



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

January 12, 2004

Motion 11856

Proposed No. 2003-0536.3

Sponsors Edmonds

1 A MOTION establishing the 2004 state legislative agenda
2 for King County.

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4
5 WHEREAS, the metropolitan King County council and the King County
6 executive have worked through the joint King County legislative steering committee to
7 develop a state legislative agenda and desire to bring their positions on issues facing the
8 2004 Washington state legislature to the attention of the Washington state legislature, and

9 WHEREAS, King County desires to work cooperatively with other local
10 governments and other organizations such as the Washington State Association of
11 Counties, the Washington Association of County Officials, the Suburban Cities
12 Association, the Association of Washington Cities and the Washington Transit
13 Association to achieve its 2004 legislative goals, and

14 WHEREAS, counties have been recognized by the legislature as partners with the
15 state in the delivery of such critical services as transportation, criminal justice, public
16 health, community and human services, and water resources, and

17 WHEREAS, King County is dependent on a strong fiscal partnership with the
18 state. If King County is going to be able to continue delivering basic government
19 services to our residents, it needs a preservation, if not an expansion, of state support, and

20 WHEREAS, the King County council and the King County executive will
21 continue to review legislative developments for possible revisions of King County's 2004
22 state legislative program;

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

24 The King County council adopts the 2004 state legislative agenda for King

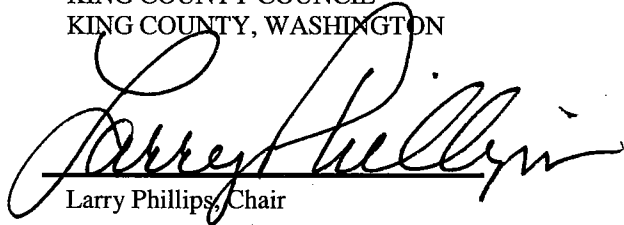
Motion 11856

25 County, Attachments A and B to this motion, as King County's highest priorities for
26 action in the 2004 legislative session of the Washington state legislature.
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Motion 11856 was introduced on 12/8/2003 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 1/12/2004, by the following vote:

Yes: 10 - Mr. Phillips, Ms. Edmonds, Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Pelz, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Ms. Patterson and Mr. Constantine
No: 3 - Mr. McKenna, Mr. Hammond and Mr. Irons
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments A. King County 2004 State Legislative Agenda - 12/4/03, amended 1/12/04, B. King County 2004 Statement of State Policy Positions - 12/4/03, amended 1/12/04



King County Attachment A 2004 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

12/4/03, amended 1/12/04

11856

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Executive/ Council	Preservation of Basic County Government Services	<p>King County continues to increase internal efficiency and reorganize its functions in order to reduce its spending significantly. In the last two years, the County has cut more than \$90 million, totaling approximately 1/3 of its general fund, and eliminated nearly 10% of the staff positions in these service areas. Despite these actions, the County cannot sustain its current service levels given an ongoing gap between the rate of growth of expenditures (5.5-6.5% per year) and general revenue growth (less than 2% per year).</p> <p>This reality has been recognized by experts and stakeholders throughout the state. After an eight month review, the King County General Government Budget Advisory Task Force, co-chaired by former chair of the Greater Seattle Chamber Bob Wallace and former Boeing executive John Warner, concluded in June 2003 that without fundamental restructuring of the manner in which services are delivered and new revenues, the County will be forced to make service cuts every year in the future.</p> <p>For King County to continue delivering basic government services, it needs preservation -- if not expansion -- of state support. If the State is not able to expand support to adequately fund the mandates upon local government, revenue tools should be provided to local governments to allow for fiscal home rule.</p> <p>Law, safety, and justice costs, now consuming over 70% of King County's general fund budget, are growing much faster than the revenues to support them. Many of these costs are due to state-imposed or statutory responsibilities. Extraordinary criminal justice cases are also severely impacting county finances.</p> <p>Counties, as general governments, have the most limited set of tax options in the State and are bound by an antiquated tax structure. County government is, by state law, dependent on property and sales taxes (unlike cities that have utility and business and occupation taxing authority). Municipal annexations and incorporations have eroded the County's sales tax base. King County continues to support its request for increased councilmanic revenue options. The County also seeks more flexibility in setting fees to recover the costs of service delivery.</p>



King County Attachment A 2004 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

12/4/03, amended 1/12/04

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Priority	Department	Item	Description
		Preservation of Basic County Government Services, continued	<p>King County supports an allocation to local governments from the assistance provided in 2003 by the federal government as relief during the recession. These funds are idle in state reserves while local governments are struggling.</p> <p>Finally, King County opposes the imposition of un/underfunded state mandates. Legislative changes that increase county costs or responsibilities must be mitigated with increased state funding or reduced state mandates. State budget cuts should not be accomplished by shifting costs to counties.</p>
2	Executive/ Budget, Dept. of Development and Environmental Services, Dept. of Natural Resources & Parks	Annexation Reform and Smart Growth Management	<p>The state Growth Management Act (GMA) defines cities as the appropriate urban service providers, and counties as the appropriate regional and rural service provider. Despite significant success at implementing the GMA, King County is still the "local government" for nearly 350,000 residents living in unincorporated areas – nearly 220,000 of them in <i>urban</i> unincorporated areas that are slated for eventual annexation to cities.</p> <p>If annexations continue in King County at the rate that has been experienced over the last nine years, it will take another 25 to 30 years for annexations to be completed – far longer than the 2012 deadline that cities and the County have identified in Countywide Planning Policies.</p> <p>Lacking urban funding tools, and given its heavy dependence on property tax, the County is unable to maintain its regional and local service levels under current revenue constraints. As part of its Annexation Initiative, King County continues to support its request for councilmanic authority to impose a utility tax in urban unincorporated areas.</p> <p>The County is making efforts to accelerate annexations -- but cities are rightfully concerned about the cost of assuming responsibility for remaining urban unincorporated areas that are largely residential in nature and thus not self-supporting. Completion of annexations would not only be a major milestone in achieving the region's growth management vision, it would also provide tremendous budget relief to King County: the County could then focus on its regional and rural service responsibilities.</p> <p>Consistent with the recommendation of the King County General Government Budget Advisory Task Force, King County has launched a major initiative to annex to cities its Potential Annexation Areas within the Urban Growth</p>



Prior-ity	Depart-ment	Item	Description
		<p>Annexation Reform and Smart Growth Mgt., continued</p>	<p>Boundary. Over \$20 million in County funding has been identified in King County's 2004 budget for allocation to annexing cities, in recognition of the fiscal challenge posed by major residential annexations.</p> <p>King County seeks the following legislative changes in order to carry out this Annexation Initiative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Study the Means to Accelerate Annexation King County supports a state-funded study, to be completed by December 2004, to assess progress in achieving key growth management goals in urban counties and identify strategies to accelerate the annexation of remaining urban unincorporated areas. These could include strategies such as increased state funding and other financing options including more flexible use of the county road levy as well as potentially establishing a state-mandated deadline for implementation of the GMA or modifying the powers of the Boundary Review Boards. ▪ Surface Water and Local Parks Facilities and Properties Automatically Transferred to Cities upon Annexation King County supports an amendment to RCW 36.89 and/or 36.94 so that surface water management facilities and properties and local parks facilities and properties owned and/or maintained by counties become the responsibility of cities upon an annexation or incorporation. RCW currently provides for county roads to become cities' responsibility at the time of annexation/incorporation – this requested action would provide the same for surface water facilities and properties and local parks facilities and properties. ▪ Increased Capital Funding for Infrastructure Needs King County supports increased state support to cities to help with the capital transition costs of annexation. ▪ Technical Fixes to the new Petition Legislation King County supports technical changes to the new petition annexation law, SSB 5409, to convert the requirement to secure signatures from not less than 50% of the <i>registered voters</i> of the area to securing signatures from not less than 50% of <i>those voting at the last general election</i>.
3	Department of Transportation (DOT)	<p>Transportation Solutions and Regional Funding</p>	<p>Congestion in the Puget Sound region threatens the economy of not only King County but of the entire state. Although the five cents gas tax - statewide transportation package is helping the State make progress on critical projects, there is significant statewide need that has not been met. Additionally, with the passage of Initiative 776, King County and the cities within the County lost more than \$200 million over the next ten years (approximately \$20 million each year) for county road improvements and city street maintenance. King County supports legislative action to mitigate of the impact of Initiative 776.</p>



Priority	Department	Item	Description
		Transportation Solutions and Regional Funding, continued	<p>King County supports additional increases in both state and regional funding to improve the movement of people and freight. King County also supports state funding of the critical road and infrastructure network as well as additional alternatives to automobile travel.</p> <p>King County supports the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID) process already underway while recognizing that amendments to the RTID legislation may need to be made. These may include revisions to revenue sources, state bonding authority, clarified tolling authority, and the expansion of project eligibility to encompass a blend of roads and transit, including other forms of high capacity transit.</p>
4	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)	Mental Health Funding	<p>Funding for King County's mental health system was severely cut in the last three legislative sessions, resulting in significant reductions to critical services for at-risk and vulnerable populations. As passed in the 2001 legislative session, because of a reallocation formula, the state budget <i>reduced</i> King County Regional Support Network (RSN) funding by \$40 million over six years. Budget reductions made during the 2002 legislative session to RSN reserve funds and inpatient rates cost King County an additional \$10 million. In 2003, the Governor's veto of an administrative cap reduction (\$5.8 million statewide) will result in a ratable reduction cut to King County of approximately \$1.7 million.</p> <p>King County supports use of the temporary increase from the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) to eliminate the ratable reduction, thereby allowing the state to earn federal match revenue. Given the budget cuts in recent years, any additional federal dollars generated from mental health services should be earmarked for mental health to help stabilize the system.</p> <p>Finally, King County supports mental health rates that reflect variation in severity of need as well as the costs of providing the necessary level of care. At a minimum, a regional rate structure is necessary to continue funding at a level that meets the needs of the severely and persistently mentally ill in King County.</p>
5	Department of Executive Services	Elections Write In Voter Intent Correction	King County supports legislation that would address problems related to determining voter intent for write in candidates.



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 12/4/03, amended 1/12/04
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BUDGET AND FINANCE

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Department of Executive Services/ Finance	Leveraged Leasing Authority	King County supports legislation that would clarify the authority of public entities to enter into leveraged lease transactions and clarify the tax status of such transactions. The current inability to enter into such transactions means that the County has not been able to take advantage of opportunities to lease the West Point Treatment Plant and transit buses, which could result in significant present value savings.
2	Executive/ Prosecuting Attorney/ Sheriff	Expansion of Gambling	King County is opposed to the expansion of gambling in order to generate revenues for the state and/or local governments.
3	Executive	Tax Increment Financing <i>New Item</i>	King County supports Tax Increment Financing legislation, as long as the County's revenue base is protected. This legislation has the potential to help attract and retain businesses and put underutilized property that might not otherwise be developed to productive use.
4	Executive Services/ Finance and Business Operations	Revisions to County Financial Approval Processes <i>New Item</i>	<p>King County supports amendments to various provisions of state law relating to the processing and approval of vendor payments, payroll and travel advances to clarify approval authority.</p> <p>Current state law (RCW 42.24.080 and 42.24.180) requires the County Council to approve all payments made by the County -- both payroll and all vendor payments. This particular statute makes sense in a county without an elected chief executive officer -- where the County Commission performs both the executive and legislative functions. In a charter county with an elected executive, however, the requirement makes no sense and is tantamount to the legislative body performing executive branch functions.</p> <p>Legislation would be drafted to clarify the statutes that in a county with a separately elected chief executive approval by the legislative body of <i>every</i> payroll and <i>every</i> vendor payment <i>prior</i> to payment would not be required.</p> <p>If the County had to comply with current law, it would decrease efficiency by introducing an additional unnecessary step in the County's payroll and vendor payment processes.</p>



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CRIMINAL JUSTICE/PUBLIC SAFETY/COURTS

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Executive/ Budget/ DCHS/ Criminal Justice Agencies	Funding for Extraordinary Justice Costs	King County seeks reimbursement of extraordinary criminal justice costs under the Extraordinary Justice Costs Act, incurred by the County to investigate and adjudicate aggravated murder cases. King County is faced with several extraordinary criminal cases that have a disproportionate fiscal impact on public defense, the Prosecutor's Office and other criminal justice agencies.
2	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/OPD	Public Defense Dependency Funding	King County supports state funding of public defense for dependency actions.
3	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/OPD	Public Defense Funding for Sex Predators Defense Services <i>New Item</i>	King County supports increases in sexually violent predator (SVP) public defense funding. The current WAC rates of \$49.41/hour for attorneys and \$20.66/hour for investigators are not sufficient. For the 2004 state budget, DSHS is requesting additional funding to support SVP defense. The request includes: \$65/hour for attorneys; \$30/hour for investigators; \$30/hour for paralegals; and \$50/hour for attorney travel time. King County supports this request.
4	Law Library	Regional Justice Center Law Library Funding	King County supports HB 1792, which would amend RCW 27.24.070, county law library governance statute, to add a provision that would allow the county legislative authority, upon a showing of need by the law library board of trustees, to impose an additional local option surcharge on the civil filing fee in superior and district court to increase the county law library filing fee. Law library filing fee income authorized by this code section was last increased in 1992. Revenues generated no longer meet library financial needs. If this bill becomes law, the need for King County to provide supplemental funding to support the annual operation of the Regional Justice Center Law Library would be reduced.
5	Sheriff's Office, Department of Executive Services/ Office of Emergency Management, Public Health, Department of Community and Human Service (DCHS), Department of Transport., Department of Natural Resources & Parks	Domestic Prepared- ness/ Homeland Security	King County supports regional funding for efforts to prepare, respond and recover from domestic terrorism events. As federal funding is being sent to states for Health Department/hospital response, emergency management and local law enforcement preparedness, King County supports adequate funding for its regional needs. The state Mental Health Division requires mental health emergency response plans, but provides no funding. King County is a signator on a Tri-County Interlocal Agreement with Pierce and Snohomish Counties for joint participation in homeland security and emergency preparedness programs. The King County Council has also adopted Motion #11728 which provides homeland security policy and objectives for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting the health, safety and welfare for the people that work, live and visit King County. • Protecting continuity of government functions. • Protecting the County's critical infrastructure including information technology, critical government structures and transportation systems.
6	Adult &	Day	King County supports an amendment to RCW 9.94A.030 to change the



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	Juvenile Detention (DAJD)/ Community Corrections	Reporting	definition of Day Reporting from a form of enhanced supervision to confinement or partial confinement.
7	Sheriff's Office	Anti-Methamphetamine Initiative	King County supports adequate regional funding for the Washington State anti-methamphetamine initiative.
8	Superior Court/ Juvenile Services; Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)	Becca Funding for At-Risk Youth	King County supports the maintenance of 2003-2005 approved funding for state-mandated services for at-risk youth, child-in-need-of-services, and truancy petitions. The Becca processes allow families and the courts to work together to address the needs of children at risk.
9	Superior Court/ Juvenile Services	Consolidated Juvenile Services Funding	King County supports the maintenance of 2003-2005 approved funding for Consolidated Juvenile Services (CJS) contracts with local juvenile courts. CJS supports juvenile offender treatment including probation, Community Juvenile Accountability Act, Chemical Dependency Disposition Alternative, and Sex Offender Disposition Alternative services.
10	Superior Court	Jury Districting <i>New Item</i>	King County supports the geographically division of King County into two districts for the purpose of the jury summons process. Currently, Superior Court calls jurors to the King County Courthouse in downtown Seattle and to the Regional Justice Center in Kent. There is no consideration given to proximity to the jurors' residence to the Courthouse. A person living in North Seattle can be summoned to Kent, while a person living in Kent can be summoned to Seattle. RCW 2.36.055 implicitly requires that Superior Court juror source lists be compiled from the entire county so statutory authority is needed to make this change.



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HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ DDD	Developmental Disabilities Funding	King County supports legislation that reinstates dollars that were displaced by the state's new State Supplemental Payment (SSP) program to ensure that there is no disruption in necessary services to persons with developmental disabilities.
2	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ MHCADSD	Substance Abuse Funding	<p>King County supports increases in substance abuse and treatment services funding. Currently, only one in five individuals who are eligible and who need treatment are able to receive it, due to lack of funding. Wait lists for services are common, particularly for those needing opiate substitution treatment (methadone) where a wait list can exceed 12 months.</p> <p>Increasing the amount of funds in the Title XIX match pool is one way to increase treatment capacity and reduce wait lists for all modalities of substance abuse treatment services.</p>
3	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ DDD	Transition Funds for High School Graduates with Developmental Disabilities <i>New Item</i>	King County supports legislation that restores transition funds to assist high school graduates with developmental disabilities to find jobs, learn job skills, and obtain ongoing support in order to retain a job or participate in a day program.
4	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ DDD	Establish Legacy Trust Fund for Developmental Disabilities Services <i>New Item</i>	King County supports legislation that establishes a Legacy Trust Fund to provide services to persons with developmental disabilities.
5	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ DDD	School District Funding for Early Intervention Services <i>New Item</i>	King County supports legislation that ensures the participation of school districts to provide early intervention services to birth-to-three year old children with disabilities, which would increase the amount of public funds available for King County's early intervention system.
6	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ MHCADSD	Substance Abuse Residential Services Rates	<p>King County supports increases in DASA reimbursement for residential chemical dependency treatment to more accurately reflect the cost of providing care.</p> <p>This will help ensure local beds are preserved since the closure of Cedar Hills Addiction Treatment (CHAT).</p>
7	Department of Community and Human Services	THOR/ THORA Funding	King County supports legislation to maintain or increase the Transitional Housing Operating and Rental Assistance Program (THOR/THORA), which provides operating and rental assistance funding for homeless families.



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Priority	Department	Item	Description
	(DCHS)/ CSD - H&CD		
8	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ CSD - H&CD	Housing Trust Fund	King County supports legislation to maintain or increase the Housing Trust Fund (HTF).
9	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ CSD - H&CD	Insurance Equity for Affordable Housing <i>New Item</i>	King County supports legislation that would help improve the availability of affordable housing insurance in our state.
10	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ CSD - H&CD	Local Fund Source for Housing	King County supports the preservation, without amendments except to expand, of dedicated state and local revenue for low-income housing development and operating subsidies, including document recording fees and optional authority to raise local real estate excise taxes.
11	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ CSD - H&CD	Mobile Home Parks	King County supports the maintenance of the current level of revenue set-aside from the sale of mobile homes within parks as a dedicated source for the State Mobile Home Relocation Fund.
12	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ MHCADSD, Juvenile Court	Mental Health Assessments Funding	King County requests funding for mental health assessments for the mental health disposition alternative program.
13	Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/ MHCADSD, Juvenile Court	Children's Mental Health System of Care Services Funding <i>New Item</i>	King County requests funding to continue multi-system coordination efforts of the King County System of Care initiative (Children and Families In Common).
14	Council, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)/CSD	Subsidized Child Care	King County supports increases to or at least maintenance of existing funding for subsidized child care through the State's "Working Connections Child Care" program.



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LOCAL GOVERNMENT/EXECUTIVE SERVICES/GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Department of Executive Services/ REALS	Presidential Primary <i>New Item</i>	King County supports the cancellation of the 2004 Presidential Primary since the political parties have chosen not to select delegates through the primary process. A portion of the savings should be used as a state match to leverage federal funding under the Help America Vote Act to facilitate state and county compliance with the associated election reform mandates that must be implemented by 2006.
2	Department of Development & Environmental Services (DDES)	Infra-structure Investment	<p>King County supports the objectives of the Infrastructure Coalition, which is not only trying to address the Urban Growth Area infrastructure gap, but also to better align state infrastructure priorities and funding with growth management objectives.</p> <p>Urban infrastructure needs are severe in transportation, water, sewer, storm water, and other capital areas. Infrastructure is an important investment in King County's economy, and its quality of life. King County's economic growth is threatened by the lack of sufficient infrastructure funding. Sufficient funding of infrastructure is a critical investment in King County's communities. It creates incentives for cities to accept more density and it provides the backbone for a community's quality of life, the framework for economic development, and lays the essential groundwork for accommodating urban residential, commercial, and industrial growth.</p> <p>King County particularly needs the funding to pay for transportation investments to support our 20-year countywide land use plan – as mandated by the Countywide Planning Policies.</p>
3	Executive, Department of Development & Environmental Services	Condominium Liability Reform <i>New Item</i>	King County supports efforts to amend state law to resolve problems facing builders' ability to purchase liability insurance at a reasonable cost.
4	Executive/ Executive Services (DES)/ Facilities Management	County Force Labor on CIP Projects	Support inflationary raise in statutory limits in RCWs on amount of in-house County trades/crafts that can be used on Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects.



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Priority	Department	Item	Description
5	Department of Development & Environmental Services/ Fire Marshal	Funding for Fire Protection Activities	<p>King County supports the exploration of options to provide funding for regional fire protection services, such as arson investigations and training.</p> <p>Potential options to consider include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in existing insurance premium tax to be dedicated to fire protection activities. - Allow counties to assess an insurance premium tax for fire protection activities - Allow counties to enter into interlocal agreements with fire districts and municipal fire departments to provide for different types of governance structures for regional fire protection <p>Fire protection services, such as fire investigation and training for fire district personnel, is provided through the County fire marshal and is funded by the County's general fund, which is under extreme pressure. Additional sources of revenue and governance structures need to be evaluated to determine how best to provide these services.</p>
6	Sheriff/ Executive/ Council	Public Auctions Occurring "at the front door of the County Courthouse"	<p>This legislation is referenced in RCW 6.21.030, C.21.050, 61.30.120 and 87.53.110.</p> <p>Due to the courthouse seismic construction that has temporarily eliminated the 3rd Avenue location of the Sheriff's sales, King County needs the designation for public auctions from the current strict designation of "the front door of the County Courthouse" broadened to a viable alternative.</p>
7	Department of Development & Environmental Services/ BSD	Permit Counties to Conduct Electrical Inspections	<p>King County supports an amendment to RCW 19.28 to allow counties to conduct electrical inspections in the same manner as cities and towns are allowed to conduct electrical inspections.</p> <p>Allowing counties to conduct electrical inspections would enable counties to provide better service, by allowing applicants to obtain all their permits from one location.</p>
8	Department of Development & Environmental Services (DDES)/ LUSD; Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)/ Water and Land Resources	Permit Counties to Administer Hydraulic Project and Forest Practice Approval	<p>King County supports an amendment to RCW 75.20 (hydraulics) and RCW 76.09 (forest practices) to allow counties to administer those provisions in concert with local permits. State law already requires a consolidated review and issuance for permits at the local level. King County presently has the technical ability to perform such duties. State authorization for funding (permit fees) also will be necessary.</p>
9	Department of Executive Services (DES)/ REALS	Recorded Documents <i>New Item</i>	<p>King County supports increasing the Document Recording Surcharge for the preservation of historical documents from \$2.00 to \$5.00.</p>



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Priority	Department	Item	Description
10	Department of Executive Services (DES)/ REALS	Elections <i>New Item</i>	King County supports changing the prerequisites for county auditors calling special elections. This would repeal the requirement of the auditor to determine if an emergency exists.
11	Department of Development & Environmental Services (DDES)	Funding for Habitat Acquisition <i>New Item</i>	King County supports amendments to state statutes to increase the limits on Conservation Futures Fund and Conservation District Assessments. These funds can be used by the County to purchase habitat and to otherwise help ease the burden on rural property owners who will be most affected by increased restrictions on development as a result of critical areas protections.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND PARKS

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Department of Natural Resources & Parks (DNRP)	Salmon Recovery Funding	Support the work of the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) and continue to advocate for adequate appropriations to the Board, including \$40 million for biennium for SRFB match; funding for lead entities (WRIA coordinators); support for other state grant programs (ALEA, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program). Advocate for special needs of the urban Tri-County area, including larger and more expensive habitat projects on our urban waterfronts. State. The Salmon Recovery Funding Board is Washington's most important source of funding for local salmon recovery efforts. A reduction in funding or reduction in state commitment to this important source of project funds would cause a corresponding drop in excellent local salmon projects, which are proving successful. It is also important that the state share remain high as only it can be used for matching other federal funds.
2	Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)	Ongoing Funding for Maintenance and Operations of County Parks	The availability of funds to acquire and develop parks system assets is not matched by an ability to operate and maintain those assets. As part of an extensive regionally collaborative process and as recommended by its Metropolitan Parks Task Force, King County is implementing a business plan to create a financially stable parks system that meets the needs of the public. King County supports increased funding for operations and maintenance of county parks.
3	Department of Natural Resources and Parks – Wastewater Treatment Division	Public Works Contracting <i>New Item</i>	King County supports amendments to RCW 39.10.061 governing use of the "General Contractor Construction Management (GCCM)" project procurement method so that a GCCM contractor can perform more than 30% of the project when it involves tunneling. This would allow tunneling contractors for Brightwater conveyance to be GCCMs and therefore maximize the benefits of that procurement method.
4	Department of Natural Resources and Parks – Wastewater Treatment Division	Agricultural Waste-to-Energy Programs <i>New Item</i>	King County supports the establishment of a pilot program offering low interest financing and/or grants for agricultural waste-to-energy public and or private partnerships modeled after Washington revolving loan funds or the State of Oregon Energy Loan Program. This could support renewable energy projects such as dairy biogas.



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5	Department of Natural Resources and Parks/ Solid Waste Division	Product Stewardship for Mercury Containing Products <i>New Item</i>	King County has been actively working to prevent mercury pollution from a number of sources, such as dental amalgam wastes, fluorescent lamps, and thermometers. King County would benefit from the passage of an amendment to the Mercury Reduction Act of 2003 that adds product stewardship language requiring manufacturers to take responsibility for collecting their products.
6	Department of Natural Resources and Parks – Solid Waste Division	Product Stewardship for Electronic Products <i>New Item</i>	Many electronic products contain toxic components and cannot be disposed with municipal solid waste. Increasingly, local governments are finding these products in the waste stream and must pay to handle them as hazardous waste or recycle them. Product stewardship legislation is designed to shift some of the burden of handling electronic products at the end of their useful life from local governments to the manufacturer. It encourages the manufacturer to look at the design of the product as well as how it is disposed. The result would ultimately save local governments money because they would not have to bear the expensive recycling or disposal costs. King County supports product stewardship legislation that contains the following elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotes the redesign of electronic products to increase their recyclability and to contain fewer toxic components; - Collects a fee to handle electronic equipment at the end of its useful life; - Shares the responsibility for handling these products with manufacturers and relieves local governments of some of the responsibility; and - Saves local governments money.
7	Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water Resources	Conservation and Reclaimed Water	King County supports comprehensive revisions to RCW 90.46 (reclaimed water act) and 90.54 (state water policy) to authorize local governments to develop expanded conservation/reclaimed water programs, to require state rules requiring evaluation and use of reclaimed water in lieu of potable water, and making other changes to state law to encourage conservation/reclaimed water use.
8	Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water Resources	Tribal Water Rights <i>New Item</i>	King County supports legislation to require engagement by the State with tribes on water resource issues. This would include recognition of tribal rights as a fundamental of state water law (RCW 90.54), and include a schedule/approach for the Governor to engage tribes. It could include specifics regarding watershed planning with tribes, or other engagement mechanisms (e.g., compact), and provisions regarding both instream flows and economic development.
9	Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water Resources	Regional Water Bank for Instream Flow and Out of Stream Uses <i>New Item</i>	King County supports legislation which would authorize creation of a regional water bank wherein to “park” water rights for future determination as to best use [either for instream flow uses or to meet Growth Management Act (GMA) needs]; would be managed by local governments to support needs identified in salmon recovery plans, GMA plans, or other local/regional plans; would provide a mechanism to bank/use mitigation (e.g., Brightwater) or manage water rights acquired in exchange for provision of reclaimed water.



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10	Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water Resources	Drought Surcharge for Water Utilities <i>New Item</i>	King County supports legislation which would authorize public water systems to impose up to a 25% drought surcharge on their rates in the event of Governor-declared drought, or regional/local conditions that meet certain criteria regarding rainfall/flows. This would authorize the use of the revenues for increased conservation, revenue makeup, use of alternative supplies, or other drought-related uses; surcharge would end at the end of the drought.
11	Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water Resources	Regional Water Supply Planning under Coordination Act <i>New Item</i>	King County supports modifications to existing provisions of the Public Water Supply Coordination Act (RCW 70.116) to (1) allow it to be used as a vehicle for countywide water supply planning, (2) link it to environmental/salmon recovery planning, (3) implement watershed plans, (4) match up water supply planning with GMA, CWA, (5) address small/failing water systems, and (6) otherwise address regional water resource issues.
12	Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water Resources	Pursue the County's Interests in Legislation Arising out of the Governor's Water Strategy	The Governor has announced that he will support legislation in 2004 on two priorities: "achieving instream flows," and water rights relinquishment. King County should participate in this legislation in order to advocate for our policy positions (e.g., comprehensive; engagement of elected officials and tribes; address GMA and EPA), and support the following specific outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of best science in developing flow objectives (e.g, Normative Flows) and adaptive management - Incorporate collaborative management and decision-making processes that preferably include tribes - Respect, and not undermine, local government authorities and plans (e.g., Groundwater Management Areas and Plans, GMA/land use) - Use funding (e.g., state \$\$ for water rights purchase) consistent with local priorities and plans, and in order to achieve multiple benefits - Require state agencies to use existing authorities (e.g., enforcement action against illegal water use; requiring metering as state statute and rule mandate, or disincentives for not metering) - Expand use of trust water program and water banking for fish and instream flow purposes, and not to evade "use it or lose it" provisions of state law.
13	Department of Natural Resources and Parks/ Water Resources	Exempt and Replacement Wells	King County supports wells legislation that: (1) preserves its existing authority under GMA, land use, Public Health regarding determinations of appropriate use of exempt wells; (2) links exempt wells into ESA/salmon recovery planning (e.g., exercise control where there are identified or potential impacts); and (3) ensures that existing planning under GWMA plans, and King County efforts w/in Groundwater Protection Program are supported.
14	Department of Natural Resources and Parks/ Water Resources	Rainwater Harvesting <i>New Item</i>	King County supports legislation to directly authorize in statute or by state rule the use of minimal amounts of rainwater (e.g., under 25,000 gallons) without the necessity of a state water right or water storage permit. This could include provisions linking to stormwater requirements, watershed planning, and instream flow needs.
15	Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water	Stormwater Phase 1 and 2 Permits	King County supports legislation that clarifies requirements for Phase 1 permittees, and makes Phase 2 permits consistent with Phase 1.



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Priority	Resources Department	New Item Item	Description
16	Department of Natural Resources/ Water and Land Resources Division	Reinstate the Full \$10 million in Funding under the Flood Control Account Assistance Program (FCAAP)	This is a biennial grant program available to cities and counties through the Department of Ecology (DOE) for river facility repair and flood hazard reduction. King County has regularly pursued FCAAP funding for its river facility repair and flood hazard reduction projects available (such as floodplain mapping) through the Department of Ecology. In the past, this program provided \$10 million biennially to cities and counties. It was greatly reduced 5 years ago, to approximately \$2.8 million and was reduced to approximately \$1 million in the current biennium. More recently, the President's 2003 budget includes \$200 million for initiating FEMA's new Flood Hazard Map Modernization Program (FHMMP). FEMA is expected to partner with the state DOE and may use the FCAAP program to distribute these funds to qualified counties and cities for updating Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) in the 2003-2004 biennium. Federal funds for the FHMMP are expected over the next three biennia. King County and other cities and counties in western Washington have experienced seven federally declared flood disasters since 1990. State funding, other than the State's disaster match requirement, is limited to the FCAAP program.
17	Department of Natural Resources and Parks/ Water and Land Resources Division	Watershed Planning and Tribes <i>New Item</i>	King County supports an amendment of RCW 90.82 to permit agreements between jurisdictions and tribes regarding conditions for participating in 2514 planning.
18	Department of Natural Resources – Water and Land Resources Division	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program <i>New Item</i>	King County supports the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP), which provides an important source of grant funding for acquisitions of wildlife habitat. Approximately 50% of the total funding in this program is allocated to habitat conservation. Reducing the total amount of funding available would impact an important tool for local governments to preserve the region's critical wildlife habitat
19	Department of Natural Resources – Water and Land Resources Division	Lead Entity Funding <i>New Item</i>	King County supports maintenance of lead entity funding, which is critical to successful salmon recovery. WLRD staff responsible for coordinating WRIA 8 and 9 salmon recovery grants through the SRFB are supported by lead entity grants. Cuts in state lead entity grants would impact the County's ability to help develop and select strong salmon habitat projects. Continued commitment of the State to lead entity grants is crucial as we pass the mid-point in the salmon recovery planning effort in King County watersheds.
20	Department of Natural Resources – Water and Land Resources Division	Performance Standards for Municipal Stormwater Permits <i>New Item</i>	The Clean Water Act mandates that NPDES municipal stormwater permits require the control of pollutants <i>to the maximum extent practicable</i> . This standard is a reasonable and achievable one, translating into the use of cost-effective BMPs (control facilities, source controls, education programs, and the like). However, the CWA allows states to impose more stringent controls on NPDES permits and Ecology is arguing that state law requires all waste discharge permits under RCW 90.48 to require control of pollutants so as to not cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards. For municipal stormwater, this is an extremely more stringent standard that is at present unachievable. To avoid throwing scarce resources into lawsuits and establish a rule of



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			reasonableness to state water quality law, the legislature should amend 90.48 to clarify that the <i>maximum extent practicable</i> standard of the CWA is also the applicable state standard for municipal stormwater discharges.
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PUBLIC HEALTH

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Executive, Budget, Public Health	Public Health Funding	<p>The health needs of King County's population must be addressed by strong and sustained financial support for a continuum of activities that includes disease prevention and health promotion; ensuring a safe and effective food and water supply; and health care services for vulnerable and medically underserved populations. This cannot happen without adequate funding; local public health needs a dedicated, long-term revenue stream.</p> <p>New and emerging public health and safety issues have continued to put a strain on the fragile public health infrastructure. The terrorist attacks of September 11, the subsequent anthrax attacks, the arrival of West Nile Virus in Washington State and the outbreak of Tuberculosis amongst the homeless population in King County have made the public acutely aware of the role of public health in protecting them from the consequences of terrorism and communicable disease. These events have also dramatically demonstrated the extent to which the nation's public health infrastructure has been allowed to deteriorate. While government agencies at the local, state and federal levels have a leading role in preparing for and responding to these and other challenges, all aspects of our health and public health system are critical to the success of this effort.</p>
2	Public Health	Ban on Indoor Smoking in Public Places <i>New Item</i>	<p>King County supports a ban on indoor smoking in public places and/or a revision to the Washington State Clean Indoor Air Act to allow local jurisdictions to develop and pass regulations.</p> <p>There is overwhelming scientific research about the health hazards associated with exposure to second-hand smoke.</p>
3	Public Health	Tobacco Settlement Dollars-Tobacco Prevention/Control Program <i>New Item</i>	<p>King County supports the maintenance of current funding levels for the Comprehensive Tobacco Prevention/Control Program.</p> <p>King County also opposes any further securitization of tobacco settlement funds to fill budget gaps.</p>
4	Public Health	Methadone Treatment Funding <i>New Item</i>	<p>King County supports an increase in state matching support for Medicaid-funded methadone treatment for qualifying residents who are opiate dependent.</p>
5	Public Health	Medically Accurate Sexuality	<p>King County supports legislation to assure that sexuality education is age appropriate and medically accurate.</p>



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Priority	Department	Item	Description
6	Public Health	AIDS Omnibus Act <i>New Item</i>	King County supports continued funding for the activities associated with the AIDS Omnibus Act of 1989.
7	Public Health	HIV/AIDS Early Intervention Program <i>New Item</i>	King County supports continued funding for the HIV/AIDS Early Intervention Program (EIP). The EIP disburses payments for prescription medications, HIV medical care and other services to improve the health and independence of persons with HIV infection. Federal and state funds ensure clients have uninterrupted access to lifesaving treatments and other services to protect public health.
8	Public Health	Adult Hepatitis Control <i>New Item</i>	King County supports funding to provide resources to better implement adult hepatitis control, including needed staff, vaccine supplies, other resources, and surveillance that includes lab reporting for HCV.
9	Public Health	Youth Access to Tobacco <i>New Item</i>	<p>King County supports Youth Access to Tobacco legislation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise current cigarette licensing law. • Ban the sale of herbal only cigarettes to minors under age 18. • Ban tobacco sampling statewide. • Restrict the locations single cigarettes can be sold and require that all tobacco be sold from over the counter locations. <p>Currently, only a cigarette license is required of vendors that sell other tobacco products, but not cigarettes. This loophole also affects enforcement of sales laws. If a licensee is caught selling any tobacco product to a minor three times in a two year period, they get their cigarette license suspended, but can still sell other tobacco products during that suspension.</p> <p>Herbal only cigarettes claim that they do not contain tobacco. Many youth are turning to these types of cigarettes because they are often flavored with sweet candy-like flavors and do not smell like regular tobacco cigarettes, therefore enabling them to fool their parents. Regardless of whether or not these forms of cigarettes contain tobacco, they are still considered a health risk due to the fact that they contain many of the same dangerous</p>



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TRANSPORTATION

Priority	Department	Item	Description
1	Department of Transportation (DOT) –Transit	Commute Trip Reduction	King County supports the continued appropriations to support the Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) tax credit and grants program enacted from 2004 until 2013 by the passage of ESHB 2228 in the 2003 legislative session.
2	Department of Transportation (DOT)/Roads	Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) and County Road Administration Board (CRAB) Eligibility for Rural and Urban Programs <i>New Item</i>	<p>King County supports legislation to make the definitions of urban and rural areas used by the CRAB and TIB consistent with those for which agencies are required to plan under in the state Growth Management Act (GMA). This would require changes to RCW 36.79.010 and RCW 36.79.040.</p> <p>This change would provide greater flexibility in how and where funding from the CRAB is used. Currently, there are rural areas as defined by the GMA growth boundary that are inside the federal Census-defined urban area. These GMA rural areas are not eligible for CRAB funding. This limits how and where the King County's Road Services Division can expend CRAB funding. An example of this conflict is that under the federal definition of urban/rural boundaries, areas such as Vashon Island and large areas of northeast and Southeast King County are defined as urban and ineligible for CRAB funding. Yet areas such as these that are eligible for TIB funding do not compete well in the TIB urban programs.</p>
3	Department of Transportation (DOT)	Right of Way Use	King County opposes legislation that shifts utility relocation costs to government in certain public rights of way.
4	Department of Transportation (DOT)	Regional Transit Authority	King County supports the preservation of the governance and financial structure established in the statute authorizing the Regional Transit Authority (Sound Transit).
5	Department of Transportation (DOT)	Eliminate Labor & Industries Inspections of Electrical Work	<p>Support legislation exempting county roads electrical work from State Labor and Industries (L&I) inspections as cities are now exempted. The State Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) inspections essentially duplicate inspections of contractors' work conducted by the Road Services Division.</p> <p>King County must conduct inspections because King County does not have protection from liability exposure on L&I inspected projects. Counties would be required to inspect at the same standard or higher than L&I. While King County inspectors can be scheduled to conduct an inspection within 24 hours, the L&I inspectors generally require three days advance notice creating unnecessary project delays. King County and L&I inspectors are equally qualified. With budgets tight at both the state and county levels, duplicate efforts do not make sense.</p>
6	Department of Transportation (DOT) - Fleet and Roads	Allow Special Overweight Truck Permits	<p>King County supports an amendment to RCW 46.44.0941 to allow sewer and catch basin cleaner trucks to obtain special overweight permits. This would allow them to be permitted for carrying a full load on the highway while performing the function for which they were purchased.</p> <p>This primarily affects counties, WSDOT, and cities which must use state routes to reach a decant facility. The sewer and catch basin cleaner trucks are manufactured in a manner that they can easily exceed Washington State legal gross vehicle weight (GVW) as defined by RCW 46.44.041.</p>



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			For example, Snohomish County operates three, 3-axle VacCon trucks with a designed GVW of 66,000 lbs. and a wheel base of 22 feet. RCW 46.44.041 allows 52,500 lbs. to be the maximum legal load for a truck of this size. With a full 100 gallon fuel tank and 1,100 gallon water tank, the otherwise empty truck weighs 48,800 lbs. This means they can legally haul 3,700 lbs. of water and debris which is a full 13,500 lbs. less than the trucks were designed for. According to WSDOT, these kinds of trucks cannot be issued overweight permits under current law.
7	Department of Transportation (DOT) – Transit	Public Disclosure – Transit	King County supports legislation to exempt digital video from transit security cameras from public disclosure requests.