



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**Motion 15638**

**Proposed No.** 2020-0190.2

**Sponsors** Kohl-Welles, Dembowski and Balducci

1           A MOTION setting the county's priorities for allocation of  
2           the coronavirus relief fund and certain other CARES Act  
3           funding remaining after reimbursing the county for its  
4           necessary expenditures to prevent, to prepare for, to  
5           respond to and incurred due to the public health emergency  
6           with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic.

7           WHEREAS, the significant progression of COVID-19 in Washington state and  
8           the public safety preventative measures, including social distancing and the Governor's  
9           Stay Home - Stay Healthy order are causing devastating economic effects in Washington  
10          and a has led to the highest levels of unemployment in recorded history in King County  
11          and Washington state, and

12          WHEREAS, state and local government revenues have plummeted in an  
13          extremely short amount of time, and

14          WHEREAS, the pandemic has hit for-profit and nonprofit organizations alike in a  
15          devastating manner, and

16          WHEREAS, the federal government adopted the CARES Act and, among other  
17          relief, established the coronavirus relief fund to cover costs that state and local  
18          governments incur in their responses to the public health emergency with respect to  
19          COVID-19, and

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20 WHEREAS, the coronavirus relief fund cannot be used for government revenue  
21 replacement, and

22 WHEREAS, the coronavirus relief fund must be spent on necessary expenditures  
23 incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 pandemic.

24 Eligible expenditures must not be accounted for in the most recently approved budget and  
25 must be incurred during the period of March 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, and

26 WHEREAS, the council has identified expenditures that should receive  
27 preference when the executive is considering proposals for allocation of the coronavirus  
28 relief fund;

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

30 A. The county reasserts its highest priority for allocation of the coronavirus relief  
31 fund to direct COVID-19 response through significant investment in public health and  
32 making sure the county's public health response is ready for a potential second wave  
33 between now and the end of 2020.

34 B. The county will use a principled approach in the allocation of remaining  
35 coronavirus relief funds and certain other CARES Act funding after investing in public  
36 health, intended to focus on immediate relief before long term recovery, foremost  
37 meeting its residents' basic needs, especially for food and housing stability, ensuring  
38 uninterrupted delivery of its core essential services, while still exercising responsible  
39 spending and accountability measures, and ensuring future needs can be met, creating  
40 immediate solutions that are sufficiently thoughtful to ensure lasting impacts and using an  
41 equity and social justice lens to ensure help is provided where it is needed most.

42 C. The county should prioritize a narrow range of services to make sure that the

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43 limited federal relief dollars have the most effective recovery impact and avoid  
44 duplication of services or having several agencies providing the same service and, where  
45 possible, the county should utilize existing programs that can quickly get relief funding  
46 out into the community.

47 D. The county's priorities for allocation of the coronavirus relief fund and certain  
48 other CARES Act funding above and beyond amounts needed for its direct emergency  
49 response should be allocated accordingly, and are:

50 1. Food security and access. These services may take the form of food banks,  
51 organizations providing meals, such as senior centers, community centers and schools, or  
52 organizations connecting farmers with the market and those most in need of food, while  
53 ensuring culturally appropriate food options remain available. The county should also  
54 consider expanding existing programs such as King Conservation District's Harvest  
55 against Hunger, Harvest Share, and also should examine the acquisition of centralized  
56 cold storage and refrigeration trucks for movement of produce;

57 2. Housing stability and homelessness services. These services will keep people  
58 connected to housing, keep them in their homes and provide protections for those unable  
59 to pay their housing and facing eviction or foreclosure. The county should also prioritize  
60 increasing the number of twenty-four hour, seven days-a-week non-congregate  
61 sheltering, continue efforts aimed at shelter deintensification and be mindful of the  
62 unique needs faced by the immigrant, refugee and undocumented populations;

63 3. Economic recovery. After meeting the immediate needs of residents, a  
64 priority should be given to assisting key institutions, such as private business, nonprofit  
65 organizations, community-based organizations and cities and the unincorporated area.

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66 Attention should also be paid to services connecting and preparing individuals who have  
67 been economically impacted by the public health emergency for the job market, with  
68 technical support for language access and communication, digital access and child care;  
69 and

70 4. Mental health, behavioral health, safety and security programs. The effects  
71 of the COVID-19 pandemic public health emergency have hit vulnerable populations  
72 particularly hard. Services providing support for those suffering from domestic or  
73 intimate partner abuse, substance abuse and child abuse should be prioritized.

74 E. The council requests that the county executive prioritize the principles,  
75 services and programs in sections A. through D. of this motion in the proposals allocating

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- 76 resources resulting from the coronavirus relief fund and certain other available CARES  
77 Act funding.  
78

Motion 15638 was introduced on 5/26/2020 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 5/26/2020, by the following vote:

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

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:  
*Claudia Balducci*  
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Claudia Balducci, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:  
*Melani Pedroza*  
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Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** None