



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**November 25, 2002**

**Motion 11616**

**Proposed No.** 2002-0547.2

**Sponsors** Constantine

1           A MOTION directing the auditor of King County to  
2           collaborate with the auditor of the city of Seattle to develop  
3           a work plan that identifies opportunities where the county  
4           and the city may partner to provide services more  
5           efficiently and directing the executive to assist in the  
6           process.

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9           WHEREAS, King County's total 2003 budget is proposed at \$3.1 billion, and  
10          WHEREAS, the County's 2003 proposed general fund budget is \$495 million,  
11          and

12          WHEREAS, King County provides regional services to all county residents, local  
13          services to unincorporated area residents and services to other local governments on a  
14          contractual basis, and

15          WHEREAS, the general fund is experiencing a fiscal shortfall that is the result of  
16          declining revenue growth and increasing governmental expenses, and

17           WHEREAS, the factors that are contributing to the county's fiscal shortfall are  
18 also impacting other local governments, including the city of Seattle, and

19           WHEREAS, King County is aggressively reviewing the general fund for  
20 expenditure reductions and revenue enhancements, and

21           WHEREAS, the city of Seattle is also aggressively reviewing its budget for  
22 expenditure reductions and revenue enhancements, and

23           WHEREAS, King County reduced the general fund budget by \$41 million in  
24 2002 and faces a general fund deficit of \$52 million for 2003 and projects significant  
25 deficits in 2004 and 2005, and

26           WHEREAS, the city of Seattle reduced its adopted budget by \$7 million in 2002  
27 and the proposed 2003 and 2004 budgets reflect a \$60 million general fund gap between  
28 projected revenues and current expenses, and

29           WHEREAS, the council, the executive and the judiciary of King County  
30 consistently search for ways in which to provide effective services at the lowest possible  
31 cost, and

32           WHEREAS, the legislative, executive and judicial of the government of the city  
33 of Seattle are also consistently seeking alternatives to provide services at the lowest  
34 possible cost while maintaining public policy objectives, and

35           WHEREAS, the city of Seattle and King County each provide some services and  
36 conduct some internal support functions that are similar in nature, and

37           WHEREAS, there may exist possibilities to achieve economies of scale in the  
38 provision of some services or internal support functions that would allow King County

39 and the city of Seattle to provide the same level of service at a lower cost to and at a  
40 greater convenience for their citizens, and

41 WHEREAS, the Seattle city council is considering the adoption of a similar  
42 resolution to pursue a collaborative city-county review of potential cost savings through  
43 partnering of city and county services and internal support functions;

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

45 The council directs the county auditor, in collaboration with the auditor of the city  
46 of Seattle, to explore opportunities for improved services and more efficient use of public  
47 resources through the partnering of selected county and city services.

48 The council directs the executive to identify key staff of county departments and  
49 agencies, including, but not limited to, separately elected officials, to participate with the  
50 Auditors in refining and selecting potential projects for further study.

51 The auditors shall collaborate on the preparation of a work plan, which shall  
52 include the following:

53 A. An identification of those programs and services which will be studied in  
54 greater depth;

55 B. A schedule for conducting the feasibility studies regarding the partnering  
56 efforts of the city of Seattle and King County in 2003 and 2004;

57 C. An estimate of potential outcomes from the studies;

58 D. An estimate of the costs and staff time for the studies; and

59 E. Recommendations, as appropriate, for the staffing and execution of the joint  
60 study of the services and programs by the county's and the city's offices.

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61           The work plan shall be submitted to the county council and to the city council by  
62           April 30, 2003. The respective councils will review the work plans and give further  
63           direction to the auditors as appropriate.

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Motion 11616 was introduced on 11/4/2002 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/25/2002, by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Ms. Sullivan, Ms. Edmonds, Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Pelz, Mr. Constantine, Mr. Pullen, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Mr. Irons and Ms. Patterson

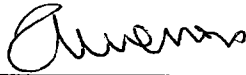
No: 0

Excused: 1 - Mr. McKenna

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Cynthia Sullivan, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments**       None