



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

October 9, 2012

Motion 13746

Proposed No. 2012-0381.1

**Sponsors Gossett, Patterson, Phillips,
McDermott and Ferguson**

1 A MOTION regarding access to public transportation
2 mobility for low income populations; and the establishment
3 of an advisory committee for mobility as an element of the
4 health and human services safety net to assist in the
5 development of new regional public transportation fare
6 programs.

7 WHEREAS, King County is responsible for the Metro transit system, which has a
8 mission to provide the best possible public transportation services and improve regional
9 mobility and quality of life in King County, and

10 WHEREAS, King County established "fair and just" as a countywide guiding
11 principle within the adopted King County Strategic Plan and defined this equity and
12 social justice program via Ordinance 16948 in order to achieve equitable opportunities
13 for all people and communities, and

14 WHEREAS, King County provides public transportation fare discounts to seniors,
15 disabled persons and youth riders, and participates in the regional reduced fare permit
16 program with the goals of advancing the "fair and just" guiding principle, and

17 WHEREAS, because King County is committed to the goal of providing
18 opportunities for all communities and individuals to realize their full potential, King
19 County forgoes more than two million dollars per year of fare revenue through a program

20 where community health and human services agencies purchase transit fare scrip at
21 twenty percent of the cash transit fare value, and

22 WHEREAS, the United Way of King County, via its community assessment basic
23 needs indicators, reports that requests for assistance with basic needs remains at high
24 levels, and in many cases at the highest levels. United Way of King County also report
25 that King County is currently experiencing its longest period of sustained, high
26 unemployment since monthly unemployment rates began to be measured in the early
27 1940s, and

28 WHEREAS, the King County council desires to explore and develop new
29 regional public transportation fare program concepts to meet the growing mobility needs
30 of low income persons as part of the health and human services safety net, and

31 WHEREAS, Ordinance 16415, authorizing the executive to execute an amended
32 and restated interlocal cooperation agreement for design, implementation, operation and
33 maintenance of the regional fare coordination system, established the King County transit
34 general manager as King County's representative on the joint board, which serves as the
35 governing, policy-setting body overseeing the activities related to the ORCA fare media
36 system, and

37 WHEREAS, the general manager notified the members of the ORCA joint board
38 of King County's interest in exploring local and regional low income fare programs, and

39 WHEREAS, it is expected that low income fare programs will be considered as
40 part of an overall transit fare program proposal from the King County executive,
41 anticipated to be transmitted in 2013;

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

43 A. The executive is requested to convene an advisory committee on mobility as
44 an element of the health and human services safety net. The purpose of the advisory
45 committee is to assist in the review and development of new King County public
46 transportation fare options for low income persons.

47 B. The executive should transmit by January 10, 2013, in the form of a motion
48 for council confirmation advisory committee membership with the following executive-
49 level representation:

- 50 1. One representative of the North Urban Human Service Alliance;
- 51 2.. One representative of the Eastside Human Services Forum;
- 52 3. One representative of the South King Council of Human Services;
- 53 4.. One representative of the Seattle Human Services Coalition;
- 54 5. Two representatives of low income consumer populations;
- 55 6. Three local jurisdiction representatives representing geographic diversity; and
- 56 7. Two business representatives.

57 C. The following staff shall serve as ex officio members of the advisory
58 committee:

- 59 1. Two staff designated by the council;
- 60 2. Two staff designated by the executive;
- 61 3. A representative designated by the Washington state Department of Social
62 and Health services;
- 63 4. The directors of the department of community and human services and
64 public health; and

65 5. The general manager of the transit division of the King County department
66 of transportation;

67 D. The advisory committee shall:

68 1. Establish a common understanding of mobility barriers for low income
69 populations, and how transit fare price points affect access and use of transit by low-
70 income persons;

71 2. Review the different types of transit fare options available to meet the
72 mobility needs of low-income persons;

73 3. Review costs of potential King County low-income fare programs;

74 4. Recommend definitions of low income to be used for the implementation of
75 transit fare programs;

76 5. Make prioritized recommendations related to the establishment of King
77 County low-income fare programs;

78 5 Identify different options for funding low income fare programs and potential
79 partners that may be willing to support such programs; and

80 6. Identify opportunities and recommendations for regional low income fare
81 programs for potential consideration by agency partners of the ORCA joint board; and

82 E. Recommendations to the council by the advisory committee should be
83 transmitted, in the form of a motion for acceptance by the council, by July 1, 2013,
84 regarding regional low-income public transportation fare program. The report should
85 include fare program definitions, priorities, costs and mobility impacts and funding
86 recommendations, as a well as recommendations for regionalization of the fare programs.

87 F. The advisory committee should be convened by February 1, 2013, and meet at
88 least monthly, at times convenient to a majority of the noncounty employee members.
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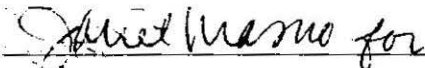
Motion 13746 was introduced on 9/17/2012 and passed by the Metropolitan King
County Council on 10/8/2012, by the following vote:

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

Attachments: None