KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

King County

Signature Report

March 9, 2010

Motion 13186

Proposed No. 2010-0166.2   **Sponsors** Phillips and Gossett

1   A MOTION urging the Washington state Legislature to

2   enact the Clean Water Act of 2010 as a means to fund

3   needed projects to address stormwater pollution in King

4   County and statewide.

5   WHEREAS, King County and other local governments are required by the federal

6   Clean Water Act to control and clean up stormwater pollution within our jurisdictions,

7   and

8   WHEREAS, cleanup and restoration of Puget Sound is a local, statewide and

9   national priority with the listing of Chinook salmon and orcas under the Endangered

10   Species Act, and

11   WHEREAS, contaminated stormwater runoff is the number one water pollution

12   problem in the state of Washington and in Puget Sound, and contaminated runoff from

13   our roads and urban areas has harmed virtually urban creeks, streams and rivers in the

14   state, and

15   WHEREAS, cleaning up stormwater pollution is a daunting task because the

16   sources of pollution are widespread and difficult to pinpoint, and the costs for compliance

17   and cleanup can be prohibitive, and

18   WHEREAS, King County government is facing a structural budget gap in its

19   general fund caused by increasing costs and declining revenues, threatening our

20   government's ability to provide even basic mandated services including stormwater

21   pollution cleanup, and

22   WHEREAS, local governments and residents statewide are struggling with the

23   economic crisis, heightened unemployment, and the need to revive the economy and

24   create jobs, and

25   WHEREAS, the Clean Water Act of 2010: Working for Clean Water, which is

26   House Bill 3181 or Senate Bill 6851, as originally introduced would address these issues

27   by creating a funding source for projects that clean up storm water, creating jobs in the

28   construction industry and helping fund basic state services, and

29   WHEREAS, the Clean Water Act of 2010 as originally proposed would raise the

30   existing voter-approved Hazardous Substance Tax from seven-tenths of one percent to

31   two percent, raising $225 million each year, allocating the bulk of the dollars to the state

32   general fund in the near term and transitioning the funding back to clean water purposes

33   over time, and

34   WHEREAS, because of the nexus between hazardous substances and the

35   pollution they produce, the Hazardous Substance Tax seems to be an appropriate vehicle

36   to pay for associated stormwater cleanup costs, and

37   WHEREAS, as originally proposed the Clean Water Act of 2010 would

38   accomplish the important goals of avoiding immediate cuts to core services, funding local

39   governments' obligations for stormwater pollution cleanup, creating construction jobs and

40   providing a clean water legacy we will be proud of for generations, and

41   WHEREAS, the bill was introduced in the state Legislature this session with

42   broad support locally and statewide from the Environmental Priorities Coalition,

43   Washington Association of Cities, Washington Association of Counties and the

44   Washington State Labor Council, as well as a coalition of education, health care and

45   social services groups unified behind solutions to maintain core public services;

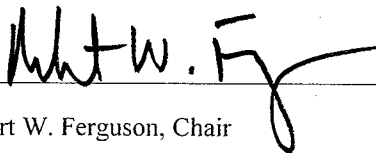46   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

47   The metropolitan King County council urges the Washington state Legislature to

48   enact The Clean Water Act of 2010, which is House Bill 3181 or Senate Bill 6851, as a

49   means to fund needed projects to address stormwater pollution in King County and
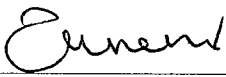
50   statewide.

Motion 13186 was introduced on 3/8/2010 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 3/8/2010, by the following vote:

>   Yes: 5 - Ms. Drago, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Patterson and Mr. Ferguson
>   No: 4 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Hague, Ms. Lambert and Mr. Dunn
>   Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

_____
Robert W. Ferguson, Chair

ATTEST:

_____
Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None