



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

February 15, 2000

Ordinance 13720

Proposed No. 1999-0637.2

Sponsors Phillips, Nickels, Pelz and von Reichbauer

1 AN ORDINANCE establishing the King County active
2 sports and youth recreation commission; and adding a new
3 chapter to K.C.C. Title 2.
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6 **PREAMBLE:**

7 King County manages a large and diverse system of parks, recreation
8 facilities, open space and paved regional trails on nearly twenty thousand
9 acres of land.
10 Throughout King County, dozens of cities, school districts, and private
11 associations join with the King County parks department to provide sports
12 and recreation opportunities to the roughly four hundred two thousand
13 youths living in King County. The King County executive and the King
14 County council recognize the need for King County to establish a
15 commission to advise the county on ways to promote, provide and enhance
16 opportunities for adult and youth recreation, active sports and community
17 playfields.

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

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

28 Recreation professionals, youth sports league leaders, and community
29 leaders throughout King County recognize the role sports play in providing
30 positive development opportunities for young people. They also recognize
31 the lack of basic research on the sports and recreational needs of youth,
32 and the lack of a countywide strategy to meet that need.

33 King County recognizes that meeting the recreational needs of its youth
34 requires an understanding of the recreational needs of adults, and that
35 planning future recreation facilities should incorporate the needs of all
36 park user groups throughout King County.

37 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:**

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

40 SECTION 2. Establishment. The King County active sports and youth

41 recreation commission is hereby established and shall be referred to as "the commission"
42 throughout this chapter.

43 SECTION 3. Purpose. The purpose of the commission is to develop a regional
44 perspective to address the needs of active sports and youth recreation in King County,
45 and to advise the county in its efforts to encourage recreational opportunities throughout
46 King County. The commission should also apply its efforts to understand and coordinate
47 the unique recreational needs of all age groups throughout King County.

48 SECTION 4. Membership – terms and nonvoting ex officio members.

49 A. The commission must consist of nineteen voting members and shall consist of
50 one member nominated by each councilmember. Councilmembers must provide the
51 executive with a recommendation to represent their council district. If the executive does
52 not appoint a person that has been recommended by the councilmember, the executive
53 must request that the councilmember nominate another candidate for appointment. Six
54 members of the commission shall be appointed by the executive.

55 B. In making appointments to the commission, an effort should be made to assure
56 that the following categories of recreation are considered: field sports, court sports,
57 aquatic recreation, hobby groups, specialized recreation for persons with disabilities and
58 any other sport which requires facilities or fields. Additionally, one or more
59 representatives of local youth groups should be included on the commission membership.
60 Councilmembers may recommend candidates for appointment who are under the age of
61 eighteen. Commission membership shall be monitored by the director of the department
62 of parks and recreation and the director shall provide councilmembers with
63 recommendations on which recreation categories are not represented on the commission

64 and which categories should receive priority consideration for appointment. The
65 directors of the King County department of parks and recreation, and the office of
66 regional policy and planning, a representative from a local law enforcement agency, and
67 a representative of King County council's natural resources, parks and open space
68 committee may serve as nonvoting ex officio members of the commission.

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

73 **SECTION 5. Responsibilities.**

74 A. The commission shall develop recommendations and advise the King County
75 executive and the King County council on:

- 76 1. Ways to maintain and enhance interjurisdictional relations;
- 77 2. Ways to create ongoing partnerships with local parks and recreation
78 departments, school districts and nonprofit groups to maximize use of recreation
79 facilities;
- 80 3. Long-range planning to anticipate demand for programs, facilities and
81 services;
- 82 4. Propose possible new properties and facilities to meet regional sports
83 needs, and identify funding sources for the acquisition of those facilities;
- 84 5. Growth management policies which enhance recreational programs or
85 facilities; and
- 86 6. Making improvements to existing facilities and exploring the use of public-

87 private partnerships for maintenance of these facilities.


88 B. The commission shall issue a status report to the council by May 1 every two
89 years, beginning May 1, 2001, to provide preliminary information on King County's
90 current state of recreation opportunities available for youth. This biennial "state of youth
91 sports" report shall include information on: the demographics of young people in King
92 County; percentages involved in organized sports leagues including, but not limited to,
93 soccer, baseball, softball and basketball; the proximity and availability of fields and
94 courts for youth for both organized and unorganized activities; and information
95 correlating the availability or lack of recreational activities to involvement in the criminal
96 justice system.

97 **SECTION 6. Staffing, rules and procedures.** The director of the King County
98 department of parks and recreation is responsible for the staffing and operation of the
99 commission. Before undertaking its other responsibilities, the commission shall elect
100 officers and adopt administrative procedures. Any policy recommendations issued by the
101 commission that require council approval shall be jointly referred to the regional policy
102 committee and the natural resources, parks and open space committee for review and
103 consideration. Proposals shall first be considered by the regional policy committee,
104 followed by the natural resources, parks and open space committee.


Ordinance 13720 was introduced on 11/1/99 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 2/14/00, by the following vote:

Yes: 13 – Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Miller, Ms. Fimia, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Pelz, Mr. McKenna
Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Nickels, Mr. Pullen, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Mr. Vance and Mr. Irons
No: 0
Excused: 0

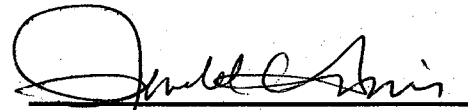
KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Pete von Reichbauer, Chair

ATTEST:


Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 24 day of February, 2000.


Ron Sims, County Executive

Attachments None