

Vetoed 8/18/99

13604

Jane Hague
Rob McKenna
Brian Derdowski
Greg Nickels
Larry Phillips
Louise Miller

5/28/99
9989sub:kn

Introduced By:

Clerk 08/16/99

Proposed No.:

1999-0089

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ORDINANCE NO. **13604**

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AN ORDINANCE establishing the King County active sports and youth recreation commission; and adding a new chapter to K.C.C. Title 2.

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PREAMBLE:

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King County manages a large and diverse system of parks, recreation facilities, open space and paved regional trails on nearly twenty thousand acres of land.

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Throughout King County, dozens of cities, school districts, and private associations join with the King County Parks Department to provide sports and recreation opportunities to the roughly 402,000 youths living in King County. The King County executive and the King County council recognize the need for King County to establish a commission to advise the County on ways to promote, provide and enhance opportunities for adult and youth recreation, active sports and community playfields.

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The King County Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan, adopted in 1996, supports establishment of an active sports and youth recreation commission, recognizing the regional need to "provide park programs and activities consistent with the urban level of service by developing partnerships and coordinating with cities, school districts, and community groups to help meet program demands."

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Further, the plan recommends that King County "work with cities, communities and other providers to maximize program offerings and services to provide a variety of local recreation programs that respond to the interests of the communities."

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Recreation professionals, youth sports league leaders, and community leaders throughout King County recognize the role sports play in providing positive development opportunities for young people. They also recognize the lack of basic

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1 research on the sports and recreational needs of youth, and the lack of a countywide
2 strategy to meet that need.

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4 King County recognizes that meeting the recreational needs of its youth requires an
5 understanding of the recreational needs of adults, and that planning future
6 recreation facilities should incorporate the needs of all park user groups throughout
7 King County.

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10 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

11 SECTION 1. Sections 2 through 6 of this ordinance should constitute a
12 new chapter in K.C.C. Title 2.

13 NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. Establishment. The King County
14 active sports and youth recreation commission is hereby established and shall be
15 referred to as “the commission” throughout this chapter.

16 NEW SECTION. SECTION 3. Purpose. The purpose of the commission is to
17 develop a regional perspective to address the needs of active sports and youth recreation in
18 King County, and to advise the county in its efforts to encourage recreational opportunities
19 throughout King County. The commission should also apply its efforts to understand and
20 coordinate the unique recreational needs of all age groups throughout King County.

21 NEW SECTION. SECTION 4. Membership – terms and nonvoting ex officio
22 **members.**

23 A. The commission must consist of twenty-six voting members and shall consist
24 of two members nominated by each councilmember. Councilmembers must provide the
25 executive with two recommendations for appointees to represent their council district. If
26 the executive does not appoint a person that has been recommended by the councilmember,

1 the executive must request that the councilmember nominate another candidate for
2 appointment.

3 B. Qualification. In making appointments to the commission, an effort should be
4 made to assure that the following categories of recreation are considered: field sports,
5 court sports, aquatic recreation, hobby groups, specialized recreation for persons with
6 disabilities and any other sport which requires facilities or fields. Additionally, one or
7 more representatives of local youth groups should be included on the commission
8 membership. Councilmembers may recommend candidates for appointment who are under
9 the age of 18. Commission membership shall be monitored by the director of the
10 department of parks and recreation and the director shall provide councilmembers with
11 recommendations on which recreation categories are not represented on the commission
12 and which categories should receive priority consideration for appointment. The directors
13 of the King County department of parks and recreation, the department of youth services,
14 and the office of regional policy and planning, a representative from a local law
15 enforcement agency, and a representative of the King County council's utilities and natural
16 resources committee may serve as nonvoting ex officio members of the commission.

17 C. All appointees should have a working knowledge of parks and recreation, a
18 strong commitment to promote recreation in King County, the ability to work with
19 differing viewpoints to find solutions to complex problems and a willingness to commit the
20 time necessary to attend commission meetings and activities.

21 NEW SECTION. SECTION 5. Responsibilities.

1 A. The commissioners shall advise the King County executive and the King
2 County council on:

- 3 1. Ways to maintain and enhance inter-jurisdictional relations;
- 4 2. Ways to create ongoing partnerships with local parks and recreation
5 departments, school districts and nonprofit groups to maximize use of recreation facilities;
- 6 3. Long-range planning to anticipate demand for programs, facilities and
7 services;
- 8 4. The acquisition of new properties and facilities to meet regional sports
9 needs, and identify funding sources for the acquisition of those facilities;
- 10 5. Growth management policies which enhance recreational programs or
11 facilities; and
- 12 6. Making improvements to existing facilities and exploring the use of
13 public-private partnerships for maintenance of these facilities; and

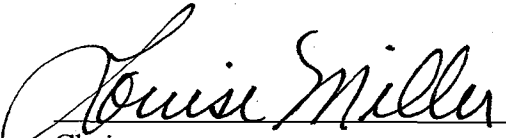
14 B. The commission shall issue a status report to the council by May 1st every
15 two years, beginning May 1, 2001, to provide information on King County's current state
16 of recreation opportunities available for youth. This biennial "State of Youth Sports"
17 report shall include information on the demographics of young people in King County;
18 percentages involved in organized sports leagues including, but not limited to, soccer,
19 baseball, softball and basketball; the proximity and availability of fields and courts for
20 youth for both organized and unorganized activities; and information correlating the
21 availability or lack of recreational activities to involvement in the criminal justice system.

1 NEW SECTION. SECTION 6. Staffing, rules and procedures. The director of
2 the King County department of parks and recreation is responsible for the staffing and
3 operation of the commission. Before undertaking its other responsibilities, the commission
4 shall elect officers and adopt administrative procedures. Any policy recommendations
5 issued by the commission that require council approval shall be jointly referred to the
6 regional policy committee and the utilities and natural resources committee for review and
7 consideration. Proposals shall first be considered by the regional policy committee,
8 followed by the utilities and natural resources committee.

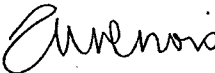
9 INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 16th day of February, 1999.

10 PASSED by a vote of 12 to 1 this 16th day of August, 1999.

11 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
12 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

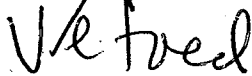
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14 Chair

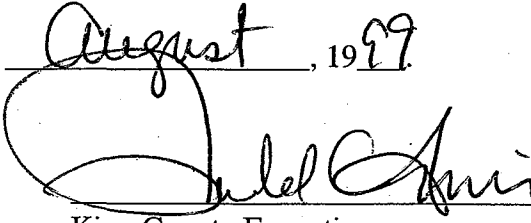
15 ATTEST:

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17 Clerk of the Council

18 APPROVED this 19 day of August, 1999

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King County Executive

21 Attachments: None

Vetoed 8/18/99



King County Executive
RON SIMS

RECEIVED

99 AUG 20 AM 11:11

CLERK
KING COUNTY COUNCIL

August 19, 1999

The Honorable Louise Miller
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
COURTHOUSE

Dear Councilmember Miller:

I am reluctantly vetoing Ordinance 13604.

On February 12, 1999 I proposed Ordinance 1999-0089, authorizing the establishment of a King County Youth Recreation Commission. The purpose of the proposed ordinance was to address, from a regional perspective, the needs of active sports and youth recreation, and to advise the county in developing recreational opportunities throughout King County. The ordinance insured the County was represented geographically, and that all types of active recreation users both current and future would have a voice. There were no age constraints, which left the door open for all who were interested in serving. The thirteen (13) member commission also included representation from the Office of Regional Policy and Planning, the Council's Utilities & Natural Resources Committee, and representatives from the King County Park System.

The Ordinance passed by the Council on Monday August 16, 1999 places unreasonable constraints on the future success of the Commission. Our experience indicates a twenty-six (26) member Commission will be difficult to fill, cumbersome to staff, and will become a barrier to reaching consensus. In addition, the adopted ordinance in effect requires the Executive to appoint only citizens pre-selected by the Council. While this selection methodology may be appropriate for a governing board such as the Harborview Medical Center Board of Trustees, it is inappropriate for a citizen advisory committee such as the Youth Recreation Commission, where it is essential that a broad range of representatives of youth and community organizations and recreation users be considered during the appointment process.

cc: Councilmembers

KING COUNTY COURTHOUSE 516 THIRD AVENUE, ROOM 400 SEATTLE, WA 98104-3271
(206) 296-4040 296-0194 FAX 296-0200 TDD E-mail: ron.sims@metrokc.gov

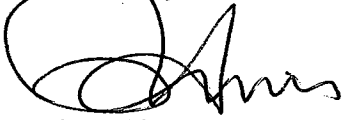
The Honorable Louise Miller

August 19, 1999

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We all believe a Youth Recreation Commission is important for King County. The information that will be obtained and the involvement of many dedicated persons from throughout our region will have a strong impact on the future of recreation. I am committed to its success. To that end, I am personally committed to working with the Council to develop an ordinance that will achieve these important goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Sims", written over a large, circular scribble.

Ron Sims

King County Executive

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: John Chelminiak, Chief of Staff

Shelley Sutton, Policy Staff Director

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Craig Larsen, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation