



King County

KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

November 23, 2009

Motion 13094

Proposed No. 2009-0577.1

Sponsors Gossett

1 A MOTION identifying a project to be funded under the re-

2 authorization of Public Law 106-393, Title III, the Secure

3 Rural Schools and Self-Determination Act of 2000, and

4 allocating to that project the Title III funds to be received

5 from the federal government for federal fiscal years 2009

6 and 2010, and stating King County's election for the

7 distribution of funds for federal fiscal year 2010.

8
9 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

10 WHEREAS, on October 3, 2008, Congress enacted Public Law (P.L.) 110-343,

11 which included reauthorization of and amendment to P.L.106-393, the Secure Rural

12 Schools and Community Self-determination Act of 2000, and

13 WHEREAS, P.L. 106-393, as amended, allows transition payments to eligible

14 counties in covered states, referred to as the full funding amount, which are calculated as

15 a percentage of the full funding amount for 2006, and

16 WHEREAS, Washington is a covered state and King County is an eligible county,

17 and

18 WHEREAS, if an eligible county elects to receive the full funding amount, not
19 less than eighty percent and not more than eighty-five percent shall be expended for
20 schools and roads, as described in Title I, and

21 WHEREAS, annually the county shall decide the percentage of the full payment
22 to be expended on Title I, and the percentages to be allocated to projects in accordance
23 with Title II, Special Projects on Federal Lands, and Title III, county funds, with not
24 more than seven percent of the total payment allocated to Title III, and

25 WHEREAS, Title III of P.L. 106-393 provides for county funds to be used to
26 carry out activities under the Firewise Communities program, to reimburse for search and
27 rescue and other emergency services performed on federal land, or to develop community
28 wildfire protection plans, and

29 WHEREAS, in Motion 12885, King County elected to receive the full funding
30 amount, which election is effective for all subsequent federal fiscal years through fiscal
31 year 2011, and

32 WHEREAS, in Proposed Motion 2009-0407, King County made its annual
33 election for the allocation of the funding for federal fiscal year 2009, allocating eighty-
34 five percent of the full funding amount to Title I, eight percent to Title II and seven
35 percent to Title III, and

36 WHEREAS, seven percent of the funding amount for federal fiscal year 2009 is
37 expected to be \$131,000 and seven percent of the funding amount for federal fiscal year
38 2010 is expected to be \$118,000, and

39 WHEREAS, the executive budget proposal for 2010 appropriates a total of
40 \$249,000 to the water and land resources division to fund the Firewise Forests Initiative,
41 which meets the requirements of Title III, and

42 WHEREAS, Title III of P.L.106-393 requires a forty-five day public comment
43 period before approval of Title III projects by the county, and King County published
44 descriptions of the proposed projects forty-five days before the passage of this motion;

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

46 A. King County hereby authorizes the use of the Title III funds to be received for
47 federal fiscal years 2009 and 2010, expected to total \$249,000, to partially fund the
48 Firewise Forests Initiative, in the water and land resources division forestry program,
49 which will assist rural communities to develop Community Wildfire Protection Plans,
50 and promote the use of practices that reduce the risk of wildfire (Attachment A).

51 B. King County hereby elects to allocate the full funding amount for the 2010
52

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53 federal fiscal year as follows: eighty-five percent for Title I, eight percent for Title
54 II, and seven percent for Title III.

55

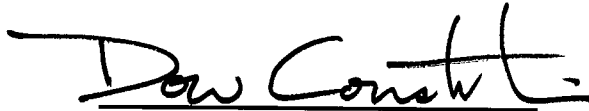
Motion 13094 was introduced on 10/5/2009 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/23/2009, by the following vote:

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

No: 0

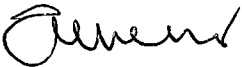
Excused: 1 - Mr. von Reichbauer

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Dow Constantine, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments A. Firewise Forests Initiative - 2010

Firewise Forests Initiative - 2010

King County's Forestry Program proposes to continue its comprehensive **Firewise Forests Initiative** through:

1. Staffing a Firewise Forests Advisory Committee
2. Implementing a chipper program, if feasible
3. Developing Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) for rural communities
4. Incorporating CCWP's into the County's regional Hazard Mitigation Plan
5. Expanding educational effort – materials & website

Project Description:

The Initiative works with small forest landowners and forest residents in developing community wildfire prevention and implementation plans. A King County forester works directly with community residents through consultation sessions and visits to their forest properties. The forester also works with community members to develop forest stewardship plans for their individual properties, the first step in implementing Firewise forest management practices on their land. A healthy forest with sufficient growing space for trees will be resilient, more drought tolerant and less susceptible to fire. Part of the initiative will be to provide training via Green River Community College or similar programs to build the capacity to do individual site evaluations, and assist landowners with implementation of firewise practices.

The Firewise Forests Initiative provides written information, web-based fire protection planning resources, and training sessions for forest landowners. Community residents are encouraged to share information with their neighbors. They are also encouraged to consult with local fire departments to determine risk factors, such as ease of access to their home, to be addressed in their plans.

The program plans to implement a chipper project to provide a means for property owners in Firewise communities to chip their wood debris. This will promote wildfire protection by reducing fuels; it will provide an alternative to burning, thereby reducing smoke emissions; it will allow the waste wood to be put to a beneficial use; and it will provide an incentive for communities to embark on community wildfire protection planning. This project would directly benefit carbon storage and reduce carbon emissions, supporting King County's Climate Change Initiative. The chipper project has started with a feasibility study in 2009, to determine the best approach for providing the services (existing or new business enterprise, non-profit, or existing agency). Depending on the results of the analysis, the Firewise Program will provide grant funding in 2010 to support the implementation of the chipper project.

2009 Accomplishments

In 2009, the program developed the Firewise website, initiated a contract for a feasibility study for the chipper project and a contract for the development of Firewise plans in four communities, and convened the Firewise Forests Advisory committee.

Estimated 2010 Budget \$249,000:

Project will continue to support participation by forestry program staff, DDES fire marshal, and fire district personnel. Work will include continuation of the advisory

committee, a contract for several community fire plans, and implementation of the chipper project, and the initiation of a training program to develop a work force that can assist landowners with implementation of firewise practices. Specific allocation of budget amounts may change depending on input from the Firewise Forests Advisory Committee.

\$39,500 – King County WLRD forestry program staff time (.25 FTE)

- Staff support to Firewise Forests Advisory Committee
- Maintain website; add completed CWPP plans
- Develop RFP and manage contracts

\$79,500 – Chipper Program

\$60,000 – Contract six CWPPs

\$50,000 – Training and Internships

\$5,000 – DDES hours

DDES clearing inspectors participation in Firewise permitting processes; Fire Marshal's review and input to CWPPs.

\$5,000 – Fire Districts staff hours

The local fire district[s] will assist with initial fire risk assessments, map and integrate CWPPs in their operational planning for participating communities.

\$ 5,000 – Outreach publications and mailings; printing and mailing

The Initiative will provide resources such as videos, pamphlets, checklists or booklets to help landowners prepare their plan and implement elements of it: e.g., a planning check list, a "how to do a thinning" checklist, guidance on how to hire a forester, etc.

\$5,000 – Create CWPP signs and install in completed communities.