



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

August 21, 2001

Motion 11265

Proposed No. 2001-0285.2

Sponsors Nickels

1 A MOTION approving the Joint Executive Committee Plan
2 to Address City of Seattle Council Budget Action.

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5 WHEREAS, the partnership between Seattle and King County to provide public
6 health services has been in existence for fifty years. Since 1951, the city of Seattle and
7 King County have jointly financed and operated a city-county health department. As of
8 January 1, 1981, the city and the county adopted legislation to officially create a
9 combined city-county health department known as the Seattle-King County department
10 of public health. In 1984, the city and county adopted an "interlocal agreement" that
11 outlined the administration, structure and funding of the Seattle-King County department
12 of public health. This interlocal agreement was amended in 1996 and is the agreement
13 that the department operates within today, and

14 WHEREAS, with the adoption of the 2001 -2002 budget the city of Seattle
15 council approved a budget action which transferred a portion of 2001 and all of 2002
16 Seattle general fund designated for public health to the city's finance general account.
17 The city held this funding because of its concern that King County is not compliant with

18 the terms of the 1996 interlocal agreement. Specifically, the city council was concerned
19 that the Seattle contribution to public health was supporting critical services that should
20 be supported by countywide funds, rather than supporting enhanced services to Seattle
21 residents, and

22 WHEREAS, the joint executive committee, a committee designated by the
23 interlocal agreement to resolve conflict, has completed a plan to address the city of
24 Seattle's budget action, and

25 WHEREAS, King County and the city of Seattle are desirous of continuing the
26 joint financing and operation of the Seattle-King County department of public health, and
27 to achieve that end, wish to resolve this funding issue according to the elements of the
28 Joint Executive Plan;

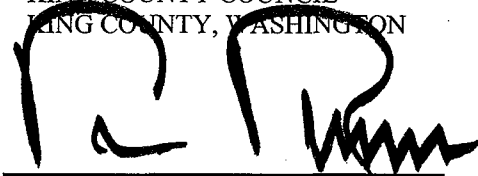
29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

30 The Joint Executive Committee Plan to Address City Council Budget Action,
31 Attachment A to this motion, is hereby approved.
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Motion 11265 was introduced on 5/21/01 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 8/20/01, by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Miller, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Pelz, Mr. McKenna, Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Nickels, Mr. Pullen, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Irons
No: 0
Excused: 1 - Ms. Fimia

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Pete von Reichbauer, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments A. Joint Executive Committee Plan to Address City Council Budget Action

Joint Executive Committee Plan to Address City Council Budget Action

Background:

This document is in response to the 2001 – 2002 City of Seattle Council Budget Action which transferred 2001 and 2002 Seattle General Fund appropriation for Public Health services to the City's Finance General account. The City is holding this funding in Finance General because of its concern that King County is not compliant with the terms of the 1996 Interlocal Agreement. Specifically, the City Council is concerned that the Seattle contribution to Public Health is supporting critical services that should be supported by countywide funds, rather than supporting enhanced services to Seattle residents. (Attachment #1)

The partnership between Seattle and King County to provide Public Health services has been in existence for fifty years. Since 1951, the City of Seattle and King County have jointly financed and operated a City-County Health Department. As of January 1, 1981, the City and the County adopted legislation to officially create a combined City-County health department known as the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health. In 1984, the City and County adopted an "Interlocal Agreement" that outlined the administration, structure, and funding of the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health. This Interlocal Agreement was amended in 1996 and is the agreement that the Department operates within today. (Attachment #2)

There are two sections included in the Interlocal Agreement that are specific to the issues brought forward in the City Council Budget Action. They are:

From Section 1. PRINCIPLES OF OPERATION: "Pursuant to Chapter 70.05 RCW, the County has ultimate policy and funding responsibility for the delivery of public health services. The City has fiduciary and policy responsibility over its own financial contribution...The City's financial contributions to the operation of the Department are voluntary and shall be used to enhance service to the City residents".

From Section 9. DEPARTMENT'S FINANCING: "The County shall be financially responsible for the funding of basic health services throughout the County and...shall ensure that all such services are provided on the basis of the assessment of health needs, without regard to geographic boundaries. The City's financial contributions are voluntary and shall be used to enhance services for its residents".

Public Health reviewed all programs that include City of Seattle General Fund and categorized these programs as critical or enhanced. To guide the categorization Public Health referred to the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) #246-05 to determine if the program is critical or enhanced. The WAC was the legislation in place at the time the

Interlocal was written. The WAC listed services that each local Public Health Department must make available and categorized these programs as "Basic" and other services "Optional". Public Health chose to call "Basic" services "Critical" services and "Optional" services "Enhanced" services. (Attachment #3)

As presented at the Board of Health meeting in February, 2000, a "Critical" service is defined as a service that state and national public health officials agree should be available to every resident. An "Enhanced" service is a service that, while not part of the essential core element of public health practice, is a service of proven effectiveness often performed by public health organizations when categorical funds are available for this purpose. "Enhanced/Critical" service supports a higher level or a specialized level of activity above a critical/baseline and this enhancement can be demonstrated.

On January 8, 2001, a meeting was convened to discuss the Seattle Budget Action. That meeting included County Executive Ron Sims, Deputy Mayor Tom Byers, City Councilmember Margaret Pageler, and Councilmember Nickels. It was agreed by all that the Joint Executive Committee would assume the lead in creating a plan to address the City of Seattle's Budget Action. It was also agreed to use WAC #246-05 as a basis to confirm Public Health's categorization of critical Public Health services. (Attachment #4)

Joint Executive Committee Plan:

1. The City of Seattle and Metropolitan King County are committed to upholding the 1996 Public Health Interlocal Agreement. The City and the County have made a joint commitment to resolve the issue of the allocation of General Fund (GF) monies to critical Public Health (PH) services.
2. The 1996 Public Health Interlocal Agreement establishes a "Joint Executive Committee" (JEC) that "consists of the Mayor, the County Executive and the Director of the Department. The Joint Executive Committee shall be responsible for . . . monitoring policy implementation; and for providing a forum for conflict resolution." The JEC has developed this plan to address the budget year 2001 – 2002 City of Seattle Budget Action.
3. The Mayor of the City of Seattle and the King County Executive have agreed with the previously described categorization of critical Public Health services. In the 2001 Adopted Budget, the General Fund allocation for critical services is \$2,004,480 in the following eleven projects. (Attachment #3)
 - Health Education and Promotion
 - MCH/AIDS Center
 - Family Planning (Clinical)
 - Immunizations

- Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program
 - Food Protection
 - AIDS Prevention and Education Contracts
 - Family Planning (CSO)
 - HIV/AIDS Clinic
 - Family Planning (Health Education)
 - Day Care Screening
4. As stipulated in Section 9 of the Interlocal Agreement, the County will assume responsibility for critical Public Health services. Levels of critical Public Health services provided throughout the City and County will be based on need, practice standards, and available funding.
 5. Starting in the year 2002 and continuing over a three-year period, the County will provide an additional \$668,160 each year for critical services (a total of \$2,004,480). Over the same time period, \$668,160 of Seattle General Fund will be reduced from critical services each year and be replaced with the other funds described previously. (Attachment #5)
 6. The following enhanced programs will be reviewed by the JEC in consultation with the Board of Health. The JEC will report the results of the evaluation to the City of Seattle by September 30, 2001.
 - Teen Health Centers
 - Interpretation Services
 - Field Dental
 - Community Health Center Contracts
 7. The biennial review of Seattle funds will be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2002. All remaining funds are in enhanced categories ("Enhanced/Critical" and "Enhanced"). By March 31, 2002, the Joint Executive Committee will provide a report that will explain how Seattle's funding of enhanced/critical and enhanced services fit with current and evolving public health needs in the City. The report will inform future Seattle budget decisions. (Attachment #3)
 8. It is the expressed intent of the City of Seattle to prioritize released General Fund for the provision of enhanced Public Health services to Seattle residents. The Mayor of Seattle and the Seattle City Council will determine which services will be enhanced, and at what level the services will be funded. These services will be additions to, and not substitutes for, critical public health services. This is contingent on the continual availability of Seattle funds for Public Health.

9. Seattle Special Budget Initiatives and other ongoing enhanced programs will be reviewed before the end of each Seattle budget biennium to determine if they should sunset or continue to receive General Fund funding.
10. As stated in the Interlocal Agreement, the Joint Executive Committee will continue to annually review the Department's proposed annual budget before its submission to the City and County legislative branches.
11. It is the intent of King County to identify other funding sources for all categories of Public Health services. The City and County will jointly explore state and federal funding opportunities to strengthen all Public Health services.
12. As stated in a budget proviso included in the 2001 King County Adopted Budget, this plan will be submitted to the King County Council. Following approval of this plan by King County, it will be forwarded to the City of Seattle to resolve the Seattle Budget Action. The Joint Executive Committee believe that this agreement meets all conditions and concerns expressed in the City Council Budget Action and should facilitate the timely release of 2001 and 2002 Public Health funding from the City's Finance General account.

METROPOLITAN KING COUNTY

CITY OF SEATTLE

Ron Sims
King County Executive

Paul Schell
Mayor, City of Seattle

PUBLIC HEALTH – SEATTLE & KING COUNTY

Dr. Alonzo Plough
Director and Health Officer