

6/09/86  
0721E/NM:1t

Introduced by: Sims/Sullivan

Proposed No. : 86-308

7688

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

1  
2  
3 AN ORDINANCE providing for the submission to  
4 the electors of King County as a special  
5 election to be held therein on September 16,  
6 1986 in conjunction with the State-wide  
7 primary election to be held on the same date,  
8 of a proposition imposing the levy of a  
9 general tax each year for five years  
10 beginning in 1987 in a sum of \$.025 per  
11 \$1,000 of assessed valuation of taxable  
12 property within the County pursuant to  
13 Chapter 169, Laws of Washington of 1986,  
14 Regular Session, for the support of the  
15 purchase and operation of an Automated  
16 Fingerprint Identification Computer System  
17 which will be used to improve the ability of  
18 law enforcement agencies to rapidly identify  
19 and convict felons and other criminals.

20 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

21 SECTION 1. Findings and declaration of purpose. The  
22 council finds that:

23 A. Enactment of this ordinance is necessary for the  
24 health, welfare, benefit, and safety of the residents within  
25 King County.

26 B. Purchase and implementation of an Automated Fingerprint  
27 Identification System will greatly enhance the ability of the  
28 county sheriff and other local law enforcement agencies to  
29 apprehend dangerous felons and other criminals. The present  
30 fingerprint identification system employed by the county  
31 department of public safety requires manual comparisons of  
32 crime scene prints with the hundreds of thousands of criminal  
33 fingerprints already on file in the department. It would take  
months or even years to search all fingerprints on file for a  
match with fingerprints taken at the scene of a crime.

Therefore, fingerprint searches are only employed when a  
suspect has already been identified. An Automated Fingerprint  
Identification System (AFIS) greatly enhances criminal  
investigations because it compares crime scene prints with all  
fingerprints on file in a police department in a matter of

1 minutes. This has allowed police departments which have  
2 implemented AFIS systems to identify and convict more felons.

3 C. Purchase and implementation of an Automated Fingerprint  
4 Identification System will greatly improve the county's  
5 burglary conviction rate. At present, the county police  
6 department only solves or clears 6.5% of all burglaries  
7 committed each year. Police departments which have implemented  
8 AFIS systems have reported as much as a fourfold increase in  
9 their burglary solution rates. Conviction rates also improve  
10 because positive fingerprint identification of a suspect in a  
11 burglary case almost always leads to a conviction.

12 D. Upon approval of the voters of the proposition  
13 contained in this ordinance, an Automated Fingerprint  
14 Identification System purchased by King County will be  
15 available for use without charge by any public law enforcement  
16 agency within King County as provided in Section 3 and 4 of  
17 this Ordinance.

18 E. It is contemplated that the AFIS system be made  
19 available, when capacity to do so exists, to police departments  
20 such as the state and federal government and other  
21 jurisdictions operating outside the boundaries of King County  
22 on a cost reimbursement basis under contracts entered into with  
23 King County. Such reimbursements will provide for full  
24 reimbursement of the costs of such use.

25 F. The provision of automated fingerprint identification  
26 services to law enforcement agencies on a county-wide basis is  
27 a public purpose of King County. Considerations of efficiency  
28 also dictate that the County make such services available as  
29 capacity to do so exists, to jurisdictions operating outside  
30 the boundaries of King County on a cost reimbursement basis.  
31 In order to assure such provision of services, it is both  
32 necessary and appropriate that an additional regular property  
33

1 tax levy of \$.025 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation be levied as  
2 provided for in this ordinance.

3 SECTION 2. Authorization of levy. The authorization for  
4 this additional regular property tax levy for the support of  
5 purchase and operation of an Automated Fingerprint  
6 Identification System is found in Chapter 169, Laws of  
7 Washington of 1986, Regular Session.

8 SECTION 3. City and other jurisdiction's access. It is  
9 recognized that the cities of King County and other local law  
10 enforcement agencies such as the Port Authority provide law  
11 enforcement services which are separate from the county.  
12 During the period of this five-year levy as set forth herein  
13 and as authorized by the qualified electors of King County, all  
14 tax revenues collected pursuant to such five-year levy from  
15 taxable property located within the legal boundaries of King  
16 County--so long as services are provided to King County  
17 residents by King County, the cities, and other local law  
18 enforcement agencies--shall be used for the provision of  
19 automated fingerprint identification services. Such services  
20 may also be made available as capacity to do so exists, on a  
21 full cost reimbursable basis through contractual arrangements  
22 with King County to jurisdictions such as the State and local  
23 governments operating outside the boundaries of King County.

24 SECTION 4. Provision of automated fingerprint  
25 identification services as provided for herein shall include  
26 purchase of one automated fingerprint identification computer  
27 which includes four peripheral workstations together with  
28 necessary software and peripheral hardware and provision for  
29 hardware and software operations and maintenance expenses to  
30 include a five-year maintenance contract, three latent print  
31 examiners, supplies and space rental for the five year  
32 program. An estimating contingency of approximately five  
33

1 percent is included. The underlying financial plan for the  
2 system is provided in Attachment A.

3 SECTION 5. Type of levy. Pursuant to the authorization in  
4 Chapter 169, Laws of 1986, Regular Session, this levy is a  
5 regular property tax levy in addition to the statutory tax rate  
6 limit of RCW 84.52.043 and is subject to provisions imposed in  
7 RCW 84.55.050 as amended by Chapter 169, Laws of Washington of  
8 1986, Regular Session.

9 SECTION 6. Levy rate. The rate at which this levy shall  
10 be submitted to the voters shall be the sum of \$.025 per \$1,000  
11 of assessed valuation each year for five consecutive years  
12 beginning in 1987.

13 SECTION 7. Deposit of funds. All funds collected under  
14 this levy shall be deposited into the King County Automated  
15 Fingerprint Identification System Fund which shall be  
16 established by King County as a first tier fund and shall be  
17 invested for its own benefit.

18 SECTION 8. Ratification by voters. This five-year levy  
19 must be approved by a majority of the electors of King County  
20 voting on the proposition, at the special election held on  
21 September 16, 1986 and as provided in RCW 84.55.050 and  
22 Chapter 169, Laws of Washington of 1986, Regular Session. The  
23 number of persons voting "yes" on the proposition shall  
24 constitute a majority of the qualified electors of King County  
25 voting on the proposition.

26 SECTION 9. Call for special election. Pursuant to  
27 RCW 29.13.010 and RCW 29.13.070, it is hereby deemed that an  
28 emergency exists requiring the submission to the qualified  
29 electors of the county at a special county election to be held  
30 therein on September 16, 1986, in conjunction with the  
31 state-wide general election to be held on the same date, of a  
32 proposition authorizing the previously described five-year levy  
33

1 for the purchase and operation of Automated Fingerprint  
2 Identification System Services. The manager of the division of  
3 records and elections shall cause notice to be given of this  
4 ordinance in accordance with the State Constitution and general  
5 law and to submit to the qualified electors of the county at  
6 the said special county elections, the proposition hereinafter  
7 set forth.

8 The clerk of the council is hereby authorized and directed  
9 to certify that proposition to the manager of the King County  
10 division of records and elections in substantially the  
11 following form:

12 King County, Washington

13 Proposition \_\_\_\_\_: Regular Property Tax  
14 Levy for Automated Fingerprint Identification System Services

15  
16 Shall King County levy a regular property tax each year for  
17 five consecutive years beginning in 1987, to be collected  
18 beginning 1987, in the sum of \$.025 per \$1,000 of assessed  
19 valuation to support the purchase and operation of an Automated  
20 Fingerprint Identification System to improve the ability of law  
21 enforcement agencies to rapidly identify and convict felons and  
22 other criminals, all as provided in King County  
23 Ordinance \_\_\_\_\_.

24 Proposition, yes . . . . .

25 Proposition, no . . . . .

26 SECTION 10: Severability. Should any section, subsection,  
27 sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance be declared  
28 unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, that determination  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33

shall not affect the validity of the remaining parts of this ordinance.

INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 15th day of May, 1986.

PASSED this 7th day of July, 1986.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Rudney Inger  
CHAIR

ATTEST:

I have vetoed Ordinance No. 7688 in its entirety for the reasons set forth in my attached statement.

Donna M. Owens  
Clerk of the Council

~~APPROVED~~ this 17th day of July, 1986.  
vetoed

Tim Hill  
TIM HILL  
King County Executive

## AFIS FINANCIAL PLAN

YEAR	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	TOTAL
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ANNUAL EXPENDITURES						
computer equipment	1,002,368	1,002,368	1,002,368	1,002,368	1,002,368	5,011,838
operating:						
O & M maintenance	318,820	334,761	351,499	369,074	387,528	1,761,682
operator(s)	91,500	96,075	100,879	105,923	111,219	505,595
supplies	9,000	9,450	9,923	10,419	10,940	49,731
rent	12,000	12,600	13,230	13,892	14,586	66,308
5% contingency	71,684	75,269	79,032	82,984	87,133	396,101
TOTAL	1,505,372	1,530,522	1,556,930	1,584,658	1,613,773	7,791,255
RESULTING TAX RATE=	0.024731	0.024652	0.024112	0.024061	0.023560	0.024223 =AVERAGE
BALANCING						
level tax rate=	0.025000	0.025000	0.025000	0.025000	0.025000	
proceeds=	1,521,725	1,552,159	1,614,245	1,646,530	1,712,391	8,047,051
=====						
BORROWING						
AMOUNT=						
computer purchase	4,055,464					
	=====					
annuity=	1,002,368					



**King County Executive  
TIM HILL**

400 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
(206) 344-4040

July 17, 1986

The Honorable Audrey Gruger, Chair  
King County Council  
Room 402  
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Gruger:

After careful consideration, I have vetoed Ordinance 7688, which provides for a special election to impose a property tax levy to fund the acquisition of an Automated Fingerprint Identification Computer System. This letter sets forth my reasons for taking this action.

It is important that this type of major decision be made in the context of the annual budget process. Many needs are competing for scarce County resources. The budget process provides the County with an opportunity to evaluate the relative importance of these needs and allocate resources accordingly.

I also believe that other elected officials should be more fully involved in decisions that impact their jurisdictions. I have discussed the proposed system with mayors and city officials who generally agreed that an automated fingerprint identification system would assist participating police agencies. However, they also expressed considerable concern over their lack of involvement in the development of this proposed system.

Furthermore, the acquisition of this type of system should involve additional analysis of the role local jurisdictions will assume in its operation and maintenance. The levy envisioned by Ordinance 7688 will fund the operation of the system for only five years. How will the system's operating costs, estimated at \$600,000 annually, be paid for after the levy period expires? This is a significant issue deserving thorough analysis.

I have initiated a process in cooperation with other elected officials and the PSCOG's King Subregional Council to examine the cost of County services and how these services are currently funded. It is important that we avoid the contracting methods used for providing cities with jail, district court and health services. The contract approval process is cumbersome and time

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KING COUNTY COUNCIL



The Honorable Audrey Gruger

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consuming. This could be an excellent opportunity for the County to explore alternative approaches to financing services it currently provides through contracts.

It is also important that the impact of this proposed action on the entire criminal justice system be assessed. The police, the courts, the Prosecuting Attorney, the public defender associations, and the jail are each affected by the others' actions. These agencies may require additional resources to address an increased arrest rate due to the use of an automated fingerprint identification system. I recently appointed a criminal justice task force which is now in the process of reexamining the interrelationship of these various agencies. This task force has suggested that a more detailed analysis of the automated fingerprint identification system is necessary.

Finally, the installation of the type of system envisioned by this ordinance poses many complex technical questions that must be thoroughly examined prior to taking action:

- How will the system proposed for King County relate to the system being implemented at the State level? The State of Washington is currently studying a similar system. The design and implementation of these efforts should occur with the full cooperation of both parties.
- Which of the available systems will be acquired? A number of systems are currently available. Until a more detailed analysis is performed, it will be impossible to make a selection and determine its cost.

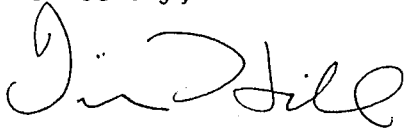
These technical questions could be addressed by the County's Data Processing Policy Review Committee. This organization was established by ordinance to provide oversight to County agencies in their acquisition of data processing systems. It was not consulted by the Council in preparing Ordinance 7688.

The Council's analysis has laid the groundwork for a continuing effort to review available fingerprint identification technology and further explore its applicability to King County. A thorough written proposal, addressing the concerns I have discussed in this letter, needs to be developed. I have directed the Department of Public Safety, with the assistance of the Budget Office, to undertake this analysis. Normal County processes must be followed, especially for major decisions such as this one. I am confident that my veto of Ordinance 7688 will not seriously delay this process. Even if the proposed levy passed, at least a year will be required to obtain the necessary equipment and personnel.

The Honorable Audrey Gruger  
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I hope you will accept this veto message as an opportunity to analyze the automated fingerprint identification system in greater detail. I share your desire to enhance the County's law enforcement activity and look forward to working with you to achieve that result.

Sincerely,



Tim Hill  
King County Executive

TH:RF:rj

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Cal Hoggard, Program Director  
Jerry Peterson, Administrator

City Mayors  
Department Directors