinate efforts on these issues with national associations. King County has expressed a particular interest in the following issues:

- Affirmative Action
- Child Care
- Clean Water Act
- Education
- Forestry Bond legislation
- Housing/Funding for First Time Buyers
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- Workforce Training
- Medicaid funding
- Mental Health Block Grant
- Pediatric Cancer Research funding
- Property Rights and "Takings" legislation
- Public Housing Reform
- Telecommunications
- Welfare to Work funding efforts
- Grants from the Federal Highway Administration's Community Preservation Program (Section 1221 of TEA-21) and from EPA's Sustainable Development Challenge Grant program.

GRANTS

The federal lobbyist will meet with King County departments to assess level of need and thereafter research federal grant opportunities for King County on a regular basis. Prospects will be searched for in the Federal Register, on the Internet and in various grant publications. As grant opportunities are identified and reviewed they will be distributed to the county electronically when possible, or by overnight courier.

When the county is interested in applying for a grant it will notify the federal lobbyist so that specific grant information, such as guidelines, application materials and a previously successful application (if applicable) may be forwarded. The federal lobbyist will make subsequent phone calls and meetings to discuss the grant with the appropriate federal agency. The county will be given information gathered from these activities.

After the county has applied for the grant, the federal lobbyist will work with the county, congressional delegation, and agencies to garner support for the application. Active participation in the process will continue to determine the approximate time of grant announcement and the status of the county's application, as well as to ensure the county's application receives the best possible consideration. If the county's application is successful, the federal lobbyist will work with the federal agency to expedite allocation of the grant award. If the county's application is unsuccessful, the federal lobbyist will follow-up with the federal agency's grant reviewers to determine the strengths and weaknesses of the application and then work with the county to prepare for the next funding opportunity.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS AND COALITIONS

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The federal lobbyist will build partnerships and coalitions with national associations in which King County is an active member. These associations include, but are not limited to, the National Association of Counties, and its subgroup the Large Urban County Caucus, the American Public Transit Association and other groups in which the Legislative Steering Committee deems of particular interest.

WASHINGTON VISITS

It is expected that representatives of the King County Council and County Executive will travel to Washington, D.C. multiple times in 1999 to present and reinforce lobbying efforts for the FY 2000 Federal Agenda and Action Plan. The first trip will occur the week of January 25th to present the King County's federal priorities to the Washington State Congressional Delegation. Subsequent trips will be planned after the legislative schedule for the 106th Congress is released by the congressional leadership, and at times the lobbyist in conjunction with the county determine to be most effective.

NACO LARGE URBAN COUNTY CAUCUS

King County supports the major lobbying initiatives of the National Association of Counties congressional priorities for 2000.

Justice Equity Funding Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Law Enforcement Block Grants• State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP)• Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant
Preemption Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internet taxes• Cell Towers• Takings• Religious Liberty Protection Act
Revitalizing Urban Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brownfields• Housing, Homeownership and Section 8• Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
Children and Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Funding• Title XX• Medicaid• Child Health Insurance• Welfare to Work