



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

November 10, 2015

Motion 14457

Proposed No. 2015-0477.1

**Sponsors McDermott, Upthegrove and
Dembowski**

1 A MOTION expressing support for an expansion of the
2 King County Homeless Winter Shelter for winter 2015-
3 2016 and for a continued partnership with the city of
4 Seattle for joint funding of an expansion of the shelter.

5 WHEREAS, despite this region's prosperity, homelessness in King County is in a
6 state of crisis, with nearly ten thousand people experiencing homelessness on any given
7 day, and

8 WHEREAS, people of color are disproportionately more likely to experience
9 homelessness, and

10 WHEREAS, in early 2015, the One Night Count of people experiencing
11 homelessness identified three thousand seven hundred seventy-two people who were
12 unsheltered during that night, and

13 WHEREAS, sixty-six people experiencing homelessness have died on the streets
14 of King County to date during 2015, and

15 WHEREAS, the cold and rainy winter weather poses increased challenges and
16 safety risks for those who are homeless, and

17 WHEREAS, King County has recognized a particular need for emergency shelter
18 during the winter months and has provided winter shelter for more than twenty years, and

19 WHEREAS, King County currently provides funding for a winter shelter for
20 single adult men operated by the Salvation Army at the King County Administration
21 Building, which is called the King County Homeless Winter Shelter, is open outside of
22 normal business hours and for winter 2015-2016 will provide shelter for fifty men
23 between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. each night from November 1, 2015,
24 through April 15, 2016, and

25 WHEREAS, in January 2015, the city of Seattle agreed to provide \$117,000 to
26 help King County expand the capacity of the King County Homeless Winter Shelter from
27 fifty to one hundred men for the remainder of the 2014-2015 winter season, and

28 WHEREAS, in response to this contribution from the city of Seattle, the King
29 County council approved an emergency appropriation through Ordinance 17966 that
30 provided \$53,000 in county funds to cover the remainder of the funding needed to expand
31 the capacity and hours of the shelter for the remainder of winter 2014-2015, and

32 WHEREAS, on November 2, 2015, the King County executive and the mayor of
33 the city of Seattle declared a state of emergency in response to the growing crisis of
34 people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Seattle and King County, and pledged,
35 among other actions, to address immediate need through the expansion of shelter capacity
36 in Seattle;

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

38 A. The King County council supports efforts to expand the capacity of the King
39 County Homeless Winter Shelter from fifty to up to one hundred fifty beds for winter
40 2015-2016.

41 B. The King County council supports providing a location for an expanded King
42 County Homeless Winter Shelter for winter 2015-2016, either at the current location of
43 the King County administration building or at another King County-owned facility in
44 downtown Seattle, or at both, and identifying new funding partnerships sufficient to
45 cover any combination of rent, utilities, security and facility improvements as needed.

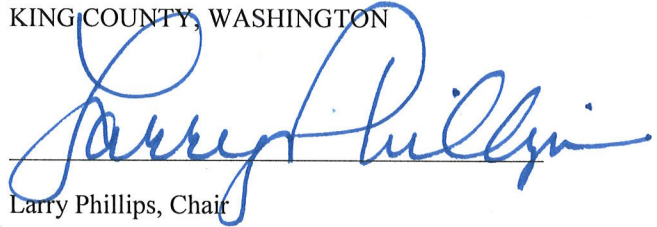
46 C. The King County council, as part of its continuing partnership with the city of
47 Seattle in addressing the crisis of homelessness, encourages the city to renew its support
48 for the King County Homeless Winter Shelter by appropriating funding sufficient to

49 cover the costs of shelter management for up to an additional one hundred beds for winter
50 2015-2016.
51

Motion 14457 was introduced on 11/9/2015 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/9/2015, by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Mr. Dunn,
Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski and Mr. Upthegrove
No: 0
Excused: 2 - Ms. Hague and Ms. Lambert

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None