



**KING COUNTY**

**Signature Report**

**July 20, 2017**

**Ordinance 18555**

**Proposed No. 2017-0232.9**

**Sponsors McDermott and Kohl-Welles**

1 AN ORDINANCE providing for the submission to the  
2 qualified electors of King County at a special election to be  
3 held in King County on November 7, 2017, a proposition  
4 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the levy  
5 limitations contained in chapter 84.55 RCW for a  
6 consecutive six-year period at a rate of not more than ten  
7 cents per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation in the  
8 first year, and limiting annual levy increases to three and  
9 one-half percent in the five succeeding years, all for the  
10 purpose of supporting veterans and military  
11 servicemembers and their respective families; seniors and  
12 their caregivers; and vulnerable populations in King  
13 County by funding capital facilities and regional health and  
14 human services to promote housing stability, healthy living,  
15 financial stability, social engagement and health and human  
16 services system improvements and system access;  
17 providing for limited mitigation of prorationing of  
18 metropolitan park districts and fire districts levies to the  
19 extent the prorationing was caused by this levy; directing

20 proposal of a transition plan and an implementation plan  
21 for the veterans, seniors and human services levy; and  
22 directing proposal of an ordinance to create an oversight  
23 board or boards, contingent upon voter approval of the  
24 levy.

25 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

- 26 1. In 2005, the metropolitan King County council passed Ordinance  
27 15279, placing a six-year veterans and human services levy on the ballot  
28 for a special election. King County residents voted for the veterans and  
29 human services levy with a nearly fifty-eight percent approval to fund  
30 services for veterans and their families, military personnel and their  
31 families and other individuals and families in need across King County.  
32 In 2011, the metropolitan King County council passed Ordinance 17072,  
33 placing a renewal of the veterans and human services levy on the ballot for  
34 a special election. King County residents voted for the renewal with a  
35 nearly sixty-nine percent approval rate.
- 36 2. Since the veterans and human services levy's 2011 renewal, the current  
37 veterans and human services levy has served more than one hundred and  
38 eighty-three thousand clients, more than thirty thousand of whom have  
39 been veterans, military personnel or their families.
- 40 3. The current veterans and human service levy's accomplishments in  
41 pursuit of its goal to reduce homelessness include: awarding levy  
42 proceeds to go towards building eight hundred fifty-seven units of

43 affordable housing; gaining or maintaining housing for more than three  
44 thousand two hundred persons; reaching more than seven thousand one  
45 hundred clients through outreach and mobile services and then connecting  
46 them to housing, medical or behavioral health services; and convening a  
47 network of partners to house more than eight hundred fifty homeless  
48 veterans during a focused housing initiative in 2015.

49 4. The current veterans and human services levy's accomplishments in  
50 pursuit of its goal to reduce emergency medical and criminal justice  
51 system involvement include engaging more than three thousand eight  
52 hundred incarcerated or formerly incarcerated veterans, parents, or persons  
53 at high risk of recidivism with reentry case planning, supportive services  
54 or connections to housing or health care. A levy funded database and  
55 housing placement program for high utilizers of public services calculated  
56 that since 2012, supportive housing placements achieved estimated cost  
57 offsets of seven million dollars that otherwise would have been incurred to  
58 incarcerate or hospitalize the high utilizers who received housing.

59 5. The current veterans and human services levy's accomplishments in its  
60 goal to increase self-sufficiency for veterans, military personnel, their  
61 families and other individuals and families in need include the King  
62 County veterans program serving more than twelve thousand veterans and  
63 family members; screening more than twelve thousand seven hundred  
64 mothers for behavioral health conditions at integrated community health  
65 centers; providing civil legal case assessments for more than one thousand

66 one hundred veterans, more than three hundred of which resulted in  
67 successful resolution and more than five hundred of which resulted in  
68 referrals to outside counsel and provision of more than fifteen thousand  
69 four hundred hours of posttraumatic stress disorder counseling to more  
70 than one thousand two hundred veterans or their spouses and children.

71 6. The current veterans and human services levy will expire at the end of  
72 2017. In light of this levy's accomplishments for King County's residents  
73 and acknowledging the veterans and human services levy's importance to  
74 maintaining basic health and human services for veterans and vulnerable  
75 populations, the current levy's regional health and human services for  
76 King County's veterans and vulnerable populations merit continuation.

77 7. The veterans and human services levy has provided an increasingly  
78 large share of King County's funding for essential basic human services as  
79 the general fund's structural deficit reduces the portion of the general fund  
80 available to support human services.

81 8. Recognizing the changing landscape of regional veterans and human  
82 services needs and funding since the 2011 renewal of the veterans and  
83 human services levy, the metropolitan King County council directed the  
84 executive to produce two reports to inform deliberations about renewal of  
85 the current veterans and human services levy. Executive staff combined  
86 the findings of staff research and community input from thirty-four in-  
87 person engagement meetings and two online surveys, totaling seven  
88 hundred and forty-two responses in seven languages, to compose and

89 present the reports. The metropolitan King County council approved the  
90 first report in Motion 14822 and accepted and approved the second report  
91 in Motion 14823. The reports provided information, analysis and  
92 recommendations to inform deliberations about a potentially renewed or  
93 replaced veterans and human services levy.

94 9. In addition to confirming the ongoing need to support the veterans and  
95 vulnerable populations eligible to receive support within the current  
96 veterans and human services levy, the report approved by the council in  
97 Motion 14822 provides evidence that some populations and issues not  
98 supported within the current veterans and human services levy now merit  
99 consideration for support from the replacement levy proposed in this  
100 ordinance. Those populations and issues include supporting seniors and  
101 their caregivers and healthy aging; supporting survivors of traumatic  
102 experiences that include sexual assault, domestic violence, human  
103 trafficking, including labor trafficking and sex trafficking, and commercial  
104 sexual exploitation as well as services to prevent those types of trauma;  
105 support for refugees and immigrants; support for low-income residents of  
106 rural communities and improved health and human services delivery in  
107 rural communities; support for civil legal services for persons with low  
108 income; and support for persons with disabilities and their caregivers.

109 10. From 2010 to 2015, the number of King County veterans living below  
110 the federal poverty level increased by forty-three percent to a total of eight  
111 thousand two hundred ninety-nine, even as the overall population of

112 veterans in King County has fallen to an estimated 2015 level of one  
113 hundred twelve thousand eight hundred veterans.

114 11. Nationally, an average of twenty veterans commit suicide every day.  
115 On average, only six of the twenty veterans committing suicide every day  
116 are enrolled in U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs services. The  
117 remaining majority are not receiving federal veterans services.

118 12. As of January 2017, an estimated two thousand one hundred two  
119 veterans were homeless in King County. Despite a strong partnership with  
120 the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the Washington Department of  
121 Veterans Affairs and a network of local housing and service providers  
122 who together house an average of forty homeless veterans in King County  
123 per month, the number of homeless veterans increases by a net average  
124 monthly inflow of sixty-six newly homeless veterans. If sustained for a  
125 year, this monthly rate of growth would generate seven hundred and  
126 twenty newly homeless veterans per year.

127 13. Eight percent of King County residents live in rural communities.  
128 King County's rural residents consistently report difficulty in accessing the  
129 network of federal, state, county and philanthropically funded health and  
130 human services. Travelling to urban centers to seek services is difficult or  
131 impractical for many persons from rural communities who require health  
132 and human services.

133 14. At least fourteen thousand persons experience domestic violence each  
134 year in King County. Survivors of domestic violence experience

135 disproportionately high rates of homelessness and experience an average  
136 of more than nineteen civil legal problems, more than twice the average  
137 experienced by the general low-income population.

138 15. Approximately three to five hundred youth are sexually exploited  
139 within King County each year. Commercial sexual exploitation of  
140 children remains a poorly understood yet urgent challenge for King  
141 County residents to confront.

142 16. More than one hundred thousand persons with physical, intellectual or  
143 developmental disabilities live in Washington. More than seventy percent  
144 of persons with a disability live with a family caregiver, and twenty-three  
145 percent of those family caregivers are aged sixty or older with an  
146 additional thirty-five percent aged forty-one or older.

147 17. Eighteen percent of King County residents are aged sixty or older, a  
148 number that will increase to twenty-five percent of the county population  
149 by 2040. As seniors make up an increasing percentage of King County's  
150 population, funding for senior services is not keeping pace. Funding  
151 through the federal Older Americans Act, as well as state and county  
152 funding for seniors, is falling. Philanthropic funding for seniors is also  
153 waning. The result is a trend toward reduced senior funding just as King  
154 County's population of seniors is increasing.

155 18. Seventy-eight percent of persons sixty or older have one or more  
156 chronic health conditions. Thirty-five percent are women living alone.  
157 Nine percent are living in poverty. Racial, ethnic and place-based

158           disproportionalities unevenly distribute these conditions and risk factors  
159           across King County.

160           19. Elder abuse is a growing challenge. The King County prosecuting  
161           attorney's office reported more than seven thousand allegations of abuse  
162           and neglect of seniors in King County in 2015.

163           20. The responsibility to care for vulnerable seniors impacts all  
164           generations. One-third of today's King County residents who are sixty-  
165           five or older will need some form of long-term care service or support in  
166           the future. That work will in many cases require assistance from unpaid  
167           caregivers, including spouses, adult children and acquaintances.

168           21. Seniors, many of whose incomes are fixed, find it increasingly  
169           difficult to afford to live in the King County communities they helped  
170           nurture and build as housing costs increase dramatically.

171           22. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer seniors in King County  
172           are at extreme risk of the health-harming effects of social isolation and  
173           poverty, with nearly one quarter of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and  
174           queer seniors in King County living below two hundred percent of the  
175           federal poverty level, forty-five percent living alone and sixty-eight  
176           percent reporting having experienced three or more incidents of  
177           victimization or discrimination.

178           23. Adults aged sixty-five and older comprised eighty percent of the more  
179           than two thousand people who were hospitalized for falls in King County  
180           between 2008 and 2012. The rate of death of seniors hospitalized for falls



181 is more than seven times the county average. In 2015, more than fifteen  
182 percent of King County emergency medical services' call responses were  
183 for seniors who had fallen.

184 24. Actual and perceived social isolation are both associated with  
185 increased risk for premature death. The influence of social isolation on  
186 the risk of death is comparable with risk factors for mortality such as  
187 smoking. Social isolation's influence on risk of premature death exceeds  
188 that of physical inactivity and obesity. Adults seventy-five and older who  
189 are lonely, socially isolated and inactive have a mortality rate of fifty-three  
190 percent compared to a mortality rate of thirty percent among their age  
191 peers who are not lonely, inactive, or socially isolated.

192 25. Since its inception in 2006 and through its renewal in 2011, the  
193 veterans and human services levy has served hundreds of thousands of  
194 veterans, military personnel, their families and other individuals and  
195 families in need. In addition to the veterans and human services levy's  
196 achievements, changed conditions and newly emerging needs present  
197 additional opportunities to set the conditions for persons in King County  
198 to fulfill their potential. Given the levy's track record of success and the  
199 additional need within the community, it is appropriate to ask the voters to  
200 replace the current veterans and human services levy with the veterans,  
201 seniors and human services levy provided for in this ordinance.

202 26. In 2010, the county adopted Ordinance 16857, establishing the King  
203 County Strategic Plan. In 2015, the county council passed Motion 14317

204 updating and revising King County's vision, mission, guiding principles  
205 and goals. Included within the county's goals are improving the health and  
206 well-being of all people in King County, increasing access to quality  
207 housing that is affordable to all, implementing alternatives to divert people  
208 from the criminal justice system and ensuring that county government  
209 operates efficiently and effectively and is accountable to the public. The  
210 county's guiding principles command that pursuit of the county goals  
211 should address the root causes of inequities to provide equal access for all;  
212 engage with partners, stakeholders and public and private organizations to  
213 achieve goals; align funding, policy and operational goals of King County  
214 government; and provide effective, efficient local governance and services  
215 to unincorporated areas.

216 27. In 2016, the council adopted implementation plans for the best starts  
217 for kids levy and the mental illness and drug dependency sales tax  
218 renewal. Both plans expressed the council's and the executive's intent to  
219 design, implement and evaluate strategies that are outcomes-oriented. It is  
220 the county's intent that the veterans, seniors and human services levy  
221 provided for in this ordinance, if approved by voters, shall have an  
222 outcomes orientation that appropriately aligns with the plans for the best  
223 starts for kids levy and the mental illness and drug dependency sales tax.

224 28. King County actively engages in equity and social justice efforts to  
225 eliminate racially and ethnically disparate health and human services  
226 outcomes in King County, and this priority shall guide the council and the

227 executive in the process of designing, administering, and evaluating the  
228 policies and programs related to the veterans, seniors and human services  
229 levy, if approved by voters.

230 29. It is the intent of the county that over the course of the six-year levy  
231 the majority of levy proceeds expended to build capital facilities under  
232 authority of this ordinance shall be for very low-income households of  
233 which the total income is no higher than thirty percent of the median  
234 income level for the county as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing  
235 and Urban Development or its successor agency. Specific very low-  
236 income threshold levels vary according to household size.

237 30. It is the intent of the county that the transition plan required in section  
238 7.A. of this ordinance provide a mechanism to continue, without  
239 interruption, currently funded regional health and human services to  
240 veterans and military servicemembers and their respective families, and  
241 other persons in King County; to provide substantial investments in  
242 housing stability early in the levy term; and to engage in planning  
243 activities until the new implementation plan is adopted in accordance with  
244 section 7.B. of this ordinance.

245 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

246 SECTION 1. Definitions. The definitions in this section apply throughout this  
247 ordinance unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

248 A. "Caregiver" means a person who, without pay, cares for or supervises another  
249 person who requires such care or supervision due to disability, chronic illness or, in the

250 case of a senior, age-related decline. Government-provided benefits or financial  
251 assistance provided directly to a person for being a caregiver are not considered pay  
252 within this definition.

253 B. "Levy" means the levy of regular property taxes for the specific purposes and  
254 term provided in this ordinance and authorized by the electorate in accordance with state  
255 law.

256 C. "Levy proceeds" means the principal amount of moneys raised by the levy and  
257 any interest earnings on the moneys.

258 D. "Limit factor" for purposes of calculating the levy limitations in RCW  
259 84.55.010, means one hundred three and one-half percent.

260 E. "Military servicemember" means a person who is serving as either an active  
261 duty or a reservist member of the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force or Coast Guard,  
262 or in the National Guard.

263 F. "Regional health and human services" means a wide range of those services,  
264 programs, operations and capital facilities that promote outcomes relating to healthy  
265 living, housing stability, financial stability, social engagement, service system  
266 improvement and service system access to meet basic human needs and promote healthy  
267 living and communities including, but not limited to:

268 1. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that promote  
269 housing stability or that contribute to making homelessness rare, brief and one-time by  
270 creating housing, preserving or modifying existing housing or supporting persons in  
271 gaining or maintaining housing, including an assistance program to support persons who  
272 qualify for a property tax exemption under RCW 84.36.381;

273           2. Those health care and health promotion services, programs and operations  
274 that encourage healthy lifestyles and wellness, promote healthy aging, support recovery,  
275 improve physical and behavioral health for individuals and families, promote suicide  
276 prevention efforts, reduce unintentional injury and support survivors of domestic  
277 violence;

278           3. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that promote social  
279 engagement and community building such as senior centers for individuals and groups in  
280 culturally, geographically, economically or linguistically isolated communities and for  
281 others such as seniors experiencing or at risk of social isolation and its health-harming  
282 effects;

283           4. Those services and programs that promote financial stability or financial  
284 mobility, including access to, preparation for and assistance in gaining or maintaining  
285 employment, income, education and financial literacy, including an assistance program to  
286 support persons who qualify for a property tax exemption under RCW 84.36.381;

287           5. Those services and programs that promote equitable and affordable access to  
288 child care in King County, including but not limited to services and programs that  
289 promote equitable and affordable access to child care for families of veterans and military  
290 servicemembers;

291           6. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that promote and  
292 support diversion away from the criminal justice system, and services and programs that  
293 promote and support criminal justice system-linked services or other services that assist  
294 individuals, including children, youth and young adults, and their families, in preventing,  
295 mitigating or recovering from the effects of their involvement with the criminal justice

296 system, including services that promote restorative justice or reentry to society after  
297 incarceration or detention, such as services aimed at supporting justice system-involved  
298 individuals to attain or retain housing;

299           7. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that improve or  
300 expand the delivery of health and human services, improve health and human services  
301 system access and navigability, reduce or prevent the disparate or traumatic effects of  
302 systems upon vulnerable populations, build the capacity and support the operations of  
303 health and human services providers to serve their clients and communities, including  
304 strategies to promote retention, recruitment and pay of high quality service providers and  
305 build the capacity of communities to partner with King County;

306           8. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that improve or  
307 expand the delivery of civil legal aid to vulnerable populations;

308           9. Those services and programs that promote, encourage and support  
309 employment opportunities for veterans and military servicemembers, including  
310 employment opportunities in King County government such as the veterans internship  
311 program, a version of which has also been known as the Vets 4 HIRE program,  
312 established by Ordinance 17450;

313           10. Those services and programs for incarcerated veterans and military  
314 servicemembers, including assessment and referral for substance abuse treatment, mental  
315 health counseling, transitional housing assistance and job referral and placement services  
316 such as those provided through the incarcerated veterans pilot program established under  
317 Motion 14632 and Motion 14766;

318           11. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that further a goal

319 of allowing seniors to age in place and enjoy a high quality of life in their own homes;

320           12. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that improve and  
321 expand services for youth in crisis; and

322           13. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that provide  
323 education and work force development and training for vulnerable populations.

324           G. "Senior" means a person who is at least fifty-five years old.

325           H. "Technical assistance and capacity building" means assisting small  
326 organizations, partnerships and groups to enable such entities to provide regional health  
327 and human services and capital facilities funded by the levy proceeds. Assistance may  
328 include, but is not limited to, providing or funding legal, accounting, human resources  
329 and leadership development services and support.

330           I. "Veteran" means a person who has served as either an active duty or a reservist  
331 member of the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force or Coast Guard, or in the National  
332 Guard.

333           J. "Vulnerable population" means persons or communities that are susceptible to  
334 reduced health, housing, financial or social stability outcomes because of current  
335 experience of or historical exposure to trauma, violence, poverty, isolation, bias, racism,  
336 stigma, discrimination, disability or chronic illness. Examples of vulnerable populations  
337 include, but are not limited to survivors of domestic violence; survivors of sexual assault;  
338 survivors of human trafficking, including labor trafficking and sex trafficking; survivors  
339 of commercial sexual exploitation; persons who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
340 transgender, queer or intersex; persons with a disability; African Americans and other  
341 persons of color who have been disproportionately impacted by policies and practices

342 resulting in housing instability or housing insecurity; family caregivers for persons with a  
343 disability; immigrants and refugees; low-income residents of rural communities; persons  
344 living in poverty; persons at risk of or experiencing homelessness; youth involved in the  
345 child welfare system, including youth in the foster care system, and young adult alumni  
346 of the child welfare system; minors who have been separated from both parents and other  
347 relatives and are not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for  
348 doing so; persons reentering society from criminal justice system involvement; and  
349 persons at risk of criminal justice system involvement due to disproportionate practices of  
350 enforcement, mental illness or substance use disorders.

351        **SECTION 2. Levy submittal to the voters.** To provide necessary moneys for  
352 the provision of regional health and human services to King County's veterans and  
353 military servicemembers and their respective families, seniors and their caregivers and  
354 vulnerable populations, technical assistance and capacity building, and for limiting the  
355 impact of this levy on metropolitan park districts and fire districts due to prorationing  
356 mandated under RCW 84.52.010, the county council shall submit to the qualified electors  
357 of the county a proposition to replace an expiring levy and authorize a regular property  
358 tax levy in excess of the levy limitation contained in chapter 84.55 RCW for six  
359 consecutive years, at a rate not to exceed ten cents per one thousand dollars of assessed  
360 value in the first year, 2017, and collections commencing in 2018, with annual increases  
361 in years two through six of the levy (2018 through 2022) limited by the limit factor.

362        **SECTION 3. Deposit of levy proceeds.** The levy proceeds shall be deposited in  
363 a special revenue fund, which fund shall be created by ordinance.

364        **SECTION 4. Eligible expenditures.**



365           A. If approved by the qualified electors of the county, at least one percent of each  
366 year's levy proceeds must be used to fund technical assistance and capacity building.

367           B. From the remaining levy proceeds after the amount required in subsection A.  
368 of this section, except for three hundred thousand dollars of each year's levy proceeds  
369 reserved for the purposes set forth in subsection C. of this section, all levy proceeds shall  
370 be divided into three equal parts and used for the following purposes:

371           1. One third of those levy proceeds shall be used to plan, provide, administer  
372 and evaluate a wide range of regional health and human services and capital facilities for  
373 veterans and military servicemembers and their respective families. In this levy's first  
374 year, at least fifty percent of the levy proceeds described in this subsection shall be used  
375 to fund those capital facilities and regional health and human services that promote  
376 housing stability for veterans and military servicemembers and their respective families.  
377 In subsequent years, at least twenty-five percent of the levy proceeds described in this  
378 subsection shall be used to fund those capital facilities and regional health and human  
379 services that promote housing stability for veterans and military servicemembers and  
380 their respective families. No more than five percent of the levy proceeds described in this  
381 subsection shall be used to fund the planning and administration of the wide range of  
382 regional health and human services and capital facilities to be provided under this  
383 subsection;

384           2. One third of those levy proceeds shall be used to plan, provide, administer  
385 and evaluate a wide range of regional health and human services and capital facilities for  
386 seniors and their caregivers and to promote healthy aging in King County. Until either  
387 (a) seventy-five percent of the number of those seniors, who are also veterans or military

388 servicemembers in King County and who as of the enactment date of this ordinance are  
389 homeless, obtain housing or (b) a total of twenty-four million dollars from the levy  
390 proceeds, except those levy proceeds described in subsection B.1. of this section, or from  
391 other funds administered by King County or both are spent to house seniors who are also  
392 veterans or military servicemembers in King County, whichever comes first, at least fifty  
393 percent of the levy proceeds described in this subsection shall be used to fund capital  
394 facilities and regional health and human services for seniors who are also veterans or  
395 military servicemembers and their respective caregivers and families. In this levy's first  
396 year, at least fifty percent of the levy proceeds described in this subsection shall be used  
397 to fund those capital facilities and regional health and human services that promote  
398 housing stability for seniors. In subsequent years, at least twenty-five percent of the levy  
399 proceeds described in this subsection shall be used to fund those capital facilities and  
400 regional health and human services that promote housing stability for seniors. No more  
401 than five percent of the levy proceeds described in this subsection shall be used to fund  
402 the planning and administration of the wide range of regional health and human services  
403 and capital facilities to be provided under this subsection; and

404           3. One third of those levy proceeds shall be used to plan, provide, administer  
405 and evaluate a wide range of regional health and human services and capital facilities for  
406 vulnerable populations. In this levy's first year, at least fifty percent of the levy proceeds  
407 described in this subsection shall be used to fund those capital facilities and regional  
408 health and human services that promote housing stability for vulnerable populations. In  
409 subsequent years, at least twenty-five percent of the levy proceeds described in this  
410 subsection shall be used to fund those capital facilities and regional health and human

411 services that promote housing stability for vulnerable populations. No more than five  
412 percent of the levy proceeds described in this subsection shall be used to fund the  
413 planning and administration of the wide range of regional health and human services and  
414 capital facilities to be provided under this subsection.

415 C.1. Of the levy proceeds annually reserved in subsection B. of this section, the  
416 council may by ordinance authorize the expenditure of those levy proceeds to mitigate  
417 the levy's impact on metropolitan park districts and fire districts to the extent their levies  
418 may be prorated as mandated by RCW 84.52.010 and to the extent the prorationing  
419 was caused by this levy. Metropolitan park districts and fire districts shall use any  
420 moneys received under authority of this subsection C. to fund, within their districts,  
421 regional health and human services for veterans and military servicemembers and their  
422 respective families, seniors and their caregivers and vulnerable populations.

423 2. Unless the council by ordinance otherwise directs, reserved levy proceeds not  
424 expended as authorized in subsection C.1. of this section shall be, no earlier than June 1,  
425 2023, divided in thirds and one third expended for each of the purposes set forth in  
426 subsection B.1. through 3. of this section.

427 **SECTION 5. Call for special election.** In accordance with RCW 29A.04.321,  
428 the King County council hereby calls for a special election to be held in conjunction with  
429 the general election on November 7, 2017, to consider a proposition authorizing a regular  
430 property tax levy for the purposes described in this ordinance. The King County director  
431 of elections shall cause notice to be given of this ordinance in accordance with the state  
432 constitution and general law and to submit to the qualified electors of the county, at the  
433 said special county election, the proposition hereinafter set forth. The clerk of the council

434 shall certify that proposition to the director of elections in substantially the following  
435 form, with such additions, deletions or modifications as may be required for the  
436 proposition listed below by the prosecuting attorney:

437       PROPOSITION\_\_\_; The King County Council has passed Ordinance  
438       \_\_\_\_\_ concerning funding for veterans, seniors and vulnerable  
439       populations. If approved, this proposition would replace an expiring levy  
440       and fund capital facilities and regional health and human services for  
441       veterans and military servicemembers and their respective families,  
442       seniors and their caregivers, and vulnerable populations, including  
443       domestic violence survivors and persons with disabilities. It would  
444       authorize King County to levy an additional property tax for six years,  
445       beginning in 2017, and collections commencing in 2018, with annual  
446       increases in years two through six of the levy (2018 through 2022) of up to  
447       3.5%.

448       Should this proposition be:

449       Approved? \_\_\_\_\_

450       Rejected? \_\_\_\_\_

451       SECTION 6. Governance.

452       A. No later than August 23, 2017, the executive shall develop and transmit a plan  
453       for council review and adoption by ordinance to create and prescribe the composition and  
454       duties of a board or boards to provide oversight of the expenditure of the levy proceeds  
455       described in section 4.A. and B. of this ordinance. The creation of the board or boards  
456       shall be contingent upon voter approval of the ballot proposition described in section 5 of

457 this ordinance.

458 B. The board or boards shall be charged to oversee the distribution of levy  
459 proceeds consistent with section 4.A. and B. of this ordinance and to report annually to  
460 the executive and council on the fiscal and performance management of the levy. The  
461 plan may describe additional matters on which the board or boards are empowered to  
462 provide advice to the executive and county council.

463 **SECTION 7. Implementation planning.**

464 A. No later than September 29, 2017, the executive shall transmit for council  
465 review and adoption by ordinance a proposed transition plan for the veterans, seniors and  
466 human services levy. Contingent upon voter approval of the ballot proposition described  
467 in section 5 of this ordinance, a transition plan, for spending of levy proceeds in 2018 or  
468 later years as authorized under this ordinance, should address the following elements:

469 1. A recommended course of action that would minimize service discontinuity  
470 for veterans and military servicemembers and their respective families and other  
471 individuals and families in need during the transition between the veterans and human  
472 services levy and the veterans, seniors and human services levy;

473 2. Any proposed new staffing and planning activities required to plan for and  
474 administer the veterans, seniors and human services levy during the transition period, and  
475 prior to the adoption of the implementation plan required in subsection B. of this section;

476 3. A plan for the portion of veterans, seniors and human services first-year levy  
477 proceeds required in section 4.B.1. through 3. of this ordinance to fund those capital  
478 facilities and regional and human services that promote housing stability for veterans,  
479 seniors and vulnerable populations. The executive shall develop and include a definition

480 of housing stability that shall address but not be limited to: the appropriate percentage  
481 that housing costs should represent of a person's income as compared to costs of other  
482 necessities, such as food, clothing, transportation and medical care; risk factors for  
483 housing instability or housing insecurity; and housing safety and quality. The transition  
484 plan shall include and utilize criteria that address geographic differences and trends in  
485 housing stability, including housing costs, to assess the need for and to allocate housing  
486 stability investments. The transition plan shall include a process to streamline the review  
487 and approval of capital facilities designed to promote housing stability for veterans,  
488 servicemembers and their respective families, seniors and vulnerable populations so that  
489 resources are made available in an expeditious and responsible manner while also  
490 reducing administrative costs;

491 4. A methodology to determine the number of seniors who are also veterans or  
492 military servicemembers and who are homeless as of the date of the enactment of this  
493 ordinance and to track the number of veterans and military servicemembers who obtain  
494 housing over the term of this levy and the plan to implement that methodology and  
495 tracking; and

496 5. Definitions of planning and administration as those terms are used in section  
497 4.B.1., 2. and 3. of this ordinance and the percentage of levy proceeds by each of the  
498 three equal parts as described in section 4.B. of this ordinance that will be used to  
499 perform these activities.

500 B. Contingent upon voter approval of the ballot proposition described in section 5  
501 of this ordinance and no later than March 16, 2018, the executive shall transmit an  
502 implementation plan for the veterans, seniors and human services levy for council review

503 and adoption by ordinance. The implementation plan shall describe the expenditure of  
504 levy proceeds to achieve outcomes related to healthy living, housing stability, financial  
505 stability, social engagement, service system improvement and service system access for  
506 veterans and military servicemembers and their respective families, seniors and their  
507 caregivers and vulnerable populations, consistent with the eligible expenditures described  
508 in section 4 of this ordinance. This plan shall include definitions of planning and  
509 administration as those terms are used in section 4.B.1., 2. and 3. of this ordinance and  
510 the percentage of levy proceeds by each of the three equal parts as described in section  
511 4.B. of this ordinance that will be used to perform these activities. The definitions and  
512 percentages may be refined from the definitions and percentages included in the  
513 transition plan required in subsection A. of this section. This plan shall include a  
514 definition of housing stability for the purposes of expenditures of levy proceeds that shall  
515 address but not be limited to: the appropriate percentage that housing costs should  
516 represent of a person's income as compared to costs of other necessities, such as food,  
517 clothing, transportation and medical care; risk factors for housing instability or housing  
518 insecurity; and housing safety and quality. The definition may be refined from the  
519 definition included in the transition plan required in subsection A. of this section. The  
520 implementation plan shall include and utilize criteria that address geographic differences  
521 and trends in housing stability, including housing costs, to assess the need for and to  
522 allocate housing stability investments. The plan shall include identification of services,  
523 programs, operations and capital facilities that build the capacity and support the  
524 operations of health and human services providers to serve their clients and communities,  
525 including strategies to promote retention, recruitment and pay of high quality service

526 providers. The plan shall also identify and describe: accountability measures, including  
527 measurable outcomes or results expected for each of the three populations, which are  
528 veterans, seniors and vulnerable populations, across each of the five outcome areas,  
529 which are healthy living, housing stability, financial stability, social engagement, service  
530 system improvement and service system access, due to the expenditure of levy proceeds;  
531 a regular performance monitoring program that will assess and report on how well the  
532 veterans, seniors and human services levy is achieving those outcomes; and how this  
533 veterans, seniors and human services levy program-specific performance monitoring and  
534 reporting will be coordinated with performance monitoring and reporting on other  
535 dedicated human service funds, such as the best starts for kids fund and the mental illness  
536 and drug dependency fund. Among the accountability measures shall be the goal of  
537 housing seventy-five percent of the number of those seniors, who are also veterans or  
538 military servicemembers in King County and who as of the date this ordinance is enacted  
539 are homeless, obtain housing. The plan shall also include the methodology of how the  
540 number of seniors, who are also veterans or military servicemembers and who were  
541 homeless as of the date of the enactment of this ordinance was determined and the  
542 methodology to track the number of veterans and military servicemembers who obtain  
543 housing over the term of this levy. The plan shall also provide for the implementation of  
544 the tracking. The methodology and plan may be refined from those included in the  
545 transition plan required in subsection A. of this section. The plan should describe how  
546 performance monitoring and reporting will focus on results and not simply on numbers  
547 served.

548 C. Until the council adopts by ordinance the transition plan referenced in



549 subsection A. of this section, subject to appropriation, levy proceeds may only be  
550 expended to continue services provided in 2017 at 2017 service levels and such  
551 expenditures shall be governed by the Service Improvement Plan 2012-2017 - Veterans  
552 and Human Services Levy adopted by Ordinance 17236. No levy proceeds may be  
553 expended for new regional health and human services or capital facilities until the council  
554 adopts by ordinance the transition plan referenced in subsection A. of this section. Until  
555 the council adopts by ordinance the implementation plan referenced in subsection B. of  
556 this section, the transition plan, adopted under subsection A. of this section, shall govern  
557 the expenditure of levy proceeds. After adoption of the implementation plan, it shall  
558 govern the expenditure of levy proceeds and the transition plan shall no longer have force  
559 or effect.

560        SECTION 8. The additional regular property taxes authorized by this ordinance  
561 shall be included in any real property tax exemption authorized by RCW 84.36.381,  
562 including any amendment that is adopted by the state legislature during the term of this  
563 levy.

564        SECTION 9. Ratification. Certification of the proposition by the clerk of the  
565 county council to the director of elections in accordance with law before the general  
566 election on November 7, 2017, and any other act consistent with the authority and before  
567 the effective date of this ordinance are hereby ratified and confirmed.

568        SECTION 10. The plans specified in sections 6 and 7 of this ordinance are  
569 countywide plans included in the work plan of the regional policy committee and as part  
570 of the council review shall be referred to the regional policy committee in accordance  
571 with Section 270.30 of the King County Charter and K.C.C. 1.24.065.D.2.

572            SECTION 11. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or its application  
573 to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the  
574 application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Ordinance 18555 was introduced on 5/22/2017 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/20/2017, 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

J. Joseph McDermott, Chair

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KING COUNTY COUNCIL CLERK

ATTEST:

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 21 day of JULY, 2017.

Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None