



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

May 17, 2010

### Ordinance 16838

Proposed No. 2010-0100.2

Sponsors Dunn

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to establishing a requirement  
2 for the county to strive to publish existing, high value data  
3 sets appropriate for unrestricted public access on a single  
4 web site; and adding a new section to K.C.C. chapter 2.16.

#### 5 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

6 1. Many cities, including San Francisco, New York, Seattle and  
7 Washington, D.C., have released public data to web and mobile  
8 application developers in order to allow for the development of web or  
9 mobile applications that will benefit the public. For example, San  
10 Francisco has released selected crime data that has allowed application  
11 developers to develop web and mobile applications that provide  
12 interactive crime maps so that citizens can map the crime patterns in their  
13 neighborhood.

14 2. The federal government, as part of its Open Government Directive,  
15 requires all federal agencies to release high-value data sets. There are now  
16 over one thousand federal data sets available on the federal government's  
17 open data web site. Examples of data sets released by the federal  
18 government include air quality data, on-time flight data and data on  
19 federal recreation sites.

20 3. Data that resides in technology systems is different from information  
21 such as documents, emails and calendars in that it is structured and can be  
22 used by other computer applications for analysis or to develop web or  
23 mobile applications that display the data in new ways.

24 4. Providing access to county data can lead to innovation in how the  
25 public interacts with government, resulting in social and economic  
26 benefits for the county.

27 5. King County has a long history of innovation and is home to hundreds  
28 of technology companies that are changing the way the world operates.

29 6. By publishing county data in one location, King County seeks to  
30 encourage innovation, entrepreneurs and job development and to increase  
31 public access to government information.

32 7. Citizens are the greatest asset of any government. There are many  
33 benefits to engaging our highly skilled workforce in the development of  
34 applications and increasing citizen access to King County information.

35 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

36 NEW SECTION. SECTION 1. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 2.16 a  
37 new section to read as follows:

38 A. For the purposes of this section:

39 1. "High-value data set" means a collection of data that is related to one of the  
40 core services of the county, improves public knowledge of the agency and its operations,  
41 increases government accountability and responsiveness or creates economic opportunity.

42 For purposes of this legislation, documents, emails and calendars are generally not  
43 considered high value data sets.

44 2. "Open format" means a format that is published and available without  
45 requiring a specific manufacturer's software or hardware to access or use.

46 B.1. King County shall strive within existing budgeted resources to publish on-  
47 line in an open format existing, high-value sets data maintained by the county that are  
48 appropriate for unrestricted public access.

49 2. In selecting high value data sets for on-line publication, the executive shall  
50 seek input from the public, including those seeking to develop applications using county  
51 data.

52 C.1. The executive shall make all data sets selected for publication available on a  
53 single web site designed to allow easy access, downloading and manipulation of the data.

54 2. Data sets shall be updated and new data sets added to the web site as  
55 resources allow.

56 3. The web site shall include:

57 a. information about each data set, including information on who to contact if  
58 there are questions about the data sets;

59 b. terms of use statement for the users of the data; and

60 c. a means for the public to give feedback on and assessment of the quality of  
61 the data and provide input about which data to prioritize for publication on the web site.

62 D. High value data set available on the web site shall not include the names of  
63 individuals or any other personal identifying data as defined in K.C.C. 2.14.010 or any

64 information that is exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Act, chapter 42.56  
65 RCW.

66 SECTION 2. A. The web site with the initial data sets available for publication  
67 in section 1.C. of this ordinance shall be on-line by November 1, 2010.

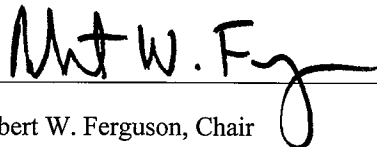
68 B. By August 1, 2010, the executive shall file with the clerk of the council in the  
69 form of a paper original and an electronic copy a list of the initial high-value data sets  
70 that are being considered for on-line publication and the procedures developed to ensure  
71 that all data sets available on the web site are appropriate for unrestricted public access.

72 The clerk of the council shall retain the original and provide an electronic copy to all  
73 councilmembers.  
74

Ordinance 16838 was introduced on 2/8/2010 and passed by the Metropolitan King  
County Council on 5/17/2010, by the following vote:

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

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Robert W. Ferguson, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

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KING COUNTY COUNCIL

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.



Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None