



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

December 16, 2003

Ordinance 14824

Proposed No. 2003-0535.1

Sponsors Sullivan

1 AN ORDINANCE establishing the CTV citizens advisory
2 committee and the CTV working group; prescribing
3 procedures for the appointment of the station manager of
4 CTV; clarifying CTV policies; making technical
5 corrections; and amending Ordinance 12022, Section 3, and
6 K.C.C. 2.59.100, Ordinance 12022, Section 4, and K.C.C.
7 2.59.110 and Ordinance 12543, Section 1, and K.C.C.
8 2.59.120, adding a new section to K.C.C. chapter 2.59 and
9 repealing Ordinance 12543, Section 2, and K.C.C.2.59.130.

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11
12 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

13 SECTION 1. Ordinance 12022, Section 3, and K.C.C. 2.59.100 are each hereby
14 amended to read as follows:

15 **King County Civic Television (CTV) - government access channel --**
16 **established -- mission -- principles.**

17 A. A government access channel is hereby established and ~~((will))~~ shall be
18 operated by the ~~((M))~~metropolitan King County ~~((C))~~council with assistance from the
19 ~~((Government Access Channel Oversight Committee))~~ CTV citizens advisory committee
20 and the CTV working group.

21 B. The council establishes the following mission statement and policy principles by
22 which the channel ~~((will))~~ shall be operated:

23 ~~((C))~~The King County government access cable television system belongs to the
24 citizens of King County and exists to serve citizens directly. In its development and
25 operation, the government access cable system ~~((will))~~ shall be guided by the following
26 principles:

27 ~~((A-))~~ 1. The system shall be used to increase citizen dialogue about the
28 development of county policies;

29 ~~((B-))~~ 2. The system shall be used to make government decision making more
30 accessible to citizens;

31 ~~((C-))~~ 3. The system shall be used to provide information of direct value to citizens;

32 ~~((D-))~~ 4. The system shall be used to foster debate of ideas and diversity of
33 viewpoints~~((:))~~;

34 ~~((E-))~~ 5. The system shall make use of creative solutions and a multiplicity of
35 current and emerging technologies to comply with these principles~~((:))~~;

36 ~~((F-))~~ 6. The system shall be as independent as possible in its operation and funding
37 to insulate it from influences ~~((which may))~~ that might stifle the public information goals
38 reflected in this mission statement; and

39 7. The system's goal shall be to serve all branches of county government, all
40 county departments and the people of King County.

41 C. Consistent with Motion 8972, programming on the government access channel
42 shall also inform the public about the deliberations of the ~~((M))~~metropolitan King County
43 ~~((C))~~council and the ~~((R))~~regional ~~((Policy))~~ committees that advise the council as well as
44 programming that highlights important county services including, but not limited to~~((:))~~,
45 public transit, vanpool and rideshare services, commuter trip reduction services, water
46 quality, jury duty, court and legal services, public safety, public health, property taxes and
47 tax assessments, voter registration, disability services, licensing, permits, citizen
48 complaints, senior citizen programs, family programs, animal control, drug and alcohol
49 treatment, mental health services~~((:))~~ and adult and youth detention. Programming relevant
50 to county policies and issues produced by entities outside county government may also be
51 aired.

52 D. In the exercise of his or her duties regarding how CTV can best serve the
53 citizens of the county, the chair of the council shall work cooperatively with and give due
54 consideration to the views of the executive.

55 SECTION 2. Ordinance 12022, Section 4, and K.C.C. 2.59.110 are each hereby
56 amended to read as follows:

57 **King County Civic Television (CTV) – ~~((government access channel oversight~~**
58 **~~committee.~~** There is hereby created the government access channel oversight committee to
59 assist in operation of the King County government access channel. The government access
60 channel oversight committee shall consist of the following members:

61 A. ~~Two councilmembers, one from each party,~~

62 B. The county executive or designee,
63 C. The director of information and administrative services,
64 D. Three citizens with experience in the management and operation of government
65 access channels for cable television. They shall be appointed by the executive and
66 confirmed by the council for terms not to exceed four years. The three citizen members of
67 the oversight committee shall be compensated at \$50 per diem when attending to oversight
68 committee business. The government access channel oversight committee shall develop
69 and propose policies and procedures to be adopted by the council by ordinance to govern
70 the operation of the government access channel. The committee may recommend to the
71 council whether to contract with an entity outside county government to operate the
72 government access channel. The government access channel shall carry at least four hours
73 of programming from TVW, the private non-profit provider of public policy programming
74 in Washington state, until such time as another channel is available)) CTV citizens
75 advisory committee – CTV working group.

76 A.1. There is hereby created the CTV citizens advisory committee. The CTV
77 citizens advisory committee shall advise the council and the executive regarding overall
78 programming strategy and content and how CTV can best serve the community. The
79 CTV citizens advisory committee shall consist of the following members:

80 a. a representative from a local television station or local network affiliate, or a
81 person with significant experience in or knowledge of the broadcast media;

82 b. a representative from a local public relations firm or a professional working
83 in the public relations field for a local corporation;

84 c. a representative;

85 (1) from a company that publishes a significant amount of news or other
86 content via the Internet;

87 (2) with significant experience in dissemination of information via the
88 Internet; or

89 (3) with expertise in delivering information via streaming video or other
90 emerging technologies; and

91 d. a representative from a local newspaper source or a person with significant
92 experience in or knowledge of newspapers.

93 2. Members of the CTV citizens advisory committee shall be appointed by the
94 executive and confirmed by the council, for terms not to exceed four years. Members
95 shall be compensated at fifty dollars per day for days on which advisory committee
96 meetings are held.

97 B. There is hereby created the CTV working group. The CTV working group
98 shall advise CTV management and the council regarding CTV programming and
99 operations and how CTV can best serve King County, including all branches of
100 government and all county departments. The CTV working group shall consist of seven
101 members, as follows: the council's director of communications, or equivalent position;
102 two other staff members from CTV staff or from council staff, designated by the chair of
103 the council; the executive's director of communications, or equivalent position; two other
104 executive branch employees to be designated by the executive; and one representative
105 from the judicial or law enforcement entities, including the superior and district courts,
106 the prosecuting attorney's office and the department of public safety, to be designated by
107 the executive. The CTV working group should consult regularly with CTV management

108 and representatives of county agencies and departments to help ensure that CTV is
109 effectively serving the county government and the county's citizens.

110 C. Final authority over all CTV policy and operational matters, including hiring
111 and other personnel matters, shall be governed by the council in accordance with section
112 4 of this ordinance.

113 D. On or before July 1, 2005, and annually thereafter, the CTV citizens advisory
114 committee shall report to the council on the effectiveness of the CTV governance
115 structure set forth in this section and section 4 of this ordinance. The committee's report
116 may include recommended changes to the governance structure, which shall be given due
117 consideration by the council.

118 SECTION 3. Ordinance 12543, Section 1, and K.C.C. 2.59.120 are each hereby
119 amended to read as follows:

120 **King County Civic Television (CTV) - government access channel - operating**
121 **policies.** ~~The ((operational framework, approved by the government access channel~~
122 ~~oversight committee, and dated October 7, 1996, and attached as Attachment 1 to~~
123 ~~Ordinance 12543,))~~ following is hereby adopted as the operating policies of the
124 government access channel.

125 A. The name of the King County government access television station is "King
126 County Civic Television" or "CTV."

127 B. Programming on CTV shall be fair, accurate, balanced and without regard to
128 partisanship or ideology.

129 C. CTV's primary purpose is to provide information about King County
130 government, services, policies and programs that enhances public understanding and
131 encourages citizen involvement in regional government and local issues.

132 D. CTV shall be operated in a manner to comply with all applicable federal, state
133 and local regulations.

134 E. Citizen involvement is important to the success of CTV. Therefore, under the
135 direction of the CTV citizens advisory committee and the CTV working group, CTV
136 management and staff shall conduct surveys and ascertainment studies for use in planning
137 programming and services that accurately reflect the changing needs of the community.
138 When possible, the surveys and ascertainment studies should be done in cooperation with
139 the cable franchisee to reduce costs. Results of all surveys and ascertainment studies
140 shall be transmitted to the executive, the chair of the council, the presiding judges of the
141 superior and district courts and the prosecuting attorney and shall also be available for the
142 public.

143 F.1. CTV shall cablecast programming provided by government agencies and
144 other production entities, as well as programming produced internally by CTV staff.
145 Only programming that is consistent with overall CTV policy shall be cablecast or
146 produced in cooperation with CTV. The station manager of CTV is responsible for the
147 scheduling of programs consistent with adopted policies. Programming decisions shall
148 be made in a manner that reflects the importance of all aspects of King County
149 government, including the executive, the council, the courts and the separately elected
150 county officials.

151 2. CTV programming shall be scheduled according to the following priorities:

- 152 a. announcements or programs concerning emergencies and other timely issues
153 that affect the public safety and health of the community;
- 154 b. public proceedings and meetings involving King County elected officials;
155 c. programs and meetings that help explain county policies and programs;
156 d. programs that educate and inform the public or assist in improving the
157 quality of life for King County citizens;
- 158 e. public meetings or programs of other governments including federal, state,
159 regional and local governments, that affect residents of King County;
- 160 f. programs and informational series or one-time special or nonregular
161 informational programs;
- 162 g. programs that highlight the cultural and historic resources of King County;
163 h. public service announcements; and
164 i. programs produced by other agencies or citizens about public policy issues
165 that have an effect on the citizens of King County.

166 3. The following program restrictions apply to CTV:

- 167 a. Programs containing obscene or defamatory material shall not be cablecast
168 on CTV. CTV management and the CTV citizens advisory committee shall recognize
169 that programs with artistic or social merit may contain content or language considered
170 objectionable to some viewers. Community standards of good taste shall be adhered to at
171 all times;
- 172 b. Programs containing copyrighted materials shall not be cablecast on CTV
173 without proper copyright authorization. Producers of programs other than King County

174 that are cablecast on CTV shall obtain all necessary copyright clearance and shall hold
175 King County and CTV harmless in any case of copyright infringement;

176 c. Programs that have as their primary purpose to promote commercial or
177 profit-making services, products, trade or business shall not be cablecast; and

178 d. Video and audio quality of all programs must meet acceptable cablecast
179 standards. The station manager shall determine which programs meet acceptable
180 standards.

181 G.1. Meetings of government boards and events including government officials
182 shall be cablecast on CTV in their entirety and unedited whenever possible. Because of
183 time constraints, it may be appropriate to recablecast portions of meetings dealing with
184 particular subjects of public policy importance. When that type of recablecast is done,
185 the entire portion of a meeting dealing with a particular subject shall be shown without
186 editing. While the content of the meeting and any presentation given at the meeting
187 should be the primary focus of the cablecast, standard production values such as wide
188 shots, cutaways and displays of data may be used by the producer to help provide context
189 for the viewer. Use of such production values shall not distract from the content of the
190 meeting and shall not lead to a distorted view of what occurred at the meeting.

191 2. All programs produced by the CTV staff, contracted by King County
192 agencies for playback on the channel or submitted by an outside agency or person for
193 playback, shall explain issues and policies in a fair and balanced manner and meet the
194 following criteria:

195 a. The programs shall be consistent with CTV programming policies and
196 procedures;

197 b. The programs shall contain factual and explanatory content that reflects a
198 balanced presentation of points of view;

199 c. Professional production values and techniques may be used to aid in the
200 explanation and understanding of complex issues, policies and programs but shall not
201 distract from the factual message;

202 d. The programs shall contain useful, relevant information for the citizens of
203 King County;

204 e. Programming submitted to CTV may be modified or edited as appropriate
205 by CTV staff to meet scheduling standards, technical standards and policy standards;

206 f. Programs produced by citizens relating to topics of county government may
207 be submitted to CTV for preview by programming staff. The decision to schedule and air
208 programs shall be made by the station manager. CTV management may refuse to air
209 programs that do not meet program standards in keeping with the intent of CTV's policies
210 and procedures.

211 3. Because of the importance of presenting public information in a timely
212 manner, events that are enhanced through live coverage shall be cablecast live whenever
213 possible. Other programming or events shall be delayed and cablecast on a tape-delayed
214 basis as long as they do not lose their newsworthiness. CTV programs shall carry a
215 visual disclaimer of "live." This information shall be displayed at appropriate times
216 throughout the program. Should incorrect information be carried over a live event, CTV
217 is not liable for the inaccuracy of the information.

218 H. CTV shall not be used for the purpose of assisting a campaign for election of
219 any person to any office or for the promotion or opposition to any ballot proposition. For

220 the purpose of providing fair, balanced information on candidates and issues, CTV shall
221 provide direct, noneditorial information to the citizens of King County about elections,
222 candidates and issues. Election programming may include: coverage of candidate
223 forums and issues forums that comply with state law and meet the general fairness
224 criteria of these policies; a video voter's guide based on county ordinances and state law;
225 and character-generated election returns.

226 I.1. Videotapes produced by CTV of public meetings do not need to be retained.
227 Videotape programs produced for CTV may be requested by and distributed to other
228 government access television channels. A fee to cover the actual cost of reproduction
229 may be charged. With permission of station management, all or portions of videotapes of
230 meetings may be made available to broadcast and cablecast stations for use on newscasts
231 consistent with CTV's copyright policy.

232 2. Tapes distributed by CTV shall contain any language and symbols required
233 by law to preserve the copyright. The copyright shall apply to programs aired over CTV
234 and a statement of copyright shall be cablecast regularly on CTV.

235 3. Video from CTV shall not be used for commercial purposes.

236 J.1. Since adequate resources are important for the operation of CTV, staffing
237 shall be done utilizing permanent staff, contract and temporary employees and current
238 county employees with backgrounds in video and broadcasting and shall be consistent
239 with any CTV labor contract.

240 2. With regard to funding, the budget for CTV shall be submitted, with input
241 from the CTV citizens advisory committee and the CTV working group, in a manner
242 consistent with the normal county budget process.

243 3. The goal of CTV is to serve the people of King County and all branches and
244 departments of King County government. Accordingly, the CTV budget shall be
245 incorporated each year into the county's current expense cost allocation plan.

246 K. In the exercise of the duties required under this section, the CTV station
247 manager shall be subject to ongoing policy and managerial oversight by the council,
248 exercised through the council's director of communications.

249 L. Logs of programs cablecast on CTV shall be kept and shall be made available
250 to the public.

251 M. Complaints regarding CTV programming decisions shall be submitted to the
252 station manager on a timely basis and shall be acted upon in a timely fashion. Those
253 persons with questions and concerns may contact the station manager. If a complainant
254 disagrees with the station manager's decision regarding the complainant's complaint, the
255 complainant may appeal in writing to a subcommittee of the CTV citizens advisory
256 committee, made up of three members to be designated by the CTV citizens advisory
257 committee. The decision of the subcommittee shall be decided by a simple majority and
258 is the final appeal. The subcommittee shall attempt to resolve the written appeal based on
259 the appeal itself and any interviews the subcommittee deems necessary. The
260 subcommittee should rule on the appeal within thirty days of the appeal.

261 O. The CTV citizens advisory committee shall, at least every two years, review
262 the policies in this section and shall recommend any changes the CTV citizens advisory
263 committee feels are warranted to the council and executive.

264 NEW SECTION. SECTION 4. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 2.59 a
265 new section to read as follows:

266 **Station manager of CTV.**

267 A. The position of station manager of CTV is hereby created. The station
268 manager shall be appointed by the council. A recommendation committee consisting of
269 at least two members of the CTV citizens advisory committee and two members of the
270 CTV working group shall review and interview applicants for the position and
271 recommend finalists to the council. The CTV citizens advisory committee and the CTV
272 working group shall each appoint its two members to the recommendation committee.
273 The recommendation committee shall also consult with and obtain recommendations
274 from the executive. The council shall select the manager from the finalists recommended
275 by the recommendation committee or request that additional candidates be submitted by
276 the committee.

277 B. The station manager may be removed at any time, with or without cause, by
278 the council. The council may appoint an interim manager, for a period not to exceed one
279 year, pending the appointment of a new station manager whenever the position is vacant.
280 The council's employment committee may take disciplinary action regarding the station
281 manager, consistent with council employment practices and policies. The chair of the
282 council shall provide reasonable notification to CTV citizens advisory committee of any
283 such a disciplinary action. The station manager shall be appointed solely with regard to
284 his or her qualifications and experience to manage a government access television
285 channel. The station manager shall hold no other appointive or elective public office or
286 position during the term of employment as station manager.

287 SECTION 5. Ordinance 12543, Section 2, and K.C.C. 2.59.130 are each hereby
288 repealed.
289

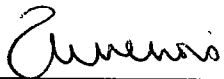
Ordinance 14824 was introduced on 12/8/2003 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 12/15/2003, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Ms. Sullivan, Ms. Edmonds, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Pelz, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Ms. Patterson and Mr. Constantine
No: 4 - Ms. Lambert, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Hammond and Mr. Irons
Excused: 0

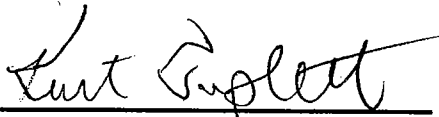
KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Cynthia Sullivan, Chair

ATTEST:


Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 26th day of December, 2003.


for Ron Sims, County Executive

Attachments None

RECEIVED
2003 DEC 26 PM 1:21
CLERK
KING COUNTY COUNCIL