



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**September 9, 2015**

**Ordinance 18101**

**Proposed No. 2015-0333.1**

**Sponsors Phillips**

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

5 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY

6 **SECTION 1. Findings:**

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

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

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

15 D. This ordinance must be enacted as an emergency ordinance in order to be  
16 effective immediately to ensure that the regular meeting times of the council's  
17 committees are enacted and effective.

18 **SECTION 2.** Ordinance 11683, Section 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.035 are  
19 each hereby amended to read as follows:

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

27           b. Each Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. shall be reserved for special  
28 standing committee meetings and each fourth and fifth Wednesday of each month from  
29 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. shall be reserved for special regional committee meetings as  
30 needed. In order to allow each member sufficient time to review legislation and to meet  
31 with constituents, staff and officials of other jurisdictions, no special committee meeting  
32 may be called for any other time without the prior written consent of the council chair or  
33 the consent of a majority of the members of the committee. If a special meeting for more  
34 than one committee is called for the same time and location, the meeting for which the  
35 agenda was first filed with the council clerk shall have precedence for use of the meeting  
36 location. This subsection A.1.b. does not apply to special meetings of the budget and  
37 fiscal management committee for purposes of considering the county executive's annual  
38 budget proposal, which shall be called by the chair of the budget and fiscal management  
39 committee.

40           2.a. All regular meetings of the King County council and the council's  
41 committees, except for the employment and administration committee, shall be held in  
42 the council chambers on the tenth floor of the King County Courthouse in Seattle,

43 Washington. All regular meetings of the employment and administration committee shall  
44 be held in the southwest conference room on the twelfth floor of the King County  
45 Courthouse in Seattle, Washington.

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

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

55           a. Committee of the whole: the first and third Wednesdays of each month at  
56 9:30 a.m. (~~from January 1 through September 28 [25]; Monday of each week at 9:30~~  
57 ~~a.m. from September 30 [28] through November 8 [13]; and the first and third~~  
58 ~~Wednesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. from November 14 through December 31));~~

59           b. Budget and fiscal management committee: the second and fourth  
60 Wednesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

61           c. Employment and administration committee: the second and fourth Mondays  
62 of each month at 9:30 a.m. (~~from January 1 through September 7 [14]; thereafter,~~  
63 ~~through December 31 on the first and third Mondays of each month at 3:00 p.m.);~~

64           d. Government accountability and oversight committee: the second and fourth  
65 Tuesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

66 e. Health, housing and human services committee: the first and third Tuesday  
67 of each month at 1:30 p.m.;

68 f. Law, justice and emergency management committee: the second and fourth,  
69 and fifth if one occurs, Tuesdays of each month at 1:30 p.m.;

70 g. Transportation, economy and environment committee: the first and third, and  
71 fifth if one occurs, Tuesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

72 h. Regional policy committee: the second Wednesday of each month at 3:00  
73 p.m.;

74 i. Regional transit committee: the third Wednesday of each month at 3:00  
75 p.m.; and

76 j. Regional water quality committee: the first Wednesday of each month at  
77 3:00 p.m.

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

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

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

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

86 2. Before convening in executive session, the chair of the council or committee  
87 shall publicly announce the purpose for excluding the public from the meeting place and

88 the time when the executive session will be concluded. The executive session may be  
89 extended to a stated later time by announcement of the chair.

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

94 F.1. A legal analysis of the Open Public Meetings Act by the office of the  
95 Attorney General, 2010 AGO No. 9, has advised that when a committee meeting is  
96 attended by a quorum of the governing body it must be noticed not only as a committee  
97 meeting but also as a meeting of the governing body. For this reason, all meetings of  
98 council committees shall be noticed both as committee meetings and as council meetings  
99 whose agenda is limited to the committee business.

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

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

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

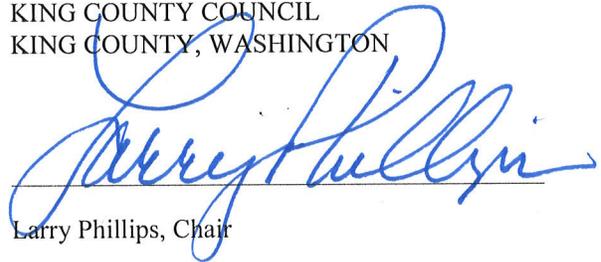
109 c. committee meetings shall be chaired by the committee chair.

110            SECTION 4. The county council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency  
111 exists and that this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace,  
112 health or safety or for the support of county government and its existing public  
113 institutions.  
114

Ordinance 18101 was introduced on 8/31/2015 and passed by the Metropolitan King  
County Council on 9/8/2015, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Lambert,  
Mr. Dunn, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski and Mr. Upthegrove  
No: 0  
Excused: 1 - Ms. Hague

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** None