



**KING COUNTY**  
**Signature Report**

ATTACHMENT 1  
1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Ordinance**

**Proposed No. 2021-0366.1**

**Sponsors**

1 AN ORDINANCE adopting the Best Starts for Kids  
2 Governance Update Report required by Ordinance 19267,  
3 Section 6, to describe and explain necessary and  
4 recommended changes to sections of the King County Code  
5 and applicable ordinances that describe the composition  
6 and duties of the King County children and youth advisory  
7 board and the communities of opportunity - best starts for  
8 kids levy advisory board.

9 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

- 10 1. In April 2015, the metropolitan King County council passed Motion  
11 14378, adopting the Youth Action Plan. The Youth Action Plan  
12 recommended that King County create an advisory board to support the  
13 county's system-wide accountability for serving children and families and  
14 youth and young adults. The task force recommended the advisory board  
15 be "an inclusive body comprised of a wide array of citizens, stakeholders,  
16 and entities that can draw upon experience, knowledge and information to  
17 assist King County policymakers as they consider outcomes, policies, and  
18 investments for children and families and youth and young adults."  
19 2. In July 2015, Ordinance 18088 submitted to the voters of King County  
20 a proposition known as "best starts for kids levy," authorizing a regular

21 property tax levy in excess of the levy limitation for six consecutive years,  
22 commencing in 2016, for the purpose of funding prevention and early  
23 intervention strategies to improve the health and well-being of children,  
24 youth and their communities. The youth action plan task force members  
25 helped shape the first best starts for kids levy proposition.

26 3. Ordinance 18088 also directed the executive to transmit to the council a  
27 plan relating to an oversight and advisory board for the portion of the best  
28 starts for kids levy proceeds related to children and youth strategies and a  
29 proposed ordinance identifying the duties and composition of the  
30 oversight and advisory board. Ordinance 18088 required that the  
31 oversight and advisory plan be consistent with the recommendations in the  
32 county's youth action plan.

33 4. In January 2016, the county enacted Ordinance 18217 establishing the  
34 King County children and youth advisory board and adding a new chapter  
35 to K.C.C. Title 2A.

36 5. In July 2020, council adopted Motion 15673 accepting the Puget Sound  
37 Taxpayer Accountability Account ("PSTAA") implementation plan.  
38 PSTAA directs transit-related revenue to educational services to improve  
39 outcomes in early learning, K-12 and post-secondary education. The  
40 PSTAA implementation plan designated the children and youth advisory  
41 board to establish and maintain the PSTAA advisory committee.

42 6. In April 2021, Ordinance 19267 submitted to the voters of King  
43 County a proposition to renew the best starts for kids levy, providing for

44 resident oversight and authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the levy  
45 limitation contained in chapter 84.55 RCW for a six-year consecutive  
46 period, commencing in 2022, at a rate of not more than \$0.19 per one  
47 thousand dollars of assessed valuation in the first year, and limiting annual  
48 levy increases to three percent in the five succeeding years, all for the  
49 purpose of funding prevention and early intervention strategies and a  
50 capital grants program to improve the health and well-being of children,  
51 youth and their communities.

52 7. In July 2021, as directed by Ordinance 19267, the executive developed  
53 and transmitted the Best Starts for Kids implementation plan for 2022-  
54 2027 in consultation with the King County children and youth advisory  
55 board.

56 8. Ordinance 19267 also directs the executive, by October 1, 2021, to  
57 transmit to the council for consideration and adoption by ordinance a best  
58 starts for kids governance update report that describes and explains  
59 necessary and recommended changes to sections of the King County Code  
60 and applicable ordinances that describe the composition and duties of the  
61 King County children and youth advisory board.

62 9. Research shows inclusion of lived experience perspectives on boards  
63 increases the efficacy of policy development, strategic planning,  
64 implementation of programs, evaluation and the development of  
65 innovative approaches that reach communities and effectively meet their  
66 needs.

67 10. Stipends serve to provide incentive for youth participation on boards,  
68 while recognizing their expertise, and helping with living expenses as they  
69 engage in board activities.

70 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

71 SECTION 1. The Best Starts for Kids Governance Update Report, dated October  
72 1, 2021, Attachment A to this ordinance, is hereby adopted.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Claudia Balducci, Chair

ATTEST:

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Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

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Dow Constantine, County Executive

**Attachments:** A. Best Starts for Kids Governance Update Report, September 2021, King County