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Introduced by: Brian Derdowski

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ORDINANCE NO. **12901**

AN ORDINANCE establishing the King County rural forest commission, creating a new chapter in Title 2 and adding new sections to that chapter.

PREAMBLE:

On November 18, 1996, King County passed Motion 10000, which adopted the Farm and Forest Report, entitled "Farm and Forest, a Strategy for Preserving the Working Landscapes of King County".

The report recommends that King County establish a rural forest commission to review the development and implementation of the strategies in the report and advise the county on ways to preserve rural forests and promote rural forestry.

The King County Comprehensive Plan Policy RL-207A calls for King County to establish a rural forest commission representing the diversity of forestry interests in the county, and to advise the county on the development of innovative programs, policies and regulations that benefit forestry and that encourage the retention of the forest land base in rural King County.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Establishment. The King County rural forest commission is hereby established, and shall be referred to as the commission throughout this chapter.

SECTION 2. Purpose. The purpose of the commission is to advise the executive and council in their efforts to encourage

1 forestry in the rural area. The commission should apply its
2 efforts to making forestry viable in King County's rural area.

3 SECTION 3. Membership, Terms and non-voting Ex Officio
4 Members.

5 A. The commission shall consist of thirteen voting
6 members; the members shall serve terms of three years as
7 specified in K.C.C. 2.28.

8 B. The voting members of the commission shall serve
9 without compensation. The members shall represent the
10 diversity of rural forestry interests and the different
11 geographic regions of rural King County.

12 C. Commission membership shall include (~~at least four~~
13 ~~members representing rural forest landowners, from the~~
14 ~~following ownership categories~~) an equitable representation of
15 the following interests:

16 1. At least five members representing private rural
17 forest landowners, with at least one from each of the following
18 ownership categories:

19 ((~~1. An industrial~~)) a. Forest landowners with
20 greater than five hundred acres of rural forest land in King
21 County;

22 ((~~2. A non-industrial private~~)) b. Forest
23 landowners with forty to five hundred acres of rural forest
24 land in King County, and for whom income from forestry is an

1 important component of total income;

2 ((3.—A)) c. Residential forest landowners with
3 greater than twenty acres of rural forest land enrolled in the
4 Forest Land Designation (RCW 84.33) program; and

5 ((4.—A)) d. Residential forest landowners with
6 less than twenty acres of rural forest land;

7 ((D. Commission membership shall also equitably represent
8 the interests of each of the following groups:))

9 ((1.—)) 2. Advocates of non-timber values of forest
10 land, such as environmental protection, recreation and open
11 space;

12 ((2.—)) 3. The Washington Department of Natural
13 Resources;

14 ((3.—)) 4. ((The Muckleshoot tribe)) Affected Indian
15 Tribes;

16 ((4.—)) 5. Consumers or users of local forest
17 products, such as mills, lumber suppliers, craftsmen, florist
18 suppliers, or users of other alternative forest products;

19 ((5.—)) 6. Academic or professional foresters, or
20 forestry associations; and

21 ((6.—)) 7. Rural cities.

22 ((E.—)) D. The directors of the departments of natural
23 resources ((management)), parks and recreation, development and
24 environmental services, human resources, and the office of

1 budget and strategic planning, a representative of the King
2 County council natural resources committee, and the director of
3 the King conservation district may serve as non-voting ex
4 officio members of the commission.

5 ((F-))E. All appointees should have a working knowledge of
6 King County forestry, a strong commitment to promote forestry
7 in the rural area, the ability to work with differing
8 viewpoints to find solutions to complex problems, and a
9 willingness to commit the time necessary to attend commission
10 meetings and activities.

11 SECTION 4. Responsibilities.

12 A. The commission shall monitor the progress of and
13 provide direction to the county as it carries out the
14 "Implementation Plan to Preserve Working Forests" adopted by
15 the council on April 14, 1997 (Motion 10189). The commission
16 shall also develop detailed implementation plans for the
17 remaining strategies identified in the report "Farm and Forest:
18 a Strategy for Preserving the Working Landscapes of King
19 County".

20 B. The commission shall advise the county on proposed
21 policies, programs, actions or legislation affecting rural
22 forests or the practice of forestry, including:

- 23 1. Acquisitions of rural forest land or development
24 rights on rural forest land;

1 2. Management goals for county-owned forest land or
2 county-held forest land conservation easements;

3 3. Marketing and promotion of local forest products;
4 and

5 4. Existing or proposed boundaries of rural forest
6 districts and focus areas.

7 C. The commission shall work with the county to
8 identify additional strategies to conserve rural forest
9 lands and promote the business of forestry in the rural
10 area..

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SECTION 5. Staffing and rules of procedures. The director of the department of natural resources shall be responsible for the staffing and operation of the commission. Prior to undertaking their other responsibilities, the commission shall elect officers and adopt administrative procedures.

INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 18th day of August, 1997.

PASSED by a vote of 12 to 0 this 20th day of October, 1997.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Jane Hague
Chair

ATTEST:

Unen
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 30 day of October, 1997.

Bill Cunn
King County Executive