



Signature Report

January 15, 2013

Ordinance 17511

Proposed No. 2013-0034.2

Sponsors Gossett

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to council rules and order of  
2 business; amending Ordinance 16362, Section 6, as  
3 amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.017 and Ordinance 11683,  
4 Section 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.035; and declaring  
5 an emergency.

6 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY

7 SECTION 1. Findings:

8 A. King County Charter Section 220.40 requires the council to adopt by  
9 ordinance rules of procedure governing the time, place and conduct of its meetings.

10 B. Consistent with the county charter, the council adopted by ordinance rules of  
11 procedure, which are codified in K.C.C. chapter 1.24, and passed motions related to the  
12 organization and administration of the council.

13 C. The rules ordinance and the organizational motion have been amended from  
14 time to time to reflect desired changes in the council's rules of procedure and  
15 organization.

16 D. Because the council is reorganizing the council and its committees by motion  
17 effective today, including modifying council vice-chair positions, committee chair and  
18 vice-chair positions, duties and committee meeting times, this ordinance must be enacted  
19 as an emergency ordinance in order to be effective immediately to ensure that the regular

20 meeting times of the council's committees are enacted and effective contemporaneously  
21 with the reorganization of the council.

22 SECTION 2. Ordinance 16362, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C.1.24.017 are  
23 each hereby amended to read as follows:

24 In the event of the inability of the council chair to serve in that capacity, the  
25 following order of succession shall be observed:

26 A. Vice chair of policy development and review;

27 B. Vice chair of regional coordination;

28 C. Remaining councilmembers in order of their seniority of service cumulatively  
29 in county elective office and state legislative office.

30 SECTION 3. Ordinance 11683, Section 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.035 are  
31 each hereby amended to read as follows:

32 A.1.a. The time of regular meetings of the council is 1:30 p.m. on Monday of  
33 each week, or Tuesday if Monday is a state or county holiday or is a legislative branch  
34 furlough day due to a county emergency budget crisis, unless otherwise ordered by the  
35 chair or a majority of the council. However, the regular meetings of the council shall not  
36 take place on the first and second Mondays in August and the third and fourth Mondays  
37 in December. All regular or special meetings of council committees shall be regular or  
38 special council meetings, pursuant to council rule 4.F.

39 b. Each Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. shall be reserved for special  
40 standing committee meetings and each fourth and fifth Wednesday of each month from  
41 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. shall be reserved for special regional committee meetings as  
42 needed. In order to allow each member sufficient time to review legislation and to meet

43 with constituents, staff and officials of other jurisdictions, no special committee meeting  
44 may be called for any other time without the prior written consent of the council chair or  
45 the consent of a majority of the members of the committee. If a special meeting for more  
46 than one committee is called for the same time and location, the meeting for which the  
47 agenda was first filed with the council clerk shall have precedence for use of the meeting  
48 location. This subsection A.1.b. does not apply to special meetings of the budget and  
49 fiscal management committee for purposes of considering the county executive's ((2012))  
50 annual budget proposal, which shall be called by the chair of the budget and fiscal  
51 management committee.

52           2.a. All regular meetings of the King County council and the council's  
53 committees, except for the employment and administration committee, shall be held in  
54 the council chambers on the tenth floor of the King County Courthouse in Seattle,  
55 Washington. All regular meetings of the employment and administration committee shall  
56 be held in the southwest conference room on the twelfth floor of the King County  
57 Courthouse in Seattle, Washington.

58           b. Whenever, due to an emergency, as defined in K.C.C. 12.52.010, it is  
59 imprudent, inexpedient or impossible to conduct the affairs of the council at the regular  
60 or usual place or places, the council may meet at any place within or without the  
61 territorial limits of the county on the call of the chair or any two members of the council.  
62 After an emergency relocation, the affairs of the council shall be lawfully conducted at  
63 the emergency location for the duration of the emergency.

64 B.1. Except as provided in subsection B.2. of this rule, the times for regular  
65 committee meetings are as follows, unless the council is meeting at that time because the  
66 preceding Monday was a state or county holiday:

67 a. Committee of the whole: the first and third ~~((Mondays))~~ Wednesdays of  
68 each month at 9:30 a.m. ~~((or Tuesday if Monday is a state or county holiday or is a  
69 legislative branch furlough day due to a county emergency budget crisis, unless otherwise  
70 ordered by the chair or a majority of the council))~~ January 1 through September ~~((16))~~ 18;  
71 thereafter through December 31, ~~((Monday))~~ Wednesday of each week at 9:30 a.m.;

72 b. Budget and fiscal management committee: the first and third Tuesday of  
73 each month at 1:30 p.m.;

74 c. Employment and administration committee: the second and fourth Mondays  
75 of each month at 9:30 a.m. January 1 through September 7; thereafter through December  
76 31 on the first and third Mondays of each month at 3:00 p.m.;

77 d. Government accountability, oversight and financial performance committee:  
78 the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

79 e. Law, justice, health and human services committee: the second and fourth,  
80 and fifth if one occurs, Tuesdays of each month at 1:30 p.m.;

81 f. Transportation, economy and environment committee: the first and third,  
82 and fifth if one occurs, Tuesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m. ~~((, and the last Wednesday of  
83 the month at 9:30 a.m.))~~;

84 g. Regional policy committee: the second Wednesday of each month at 3:00  
85 p.m.;

86 h. Regional transit committee: the third Wednesday of each month at 3:00  
87 p.m.; and

88 i. Regional water quality committee: the first Wednesday of each month at  
89 3:00 p.m.

90 2. The regular meetings of the committees shall not take place during the first  
91 and second weeks in August and the third and fourth weeks in December.

92 C. Council and committee meetings must be held in accordance with the Open  
93 Public Meetings Act of 1971, chapter 42.30 RCW.

94 D. A meeting may be continued, in accordance with chapter 42.30 RCW, to  
95 another date and does not conclude until adjourned in accordance with these rules.

96 E.1. An executive session may be held during a council or committee meeting if  
97 one of the specific grounds under chapter 42.30 RCW for an executive session exists.

98 2. Before convening in executive session, the chair of the council or committee  
99 shall publicly announce the purpose for excluding the public from the meeting place and  
100 the time when the executive session will be concluded. The executive session may be  
101 extended to a stated later time by announcement of the chair.

102 3. Only members of the council or committee, special invitees and those  
103 employees or staff members the council or committee determines to be necessary are  
104 allowed to remain in the room. Persons attending an executive session shall maintain the  
105 confidentiality of the proceedings.

106 F.1. A legal analysis of the Open Public Meetings Act by the office of the  
107 Attorney General, 2010 AGO No. 9, has advised that when a committee meeting is  
108 attended by a quorum of the governing body it must be noticed not only as a committee

109 meeting but also as a meeting of the governing body. For this reason, all meetings of  
110 council committees shall be noticed both as committee meetings and as council meetings  
111 whose agenda is limited to the committee business.

112           2. In all committee meetings, which are council meetings in accordance with  
113 subsection F.1. of this rule, only the rules and procedures applicable to committees apply,  
114 and not those rules and procedures applicable to full council meetings. This includes, but  
115 is not limited to:

116           a. only those members who serve on the committee have the right to exercise  
117 parliamentary rights in the meeting, including, but not limited to, raising points of order,  
118 making motions and voting;

119           b. attendance shall be recorded only for members serving on the committee,  
120 and the quorum for the meeting shall be the committee quorum; and

121           c. committee meetings shall be chaired by the committee chair.

122           SECTION 3. The county council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency

123 exists and that this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace,  
124 health or safety or for the support of county government and its existing public  
125 institutions.  
126

Ordinance 17511 was introduced on 1/14/2013 and passed as amended by the  
Metropolitan King County Council on 1/14/2013, by the following vote:

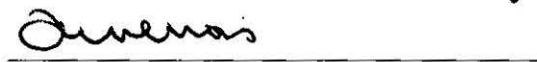
Yes: 9 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague,  
Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Dunn and Mr.  
McDermott  
No: 0  
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None