



King County

Kurt Triplett

King County Executive

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TTY Relay: 711

www.kingcounty.gov

November 3, 2009

Dear King County Mayors:

Like local governments throughout the state, King County and many of our jurisdictions are experiencing severe budget shortfalls, and a majority of our transportation needs remain unfunded. One of the tools available to jurisdictions to raise transportation revenues is the Transportation Benefit District (TBD).

As you may know, the TBD legislation requires that before King County can form a TBD, which can impose a non-voted Vehicle License Fee (VLF), King County must first attempt to form a countywide TBD in collaboration with its cities regarding the distribution of a non-voted VLF proceeds. A countywide TBD must include 60 percent of the cities representing 75 percent of the county's incorporated population. I understand the cities of Des Moines, Lake Forest Park and Shoreline have already established TBDs using the non-voted VLF. Because of our current budget crisis, King County has to act quickly.

Before I leave office at the end of this month, I intend to transmit an ordinance to the King County Council to establish a TBD that will have the authority to impose the non-voted approved VLF. Therefore, I need to know if your city would support the formation of a countywide TBD that would impose a non-voted VLF. If not enough cities respond with interest in supporting a countywide TBD, I will transmit an ordinance for the council's consideration to form a TBD for unincorporated King County only.

On November 6, our Department of Transportation will be meeting with city Public Works Directors and others to discuss the possible formation of a countywide TBD. By November 18, I will need your city's formal response to this request so that I can transmit an ordinance for the King County Council's consideration.

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Please respond to Doug Hodson, at 206-263-9619 or, at doug.hodson@kingcounty.gov by the November 18 deadline.

If no response is received by November 18, I will assume your city is not interested in joining with us in a countywide TBD.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kurt Triplett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "K" and "T".

Kurt Triplett
King County Executive

cc: City Managers
Public Works Directors
Doug Hodson, Transportation Manager, King County Executive Office