



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**January 20, 2016**

**Ordinance 18221**

**Proposed No. 2016-0086.1**

**Sponsors McDermott**

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. Because the council is reorganizing the council and its committees by motion  
16 effective January 25, 2016, including modifying council chair and vice-chair positions,  
17 committee chair and vice-chair positions, duties and committee meeting times, this  
18 ordinance must be enacted as an emergency ordinance in order to be effective on that

19 date to ensure that the regular meeting times of the council's committees are effective  
20 contemporaneously with the reorganization of the council.

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

23 A.1.a. The time of regular meetings of the council is 1:30 p.m. on Monday of  
24 each week, or Tuesday if Monday is a state or county holiday or is a legislative branch  
25 furlough day due to a county emergency budget crisis, unless otherwise ordered by the  
26 chair or a majority of the council. However, the regular meetings of the council shall not  
27 take place (~~on the first and second Mondays in August and the third and fourth Mondays~~  
28 ~~in December~~) from August 1 through August 12, 2016 and from December 19 through  
29 December 30, 2016. All regular or special meetings of council committees shall be  
30 regular or special council meetings, (~~pursuant to council rule 4.~~) in accordance with  
31 subsection F. of this rule.

32 b. Each Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. shall be reserved for special  
33 standing committee meetings except when the health, housing and human services  
34 committee or the law and justice committee regular meeting is rescheduled in accordance  
35 with subsection B.1.e. and f. of this section and each fourth and fifth Wednesday of each  
36 month from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. shall be reserved for special regional committee  
37 meetings as needed. In order to allow each member sufficient time to review legislation  
38 and to meet with constituents, staff and officials of other jurisdictions, no special  
39 committee meeting may be called for any other time without the prior written consent of  
40 the council chair or the consent of a majority of the members of the committee. If a  
41 special meeting for more than one committee is called for the same time and location, the

42 meeting for which the agenda was first filed with the council clerk shall have precedence  
43 for use of the meeting location. This subsection A.1.b. does not apply to special meetings  
44 of the budget and fiscal management committee for purposes of considering the county  
45 executive's ((~~annual~~) biennial) budget proposal, which shall be called by the chair of the  
46 budget and fiscal management committee.

47           2.a. All regular meetings of the King County council and the council's  
48 committees, except for the employment and administration committee, shall be held in  
49 the council chambers on the tenth floor of the King County Courthouse in Seattle,  
50 Washington. All regular meetings of the employment and administration committee shall  
51 be held in the southwest conference room on the twelfth floor of the King County  
52 Courthouse in Seattle, Washington.

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

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

62           a. Committee of the whole: the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 9:30  
63 a.m.;

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

66 c. Employment and administration committee: the second and fourth Mondays  
67 of each month at ~~((9:30))~~ 10 a.m.;

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

70 e. Health, housing and human services committee: the first and third Tuesday of  
71 each month at 1:30 p.m. or the next Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. if the council's regular  
72 meeting is rescheduled to Tuesday because Monday is a state or county holiday or is a  
73 legislative branch furlough day due to a county emergency budget crisis, unless otherwise  
74 ordered by the chair or a majority of the council;

75 f. Law~~((;))~~ and justice ~~((and emergency management))~~ committee: the second  
76 and fourth, and fifth if one occurs, Tuesdays of each month at 1:30 p.m. or the next  
77 Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. if the council's regular meeting is rescheduled to Tuesday  
78 because Monday is a state or county holiday or is a legislative branch furlough day due to  
79 a county emergency budget crisis, unless otherwise ordered by the chair or a majority of  
80 the council;

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

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

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

86 and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

109 council committees shall be noticed both as committee meetings and as council meetings  
110 whose agenda is limited to the committee business.

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

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

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

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

121           SECTION 3. The county council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency  
122 exists and that this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace,  
123 health or safety or for the support of county government and its existing public

124 institutions.

125 SECTION 4. This ordinance takes effect January 25, 2016.

126

Ordinance 18221 was introduced on 1/19/2016 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 1/19/2016, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. von Reichbauer; Mr. Gossett, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn,  
Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Upthegrove, Ms. Kohl-Welles  
and Ms. Balducci

No: 0

Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Joe McDermott, Vice Chair

ATTEST:



---

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** None