



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

September 12, 2006

Ordinance 15586

Proposed No. 2006-0390.1

Sponsors Ferguson and Phillips

1 AN ORDINANCE making an appropriation of \$375,000
2 to the building repair and replacement fund for the design
3 of a capital improvement project to renovate and reopen
4 the south entrance to the King County Courthouse and
5 design for the potential closure of the east and west
6 entrances of the courthouse.
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8

9 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

10 SECTION 1. Findings.

11 A. Historically, the primary entrance to the courthouse was on the south side of
12 the building in the area that currently functions as the loading dock to the courthouse,
13 adjacent to City Hall park.

14 B. The city of Seattle is currently undertaking a project titled "City Hall Park
15 Improvement Project" with the goal of transforming City Hall park into an attractive
16 gateway to downtown Seattle.

17 C. It is a common goal of all branches of King County government using the
18 courthouse and the city of Seattle to improve the safety, cleanliness, and usefulness of
19 City Hall park. The reopening of the courthouse south entrance supports the objectives
20 for City Hall park.

21 D. Reopening of the south entrance would physically integrate the downtown
22 King County campus, encouraging way-finding between the courthouse, new county
23 office building, King County administration building and the Yesler building.

24 E. King County has a policy that establishes a limit on the use of current expense
25 fund revenues for debt service. This policy was formally adopted in Motion 11196,
26 approved by the council on May 7, 2001, and requires that annual debt service payments
27 shall not exceed five percent of the current expense fund's net revenue available for debt
28 service.

29 F. The reopened south entrance would require both security staffing and
30 equipment. The potential closure of the east and west entrances may mitigate or offset
31 these security costs, and could potentially fund the debt service for reopening the south
32 entrance. A detailed security staffing and operations evaluation is needed to determine
33 final costs and savings opportunities.

34 G. The use by the public of the reopened south entrance will be affected by
35 whether one or both of the east and west entrances are closed. A study of public use and
36 the impacts to public access of both the reopened south entrance and the potential closure
37 of the east and west entrances is needed.

38 H. The reopening of the south entrance and the potential closure of the east and
39 west entrances would impact all branches of King County government, including the

40 elected officials and staff of the King County sheriff, the King County council, superior
41 court, district court and the prosecuting attorney as well as jurors and the general public.
42 Outreach and consultation with all of these groups and the public is needed prior to any
43 final decision about reopening the south entrance and closing the east and west entrances.

44 I. While immediate funding of design work is prudent and appropriate, King
45 County should not proceed to construction of the south entrance until a detailed study of
46 the identified issues of funding, debt capacity, security and operational impacts and
47 access to the courthouse by all branches of King County government and their
48 employees, jurors and the general public is concluded and adopted by the council.

49 SECTION 2. Ordinance 15333, Section 114, as amended, is hereby amended by
50 adding thereto and inserting therein the following:

51 From several capital improvement project funds there is hereby appropriated and
52 authorized to be disbursed the following amounts for the specific projects identified in

Ordinance 15586

53 Attachment A to this ordinance.

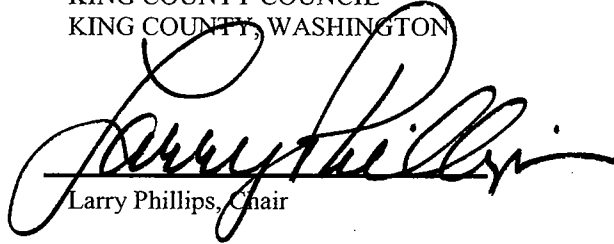
54	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
55	3951	BLDB REPAIR/REPL SUBFUND	\$375,000

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Ordinance 15586 was introduced on 8/28/2006 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 9/11/2006, by the following vote:

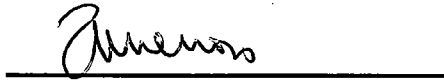
Yes: 9 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Mr. Constantine and Ms. Patterson
 No: 0
 Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 20th day of September, 2006.



Ron Sims, County Executive

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 CLERK
 KING COUNTY COUNCIL

Attachments A. Adopted Ordinance 15333, section 114: Capital Improvement Program -- Fund 3951

