



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

April 13, 2010

### Ordinance 16804

**Proposed No.** 2009-0631.2

**Sponsors** Dunn, Hague and Phillips

1                   AN ORDINANCE relating to the development and use of  
2                   electric vehicle charging stations at King County facilities.

3                   **STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

4                   1. Greenhouse gas emissions related to transportation constitute fifty  
5                   percent of all greenhouse gas emissions in the state of Washington.

6                   Because hydroelectricity is a clean source of energy and accounts for  
7                   sixty-six percent of Washington's electricity production, the use of  
8                   electricity to power a vehicle, instead of gasoline, is cheaper and less  
9                   polluting.

10                  2. King County has been a leader in utilizing new technologies in the  
11                  transportation sector to help reduce operating costs and reduce its  
12                  environmental impact on our region. As of 2009, King County's fleet,  
13                  which refers to vehicles in the motor pool program and vehicles in each  
14                  department's fleet, has two hundred five flex-fuel vehicles, five converted  
15                  plug-in hybrid vehicles, sixty-eight neighborhood-electric vehicles, three  
16                  medium-duty hybrid trucks, one hundred seventy-seven light-duty hybrid  
17                  vehicles and two compressed natural-gas vehicles.

18                  3. On December 10, 2007, the King County council adopted Ordinance  
19                  15988 to promote clean vehicle technology in King County's fleet. As a

20 result, King County participated in a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle pilot  
21 project with Idaho National Labs to convert four county-owned hybrid  
22 Toyota Priuses to plug-in electric vehicles.

23 4. On May 5, 2008, the King County council approved Motion 12744 to  
24 reduce global warming and to support plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and  
25 battery-electric vehicles. As of now, King County has installed twenty-  
26 nine plug-in vehicle charging stations in various locations at park-and-ride  
27 and King County fleet facilities, and the county is continuing to explore  
28 additional locations for new plug-in stations.

29 5. On February 9, 2009, the King County council approved Motion 12921  
30 endorsing the King County Electric Vehicle Report as the guiding  
31 document for implementing actions to accommodate the use of plug-in  
32 hybrid electric-vehicles and battery electric vehicles, and to promote  
33 energy efficiency and clean vehicle technology in King County's fleet.  
34 This document established actions the county should pursue to reduce  
35 greenhouse gas emissions, detailed King County's efforts in reducing  
36 greenhouse gas emissions and provided detailed information on the  
37 current status of plug-in hybrid and electric vehicle technologies.

38 6. In 2007 King County Metro Transit launched the Plug-and-Ride pilot  
39 project to promote the use of existing vehicle charging stations at park-  
40 and-ride facilities. This early iteration of a plug-in electric charging  
41 station project already provides outlets for electric vehicles at three park-  
42 and-ride facilities: Issaquah Highlands Park-and-Ride; Eastgate Park-and-

43 Ride in Bellevue; and the Redmond Park-and-Ride. The fleet division  
44 also has charging stations at the Goat Hill garage. Currently, there is  
45 minimal regulation regarding the use of the existing charging facilities.

46 7. King County owns, leases or partners with other organizations to  
47 provide parking facilities for other county transportation programs. These  
48 programs include the park-and-ride program, the vanpool and vanshare  
49 programs, and the county's motor pool program and departmental fleet.  
50 The park-and-ride program promotes the use of King County Metro  
51 Transit by providing parking for privately owned vehicles near or at transit  
52 service. The vanpool and vanshare programs provide an operating cost-  
53 neutral, low environmental impact mode of transportation.

54 8. The King County executive approved the proposed use of \$700,000  
55 from the United States Department of Energy Energy Efficiency and  
56 Conservation Block Grants program to construct publicly accessible  
57 charging stations throughout the county. The grant award for this block  
58 grant is currently pending from the United States Department of Energy.  
59 On August 26, 2009, the Puget Sound Clean Cities coalition, including  
60 King County, was awarded another \$700,000 from the United States  
61 Department of Energy Clean Cities grant program to construct publicly  
62 accessible charging stations throughout the county, and King County will  
63 receive a significant portion of these moneys. On August 5, 2009, the  
64 Electric Transportation Engineering Corporation ("eTeC") and Nissan  
65 received a 98-million-dollar national grant from the United States

66 Department of Energy Transportation Electrification program, and King  
67 County is one of the participants in that proposal. Under this proposal,  
68 King County will receive one or more free charging stations from eTeC  
69 for each Nissan electric vehicle purchased. Among other entities that are  
70 receiving or dedicating funding to these efforts, the City of Seattle will  
71 receive \$500,000 and the city of Bellevue will receive \$84,000, in the  
72 development and installation of charging stations in their jurisdictions.

73 9. In seeking grant awards and partnerships to increase the number of  
74 electric vehicle charging stations throughout the region, King County has  
75 been coordinating with public utility companies and local jurisdictions to  
76 identify potential charging station locations.

77 10. With the emerging market for plug-in electric vehicles, new industry  
78 standards have been adopted to ensure universal compatibility between  
79 vehicle manufacturers. Broad-based installation of new universally  
80 compatible charging stations will ensure that plug-in electric vehicles will  
81 remain a viable alternative to gasoline-powered vehicles.

82 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY

83 SECTION 1. King County will implement an electric vehicle charging station  
84 program commencing upon approval of this ordinance and necessary budget authority.  
85 In three years, the King County council will consider continuation of the program based  
86 on affordability, usage of the charging stations, cost recovery and whether it has  
87 satisfactory returns of public benefit. The program will advance the countywide  
88 installation of electric vehicle charging stations at county-owned, leased or partnering

89 organizations' public facilities to serve a direct county purpose while reducing  
90 environmental impacts and operating costs. A direct county purpose includes promoting  
91 the use of county programs or facilities, including the use of public transit, the vanpool  
92 program and the vanshare program, and the county fleet motor pool program. To serve a  
93 direct county purpose, charging station installation may occur at King County owned  
94 park-and-ride facilities, vanpool destination parking sites, vanshare origin and destination  
95 parking sites and King County fleet parking facilities. In addition, a secondary benefit of  
96 encouraging the public to use electric vehicles and reducing the region's overall  
97 environmental impacts will be realized by allowing public access to charging facilities  
98 when facilities are not being used for a direct county purpose.

99       SECTION 2. The program may install electric vehicle charging stations at  
100 locations where a direct county purpose will be served. These locations are:

101       A. County-owned park-and-ride facilities where the majority of charging station  
102 use will take place before 10:00 a.m.;

103       B. County-owned, leased or partnering organizations' vanpool destination sites  
104 where the majority of charging station use will be for peak-period commuters;

105       C. County-owned, leased or partnering organizations' vanshare origin parking  
106 sites where the majority of charging station use will be for night and weekend parking,  
107 and destination parking sites where the majority of charging station use will be during the  
108 day; and

109       D. King County fleet facility parking locations.

110       SECTION 3. The program will provide public benefits by granting the general  
111 public access to non-park-and-ride charging stations when the stations are not being used

112 to serve a direct county purpose as identified in section 2 of this ordinance, and all-day  
113 access to charging stations at park-and-rides. This will maximize the daily use of the  
114 charging stations and encourage the public to use electric vehicles, thereby reducing the  
115 region's overall environmental impacts. The locations and the periods of time when the  
116 general public may use the charging stations are:

117           A. All regular hours of operation for park and ride facilities;

118           B. Monday through Friday, after 6:00 p.m. or on weekends at county-owned,  
119 leased or partnering organizations' vanpool destination sites when spaces would normally  
120 remain empty;

121           C. At county-owned, leased or partnering organizations' vanshare origin sites  
122 during weekday day-time periods when spaces would normally remain empty or be filled  
123 by nonelectric vehicles driven by the general public, and vanshare destination sites at  
124 nights and on weekends when spaces would normally remain empty;

125           D. At county fleet parking facilities when county vehicles vacate spaces on a  
126 daily basis;

127           E. Time restrictions for public access to these facilities may be modified as  
128 needed; and

129           F. Include signage or other method of designating when charging stations are  
130 available for public use.

131           SECTION 4. In implementing an electric vehicle charging station program, the  
132 county shall establish the following policies:

133           A. The county shall seek grant funding for capital costs and installation of  
134 electric vehicle charging facilities;

135           B. A maximum of five hundred thousand dollars of county capital moneys may  
136 be invested in electric utility upgrades to county properties in support of the program;

137           C. Operating costs for the project shall be fully recovered through flat-rate, time-  
138 based or combination use fees for all vehicles using one of the county-regulated electric  
139 vehicle charging stations located on county-owned, leased, or partnering organizations'  
140 property. Any such fees will be authorized consistent with K.C.C. chapter 2.99. For the  
141 purposes of this subsection, "operating costs" include, but are not limited to, the county's  
142 costs of planning, outreach and administration, utility costs related to the charging  
143 stations and facility enforcement costs.

144           D. Any supplemental capital costs in excess of the five-hundred-thousand-dollar  
145 maximum that may be incurred by the county, and that are not financed through any grant  
146 sources, shall also be fully recovered as part of the use fees;

147           E. The county shall coordinate with the Puget Sound Regional Council in their  
148 planning and development of regulations concerning electric vehicle infrastructure as  
149 required by the state Legislature in Chapter 459, Laws of Washington 2009;

150           F. Beginning in 2011, the executive shall transmit by June 30 of each year an  
151 annual report to the council addressing affordability of user fees, usage of the charging  
152 stations, cost recovery and public benefit related to King County participants and as  
153 compared with other electric vehicle charging station deployments in and around the state  
154 of Washington; and

155           G. The county shall retain the right to procure the services of third party entities  
156 to install and operate charging stations. Such services may include:

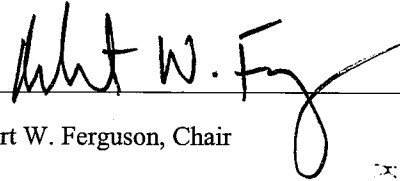
157           1. Installing charging stations;

- 158            2. Maintaining charging station infrastructure;
- 159            3. Managing payments; and
- 160            4. Managing and tracking charging facility usage.
- 161

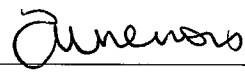
Ordinance 16804 was introduced on 11/23/2009 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 4/12/2010, by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Ms. Drago, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert and Mr. Dunn  
No: 0  
Excused: 2 - Mr. von Reichbauer and Mr. Ferguson

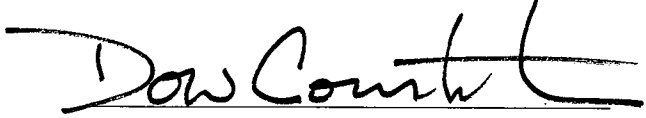
KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert W. Ferguson, Chair

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2010.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dow Constantine, County Executive

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CLERK  
KING COUNTY COUNCIL

Attachments: None