



KING COUNTY
Signature Report

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

August 15, 2011

Motion 13531

Proposed No. 2011-0339.1

Sponsors Ferguson and Lambert

1 A MOTION urging jurisdictions throughout King County
2 to jointly enter into a memorandum of understanding for
3 the continuation of essential public services, incident
4 management operations and support activities, after a
5 regional emergency.

6 WHEREAS, the mission of King County's office of emergency management is to
7 provide leadership and high quality services that improve the safety of the citizens of the
8 county, and fulfillment of the mission includes working with regional partners to develop
9 and implement countywide strategies for coordinated emergency planning, response and
10 recovery, and

11 WHEREAS, political subdivisions, and tribes, with territory in geographic King
12 County are vulnerable to numerous emergency hazards, including earthquakes, flooding,
13 pandemics and terrorism, and

14 WHEREAS, an emergency caused by a hazard could occur at any time with little
15 or no warning, and

16 WHEREAS, such an emergency could cause numerous casualties, fatalities,
17 displaced persons, property loss, damage to the environment and disruption of essential
18 private and public services across multiple jurisdictions, and

19 WHEREAS, such an emergency would require prolonged incident management
20 operations and support activities among multiple jurisdictions to coordinate policy
21 decision making in the event the jurisdictions are affected by such an emergency, and

22 WHEREAS, in the event of an emergency, affected jurisdictions should consider
23 a regional approach of incident management in collaboration with affected jurisdictions,
24 with each jurisdiction implementing policy decisions in a coordinated manner with other
25 affected jurisdictions during emergency response and recovery activities, and

26 WHEREAS, the Green River valley cities of Auburn, Kent, Renton and Tukwila,
27 along with the county, have signed a model memorandum of understanding for
28 coordinated policy decision making during an emergency, and

29 WHEREAS, the county recognizes the benefits of signing such a memorandum of
30 understanding as strengthening regional cooperation and enhancing the coordination of
31 policy decision making during an emergency, and

32 WHEREAS, the memorandum of understanding is not binding and imposes no
33 enforceable obligations upon jurisdictions, and it is not intended to restrict the authority
34 of any party to act independently and, should a situation arise where jurisdictions cannot
35 reach a decision by consensus, any jurisdiction may make its own decision, and

36 WHEREAS, a joint memorandum of understanding provides for each party to
37 perform emergency management functions, emergency response, and recovery within its
38 jurisdiction, and

39 WHEREAS, a joint memorandum establishes a framework for two or more
40 jurisdictions to coordinate policy decision making in the event they are affected by an
41 emergency;

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
43 All jurisdictions in King County are urged to enter into a memorandum of
44 understanding for the continuation of essential public services, incident management
45 operations and support activities, during and after a regional emergency.
46

Motion 13531 was introduced on 7/25/2011 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 8/15/2011, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague,
Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Dunn and Mr.
McDermott
No: 0
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council