

January 20, 1998

Introduced By:

Vance

RPC Work Program MR

Proposed No.:

98-045

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ORDINANCE NO. **13002**

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AN ORDINANCE establishing the 1998 work program for the
Regional Policy Committee of the Metropolitan King County
Council.

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PREAMBLE:

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The Regional Policy Committee of the Metropolitan King
County Council is established by the County Charter and
directed to develop, recommend and review regional policies
and plans for consideration by the metropolitan county
council. This ordinance describes the 1998 work program for
the Regional Policy Committee.

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BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

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SECTION 1. The work program for the Regional Policy Committee for 1998 shall
address countywide policies or plans related to the recommendations of the studies or
reports listed in Attachment A.

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SECTION 2. In addition to the above-listed items, the work program shall include
countywide policies or plans which respond to current or emergent concerns, which are of

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1 regional interest, and which relate to multiple jurisdictions. The committee may amend its
2 work program to include such issues, for consideration by the council.

3 INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 20th day of
4 January, 1998.

5 PASSED by a vote of 12 to 0 this 9th day of February,
6 1998.

7 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
8 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

9 Louise Miller
10 Chair

11 ATTEST:

12 Emmons
13 Clerk of the Council

14 APPROVED this 18 day of February, 1998.

15 Donald An
16 King County Executive

17 Attachments: Draft summary of ongoing or potential regional planning/study projects
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DRAFT SUMMARY OF ONGOING OR POTENTIAL REGIONAL PLANNING/STUDY PROJECTS
 INCLUDES PROJECTS WHICH ARE OF MULTIJURISDICTIONAL INTEREST, WITH ACTION NEEDED BY MKCC
 FOR CONSIDERATION BY REGIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE FOR WORK PROGRAM, 1998

QUARTER	PRODUCT	BACKGROUND/PROGRESS NOTES	POTENTIAL REGIONAL POLICY ISSUES
1 (Stakeholder Process) 4 (Comprehensive Plan)	Solid Waste Stakeholder Recommendations Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan	The Solid Waste Division of the King County Department of Natural Resources is conducting a Stakeholder Outreach process, involving solid waste haulers, labor, and the Division; specific attention is focused on the extent to which solid waste services should be provided by the private sector, rather than the Division, as well as other issues identified in a budget proviso. This process is preliminary to the Division's Comprehensive Plan, which is anticipated to conclude by the end of the year; the Stakeholder process is expected to conclude by mid-February. Issues addressed include whether some solid waste transfer stations should be sold to private haulers, impacts on labor, impacts on sunk public investment in facilities, whether full service would continue, and similar concerns. The Comprehensive Plan would incorporate the outcome of this review, and would also address issues of waste reduction/recycling, management of the landfill, and similar program elements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should the County sell a part of its Solid Waste Management collection/transfer system to the private sector, such as one or more transfer stations? • If private haulers are allowed to purchase one or more transfer stations, should they be required to maintain existing self-haul and recycling services? • Are we at reasonable threshold limits of our regional recycling capacity, or should the region seek higher rates of waste reduction/recycling?
1	Regional Committee Charter Amendments	The King County Charter Review Commission in 1997 recommended a number of amendments to the King County Charter which would address a range of concerns which had been expressed relative to the functioning of the regional committees. Though a number of charter amendments were approved by the Council and the public in 1997, the regional committee amendments were not among them. The Council indicated an intent to give further consideration to those which had not been approved; the regional committee proposals are expected to be referred to the RPC to initiate that review.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should the Council be required to act on regional committee initiatives within 90 days? • Should regional committee chairs be selected by the committee, rather than by the Council?
2 (Phase 1 completed) 4 (Phase 2 completed)	Juvenile Detention Capacity Master Plan	Increasing population, increasing sentences and high levels of criminal violations among youth have led to capacity problems at the county's youth detention facility at 12 th and Alder in Seattle. The Department of Youth Services is currently engaged in a Master Planning Process to address facility, operating and demographic issues and needs, associated with these capacity problems. A preliminary capacity analysis has been completed; the review will next focus on vision, strategic and global planning issues, due to be completed by the end of May; following that, specific operating and program issues will be addressed, to be completed by the end of December. The review process will be broadly based, including stakeholders from interested sectors; it will address trends in sentencing, demographic projections, operational alternatives to impact capacity needs, and similar questions. The youth population is drawn from throughout the county, including Seattle and suburban cities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should additional youth detention capacity be built to serve the region? • Should population management and diversion techniques be employed to reduce the youth detention space demands? • Should youth sentencing practices be reviewed?

QUARTER	PRODUCT	PROGRESS NOTES	POTENTIAL REGIONAL POLICY ISSUES
<p>2 (initial status survey) 3 (earthquake exercise, policy reccs)</p>	<p>Regional Emergency Management Plan</p>	<p>The 1998 King County budget provided resources to the Office of Emergency Management to develop a regional Emergency Management Plan. The Emergency Management Task Force expects to undertake a regional planning effort which will include representation both from a variety of local jurisdictions, as well as across a range of disciplines, such as police, emergency dispatch, health, fire, and other interests. The planning process would address means by which various jurisdictions would respond to emergencies; what the respective division of responsibilities would be; what resources would be available to draw upon; and similar information. A regional working group will be established to conduct the planning effort; a survey of existing emergency plans of local jurisdictions will be the first product of the planning effort; it is expected in April.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should the cities plan provide for emergency shelter in case of natural disaster, or should that be a regional responsibility? • Should all information releases to the media be coordinated through a centralized office during a natural disaster emergency?
<p>2</p>	<p>Wireless emergency response standards</p>	<p>In response to a Federal Communications Commission requirement that cellular telephones must have the capacity to automatically report the telephone number from which an emergency cellular call is made, as well as the location from which it is made, the E-911 Office has undertaken a planning effort to develop standards for such technology, as well as the development of the technology and facilities required to receive and respond to such emergency calls. The E-911 Office expects that technology and standards for the automatic reporting of cellular telephone numbers should be available later this year; they would be prepared to report to RPC in July. The ability to automatically report actual location from which an emergency cellular call is made, however, could yet be several years away.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How should a wireless telephone emergency response system be funded? • Should such a system provide for a system of technology standards that are countywide? Statewide? • How should the private telephone providers be involved?
<p>3</p>	<p>Environmental Extension Program Expansion Recommendations</p>	<p>The Environmental Extension program, a project of the Duwamish Coalition, is intended to provide a non-regulatory environmental technical resource to small businesses in the Duwamish area. Acknowledging the wariness that small businesses may have towards environmental regulatory agencies, the Extension is run by a coalition of small businesses, the Environmental Coalition of South Seattle—supported by a contract through the county's Office of Budget and Strategic Planning; it provides outreach to businesses by reviewing their operations for pollution prevention opportunities in the areas of packaging, water use, energy use, or similar functions; it also addresses environmental cleanup of contaminated lands. Local private sector technical experts provide pro-bono review and information services at an overview level, coordinated through this program. The service is somewhat limited because of the absence of an in-house environmental engineer, who would provide more consistent, complete review of environmental needs of small businesses. The opportunity is available to broaden this model to a region-wide service, providing neutral, non-regulatory technical support and information to small businesses which may be reluctant to seek help from environmental regulators. The Regional Policy Committee may want to establish a task force with responsibility for identifying issues, recommending solutions, and suggesting funding for an Environmental Extension program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can small business comply more readily with environmental regulations with the help of a small-business coalition which provides consultation and support? Should government help such a coalition in its work? • Can such a program, currently in place in the Duwamish region, be of benefit regionwide?

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QUARTER	PRODUCT	PROGRESS NOTES	POTENTIAL REGIONAL POLICY ISSUES
4	Livable Communities Conference and Fair	<p>The increasing levels of urban congestion, traffic and the loss of civic spiritedness in the region and nationwide have encouraged the development of the 'livable communities' movement, intended to encourage the redevelopment of 'community', in part, by encouraging urban land use and development patterns that stimulate, increased community involvement, multiple use communities, intergenerational living patterns, less driving and similar elements. The Regional Policy Committee is coordinating planning for a conference and fair that will address these concerns, targeting the broader public as attendees at the fair. Planning is for Fall, 1998.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can the concerns related to urban sprawl, traffic congestion, the 'sameness' of the suburbs be addressed through the concepts of the 'livable communities' movement? • How can these concepts best be communicated to the broader public? Can a 'fair' attract such interest?

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ITEMS SUGGESTED FOR REMOVAL FROM 1998 WORKPLAN AT COMMITTEE BREAKFAST MEETING ON 1/27/98

QUARTER	PRODUCT	PROGRESS NOTES	POTENTIAL REGIONAL POLICY ISSUES
1	Hazardous Waste Management Plan	The King County Hazardous Waste Management Plan, which addresses hazardous waste issues in Seattle, suburban cities and unincorporated areas, has been developed by Solid Waste Division of the Department of Natural Resources and is available for review. The Plan focuses on public information and outreach, waste reduction, household hazardous waste, the Wastemobile, fixed waste collection facilities, industrial materials exchange, and similar program activities. Suburban cities have expressed particular interest in the availability of hazardous waste collection sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should the manufacturing sector, which generates the products that eventually become hazardous wastes, provide some portion of the program budget for hazardous waste management? • Should the private sector, which manufactures chemicals and commodities which eventually become hazardous wastes, have greater responsibility for the stewardship and management of that waste? Or is the current mix of responsibility, with the public sector taking primary responsibility for this effort, about right?
1-4 (seek referral of public health policy issues as they emerge)	Public Health Policy Issues	The region continues to be confronted by a wide range of public health issues, including AIDS, infant mortality, heart disease, natural medicine, adolescent pregnancy, STD's mental health needs, managed care, suicide, and similar issues. While state law defines the responsibilities of local boards of health to include the development of rules and regulations, there are various legal references, including the county charter, authorizing the Regional Policy Committee to address health policy issues. Pursuant to that delineation of responsibilities, those issues which rise to the level of health policy, for which a regional decision is needed, would be reviewed by the Regional Policy Committee; those matters which are more regulatory in nature, would continue to go to the Board of Health. The opportunity exists for joint or successive review, as was the case with the Health Action Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How should the region respond to the spread of potentially dangerous diseases?
2	Public Access Defibrillation recommendations	The development of smaller, more user-friendly defibrillation devices, used to restore regular heart rhythm to victims of cardiac arrest, has led to planning for a public access defibrillation program, which would make these devices more widely available for use by the trained public to respond to a cardiac arrest event. The planning effort is coordinated by the Emergency Medical Services office; a conference has been held, key issues have been identified. They include liability, integration with the existing EMS program, funding, training, and similar questions. Recommendations are expected early in 1998.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should potential 'good Samaritans' be exempted by law from any potential liability for misuse or failure to appropriately use a public access defibrillator in case of a cardiac event? • Should government guide the development of public access defibrillation, or should the private sector be left on its own for this purpose?
4	EMS system funding recommendations	The Emergency Medical Services Levy will be put to the voters in February, 1998, as an interim means of supporting the EMS program; development of a long-term program funding recommendation will be undertaken, resulting from discussions about the future of EMS following the November 1997 failure of the EMS Levy. Recommendations will need review and adoption by the Council and larger suburban cities; the Regional Policy Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the best way to fund emergency medical services long-term?