



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

July 20, 2009

Motion 13030

Proposed No. 2009-0392.2

Sponsors Phillips and Lambert

1 A MOTION requesting the executive to act upon the
2 Washington State Auditor's Office Accountability Audit
3 Report by developing a comprehensive plan for improved
4 business practices and internal controls in King County,
5 and report the plan to the council by August 28, 2009.

6
7 WHEREAS, the King County council values an open and transparent government
8 for its citizens, and

9 WHEREAS, the King County council has consistently exercised its powers under
10 the county charter as the policy determining body of the county to promote oversight and
11 accountability, and

12 WHEREAS, the King County council ensures that county dollars are being wisely
13 spent by adopting provisos that make appropriations contingent on performance
14 indicators, by requiring audits of important programs in the auditor's annual work
15 program and assigning special studies to the auditor's office, by having representatives on
16 review panels, by receiving quarterly and annual reports on public health and other

17 programs and by crafting motions and ordinances that foster visibility and accountability
18 in the King County Code, and

19 WHEREAS, King County is ahead of other jurisdictions in instituted policies
20 regarding performance management, oversight and accountability, and

21 WHEREAS, as early as 1997, the council increased its oversight of capital
22 projects and insisted that capital projects be managed within scope, schedule and budget,
23 and

24 WHEREAS, in 2007, the council passed Ordinance 15652, which created a new
25 function in the auditor's office by funding a pilot program for capital projects oversight
26 with the mission of controlling cost overruns and unforeseen expansion of project scopes,
27 schedules and budgets on King County's large capital construction projects, and

28 WHEREAS, legislative review and oversight of information technology projects,
29 including the law safety justice integration project, information technology permit
30 integration project, and the emergency radio system project identified over four million
31 dollars in technology budget cuts, and

32 WHEREAS, the council passed Ordinance 16202 in 2008 relating to creating a
33 countywide performance and accountability system, known as the performance and
34 accountability act, which established a comprehensive countywide performance
35 management and reporting system that is intended to enhance transparency through
36 measuring and delivering services based on community priorities;

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

38 The council has demonstrated a history of strong oversight of county programs
39 and services with an eye to improving performance, accountability and transparency, as

Motion 13030

40 illustrated by examples of council oversight included in Attachment A to this motion. As
41 part of continuing to improve accountability and performance and meet its charter-based
42 legislative oversight authority, the council requests that the executive act upon the State
43 Audit Performance and Accountability Audit issued June 22, 2009, by developing a
44 comprehensive action plan with deliverables and timelines for improving business
45 practices and internal controls in King County for issues identified in the audit, and report
46 the plan to the council by August 28, 2009. Eleven copies of the report shall be filed with
47 the clerk of the council, for distribution to all councilmembers.

48

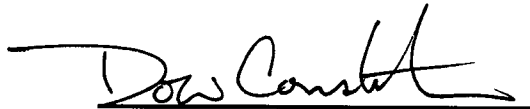
Motion 13030 was introduced on 6/22/2009 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/20/2009, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Constantine, Mr. Ferguson, Ms. Hague, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Gossett, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Patterson and Mr. Dunn

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Mr. von Reichbauer

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Dow Constantine, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments A. Examples of Council Involvement in Oversight Functions, dated July 8, 2009

Attachment A. Examples of Council Involvement in Oversight Functions

Year	Authority	Area	Program Name	Description
2008	Ord. 16202	Performance Management	Performance and Accountability Act	Establishes a comprehensive countywide performance management and reporting system, which will enhance transparency through measuring and delivering services based on community priorities. Requires countywide strategic plan, agency strategic plans, organization business plans and countywide annual reporting to the council and public. Formally engages inter-branch workgroup and public, as well as new (executive branch) office of strategic planning and performance management.
2007-ongoing	Ord. 15652	Capital Projects	Capital Projects Oversight (CPO) program	<p>A King County Auditor pilot program for capital projects oversight with the mission of controlling cost overruns and unforeseen expansion of project scopes, schedules and budgets on King County's large capital construction projects. There are two components: programmatic (policies & procedures improvement) and direct project oversight.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brightwater (\$1.8B) - wastewater treatment plant and conveyance system scheduled for completion in September 2011 ISP (\$54M) - improvement to security systems and health services facilities at the county jail scheduled for completion in the second quarter of 2009 NJB (\$186) - a 14-story addition to the Harborview campus scheduled for completion in third quarter 2009 ABT (\$79M) - replacement of the county's financial, payroll, human resource information and budgeting system scheduled for completion in 2012 Data Center relocation (\$18M) - relocation of the data center that handles 60% of the County's data needs from the Seattle Municipal Tower to a leased facility in Tukwila and 20 miles of fiber optic lines, scheduled for completion in 2010.
2008	Ordinance 16275 P6	Capital Projects	Capital Projects report	Required executive to produce a critical analysis report for all current CIP projects (greater than \$750,000) that are currently active.
2007	Ordinance 15915	Capital Projects	Building sale review	Required independent due diligence review of first phase of study for the potential sale of the King Street Center and to further analyze the redevelopment of the Administration Building.

2004-ongoing	Ord. 14921	Capital Projects	Real Estate and Major Capital Projects Review Joint Advisory Group (JAG)	Council amended King County Code to create the Real Estate and Major Capital Projects Review Joint Advisory Group. The group is to provide a forum for early policy level dialogue between the Executive and Legislative branches of King County government. The group is intended to explore and discuss emergent projects and issues, as well as ongoing proposals regarding major capital projects and major real estate projects.
2002	Ord. 14295	Capital Projects	Harborview	Council created an oversight group to oversee Harborview Bond project and ensure scope, schedule and budget.
Ongoing		Transit	Transit audit	Council initiated a \$1M performance, operations and management audit of King County Metro Transit. King County Auditor personnel are overseeing a team of consultants and are also performing elements of the audit in-house. The audit focuses on increasing efficiency of service delivery and on management functions such as financial planning and data utilization. The auditor recently issued an interim finding that the Transit Division's fleet replacement reserve is overfunded by approximately \$105M.
2004, 2007-2008		Transit	Transportation Concurrency Program	Council has reviewed and modified the Transportation Concurrency Program throughout the last decade including formation of a concurrency expert review panel, participation in studies, and directing an audit of concurrency practices throughout review period.
Ongoing		Transit	Transit service changes	Council reviews all transit service change ordinances and has modified bus route changes in many of these ordinances throughout review period.
2001-ongoing		Transit	Transit fares	Council has reviewed all transit fare ordinances and in some cases deferred or drastically revised them.
2003		Transit	Transit Communications Center relocation	Council reviewed and modified Metro Transit proposal to relocate transit communications center into a new seismically-strengthened structure. Council oversight resulted in a scaled-back project sized to accommodate only those activities requiring the more costly seismic construction elements.
2007		Transit	Breda Trolleywire Extension	Council reviewed a proposed expenditure of \$5M to upgrade a portion of the electric trolleybus overhead wire system which would have entailed installation of more than one hundred utility poles. The Transit Division proposed the project to upgrade power delivery redundancy in that portion of the system, but in the absence of a demonstrable need, the Council withheld funding and the project was ultimately abandoned without any adverse consequences.

1999-ongoing		Planning	Operational Planning and Oversight and Facility Master Planning	Beginning in 1999, the Council began an initiative to consider planning efforts for specific purposes through the funding of operational master plans (OMP) and facility master plans (FMP). The first of these was the Adult Justice Operational Master Plan (AJOMP), adopted by the Council in 1999. Subsequently, the Council has funded and participated in development of AJOMP II, the District Court OMP and FMP, the Superior Court targeted OMP and FMP, the Adult and Juvenile Detention OMP, and the Public Health OMP.
2007-ongoing	Ord. 15975, Section 62 Roads, Proviso P1	Transit/Planning	Roads Operational Master Plan	Established a requirement to develop an agency strategic plan for the Road Services Division linking operational decisions and prioritization with policy guidance for a division with a dedicated revenue source and significant funding/service delivery gaps. Formally engages interbranch working group and advisory/steering committee and a broad stakeholder engagement process.
2009-Ongoing	Ord. 16374	Transit	KCDOT Director's Office Business Case	Establishes an off-year review of a biennial budgeted organization looking at the cost-benefit issues associated with a department director's office and its services delivered. Requires an analysis of service delivery based on benefit to the reporting divisions and the county.
Ongoing		Information Technology	Technology project review	Legislative review identified over \$4 million in technology budget cuts. Oversight briefings on technology projects, including Law Safety Justice Integration, IT Permit Integration, emergency radio system.
2001	Ordinance 14005	Information Technology	Office of Information Resource Management (OIRM) creation	Created office of which the primary function is to oversee the development and implementation of strategic IT objectives and to set parameters for how the County initiates and manages its IT investments. The legislation called for the Council to approve annual updates to the County's IT Strategic Plan, providing an opportunity to review IT policy as well as standards and protocol for infrastructure, project management and protection of privacy and security.

2001-ongoing	Ordinance 14106	Information Technology	Properties Expert Review Taskforce (PERT)	For the Financial Systems Replacement Project (FSRP) merger of financial systems and personnel – precursor to ABT – Council convened the Properties Expert Review Taskforce (PERT) in 2001 to deliver a policy-level framework and recommendations relating to King County’s capital asset management system (including acquisitions, management, and dispositions); including advising the Council on ways to help the County implement an improved system. Their analysis helped inform the reorganization of the Facilities Management Division (FMD) in 2003 and the organization of the JAG in 2005. The PERT recommendations continue to provide direction for long range planning.
Ongoing		Human Services	Annual Reports	Council reviews and accepts by motion annual reports on Committee to End Homelessness, Veterans and Human Services Levy, Mental Illness and Drug Dependency.
Ongoing		Human Services	Quarterly Reports	Council reviews quarterly reports on MIDD and VHSL
Ongoing		Human Services	Plan Review	Council reviews and amends the County’s Consolidated Housing Plan as requested
Ongoing		Human Services	Plan Review	Reviewed and approved by Ordinance Service Improvement Plan for VHSL, revised Framework Policies for Human Services, MIDD Oversight, Implementation and Evaluation Plans
Ongoing		Criminal Justice	Criminal Justice Council	Council participates on the Criminal Justice Council that meets monthly. The Criminal Justice Council oversees interacting criminal justice issues and includes representatives from the Council, the Executive, the Sheriff, the Superior Court, the District Court, the Prosecuting Attorney’s Office, the Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention, the Office of Management and Budget, Public Health, Jail Health Services, and the Office of Public Defense.
2007-present	Motion 12701	Economic Forecasting	Office of Economic and Financial Analysis	Council during the 2007 budget adoption process set in motion an effort to devise a new process for independent and reliable economic and financial forecasts. In 2007, initial steps were taken including creation of a budget appropriation and the hiring of a consultant to make recommendations on options for the office. The Council adopted Motion 12701 in 2008 that established a Forecast Council to prepare independent analysis for budget and financial decision. Currently, interviews are taking place to hire a Chief Economist for the Office.

2007-present	Ord. 15611	Criminal Justice	Office of Law Enforcement Oversight	<p>The Office would be responsible for receiving and recording all citizen complaints involving the sheriff's office and forward the complaints to the sheriff's internal investigations unit for investigation. The second major element of the proposed ordinance requires that the auditor establish a permanent and ongoing law enforcement audit process. The Office is not currently operational, although it has been funded in the 2007, 2008, and 2009 budgets</p>
1998-1999	Ord. 13855	Utilities and Technology	Cable Franchise	<p>Ordinance 13855, adopted by the Council in May 2000, finalized an agreement between King County and AT&T to transfer control of cable franchises and commitments held by TCI Cablevision of Washington. This work was informed by an Expert Review Panel report. The legislation also established an Expert Monitoring Panel and a Cable Services Advisory Committee to advise the county, AT&T and the panel on ways services can be offered through the cable system.</p>