



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

July 17, 2001

Ordinance 14170

*P. Kondak
see 7/23/01*

Proposed No. 2001-0237.3

Sponsors Phillips and Nickels

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to the funding and provision of
2 Medic One emergency medical services; providing for the
3 submission to the electorate of King County, at a special
4 election on November 6, 2001, a proposition imposing the
5 levy of a regular property tax each year for six years,
6 collection beginning in 2002, at a rate of \$0.25 or less per
7 \$1,000 of assessed valuation to continue to provide Medic
8 One emergency medical services.

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11 **PREAMBLE:**

12 Emergency medical services, publicly known as Medic One, is a well-
13 integrated, publicly funded, emergency medical service system that is
14 designed to provide an efficient and effective response to medical
15 emergencies.

16 The Medic One emergency medical services system includes a tiered
17 response system that includes basic life support services provided by fire

18 department and fire district emergency medical technicians, advanced
19 life support (paramedic) services, and regional support programs and
20 services that provide medical oversight and direction, citizen and
21 emergency personnel training, planning, public education, and other
22 support programs and services.

23 Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the nation and in
24 King County. The delivery of paramedic services in King County has
25 tripled the survival rate of victims of cardiac arrest; the initiation of
26 cardiopulmonary resuscitation by bystanders or emergency medical
27 technicians has doubled hospital discharge rates.

28 King County supports Medic One emergency medical services as a
29 regional service that requires a continuing leadership role for the county.

30 The county should continue to exercise its leadership and assume
31 responsibility for assuring the orderly and comprehensive development
32 and provision of Medic One emergency medical services throughout the
33 county.

34 The concern for assuring a county-wide Medic One emergency medical
35 services program is shared by King County cities and fire protection
36 districts who participate in Medic One emergency medical services
37 programs.

38 Medic One emergency medical services provided to county residents
39 should be of high quality and should meet uniform service delivery
40 standards.

41 The demand for Medic One emergency medical services has grown over
42 the years; however, such demand has not been accompanied by stable
43 source of revenues.

44 Medic One emergency medical services are essential and should be
45 afforded a stable and discreet funding base.

46 RCW 84.52.069 recognizes the needs and concerns described above and
47 provides a funding source for the provision of such emergency medical
48 services.

49 The provision of Medic One emergency medical services on a
50 countywide basis is a public purpose of King County. In order to assure
51 such a provision of services, it is both necessary and appropriate that an
52 additional regular property tax of \$0.25 or less per \$1,000 of assessed
53 valuation be levied as provided for in this ordinance.

54 Reimbursement and transfer to the city of Seattle of all tax revenues
55 collected pursuant to the levy provided for in this ordinance against
56 taxable property located within the legal boundaries of the city of Seattle
57 will not affect the county's ability to provide Medic One emergency
58 medical services throughout King County.

59 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

60 **SECTION 1. Approval of cities over 50,000 population.** Pursuant to RCW
61 84.52.069, approval to place this county-wide levy proposal on the ballot will be obtained
62 from the legislative bodies of all cities in the county over 50,000 population, effective not

63 later than September 21, 2001, before it is submitted to the electorate of King County on
64 the special election ballot of November 6, 2001.

65 SECTION 2. City of Seattle reimbursement. It is recognized that the city of
66 Seattle operates and funds a Medic One emergency medical services program that is
67 separate from the county program but part of the regional delivery system. During the
68 period of this six-year levy as set forth herein and as authorized by the registered voters
69 of King County, all tax revenues collected pursuant to such six-year levy from taxable
70 property located within the legal boundaries of the city of Seattle shall be reimbursed and
71 transferred to the city.

72 SECTION 3. Type of levy. Pursuant to the authorization in RCW 84.52.069, this
73 levy is a regular property tax levy on all taxable property located in King County and is
74 in addition to the statutory tax rate limit of RCW 84.52.043 and is not subject to the
75 limitation of RCW 84.55.010 for the first levy imposed, but is subject thereto for the
76 remaining five levies.

77 SECTION 4. Levy rate. The rate at which this levy shall be submitted to the
78 voters shall be the rate of \$0.25 or less per \$1,000 of assessed valuation each year
79 beginning in 2001 for six consecutive years, with collection of the taxes to begin in 2002
80 for six consecutive years.

81 SECTION 5. Deposit of funds. The share of this collection designated for the
82 city of Seattle under section 2 of this ordinance shall be deposited into the Seattle
83 emergency medical services tax fund and dispersed from this fund. All other funds
84 collected under this levy shall be deposited into the county emergency medical services
85 fund.

86 SECTION 6. Ratification by voters. This levy shall be submitted to and
87 approved by the voters in accordance with RCW 84.52.069.

88 SECTION 7. Call for special election. Pursuant to RCW 29.13.010, it is hereby
89 deemed that an emergency exists requiring the submission to the registered voters of the
90 county at a special election to be held on November 6, 2001, of a proposition authorizing
91 the previously described six-year levy for Medic One emergency medical services. The
92 manager of the division of records and elections shall cause notice to be given of this
93 ordinance in accordance with the state constitution and general law and to submit to the
94 registered voters of the county, at the said special county election, the proposition
95 hereinafter set forth. The clerk of the council is hereby authorized and directed to certify
96 that proposition to the manager of the King County division of records and elections in
97 substantially the following form:

98 K i n g C o u n t y , W a s h i n g t o n

99 P r o p o s i t i o n _____ : Regular Property Tax

100 L e v y f o r M e d i c O n e E m e r g e n c y M e d i c a l S e r v i c e s

101 Shall King County be authorized to impose regular property tax levies of \$0.25 or less
102 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation for each of six consecutive years for the
103 continued provision of existing Medic One emergency medical services, all as provided
104 in King County Ordinance _____.

105 Y e s

106 N o

107 SECTION 8. The county executive is hereby authorized and directed to enter into
108 an interlocal agreement with the City of Seattle relating to the Medic One program, to
109 implement the provisions of section 2 of this ordinance.

110 SECTION 9. The manager, King County records and elections division, is hereby
111 authorized and requested to prepare and distribute a local voters' pamphlet, pursuant to
112 K.C.C. 1.10.010, for the special election called for in this ordinance, the cost of the
113 pamphlet to be included as part of the cost of the election.

114 SECTION 10. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or its application

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115 to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the
116 application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.
117

Ordinance 14170 was introduced on 4/23/01 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/16/01, by the following vote:

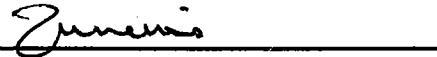
Yes: 11 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Fimia, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Pelz, Mr. McKenna, Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Nickels, Mr. Pullen, Mr. Gossett, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Irons
No: 0
Excused: 2 - Ms. Miller and Ms. Hague

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



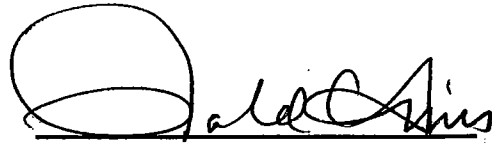
Pete von Reichbauer, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 19 day of July, 2001.



Ron Sims, County Executive

Attachments None