



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**July 20, 2009**

**Motion 13029**

**Proposed No.** 2009-0414.1

**Sponsors** Ferguson, Phillips, Constantine,  
Hague and Lambert

1                   A MOTION supporting the proposal to designate  
2                   Washington state's coastline and Puget Sound a Maritime  
3                   National Heritage Area.

4  
5                   WHEREAS, Washington state has a rich and varied maritime heritage, as  
6                   described in the following excerpt from materials prepared by the Washington state  
7                   Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation: "There are stories here. Canoe  
8                   cultures. The age of European exploration. Gray, Thompson, the Pacific Fur Company,  
9                   Hudson's Bay Company. Trade with Asia, shipped east on James J. Hill's railroad.  
10                  Oyster boats, fishing fleets, the mosquito fleet. Whaling ships from Grays Harbor to  
11                  Westport. Canneries up and down the coasts. Steamers to the Klondike. Freighters,  
12                  tankers, container ships. Bremerton, Everett and Bangor. Lighthouses and shipwrecks.  
13                  Dozens of tribal groups and affiliations. The Alaska fleet, sheltered and repaired in  
14                  protected Puget Sound waters. Salmon and more salmon, caught and dried and canned.  
15                  Then, fewer and fewer salmon, stewarded and defended and celebrated. And always  
16                  fishing, shipping, trading, and lives shaped by water. Washington's Pacific and inland  
17                  coast is a place where maritime dramas large and small helped to shape a nation," and

18 WHEREAS, the National Heritage Area designation has been created by  
19 Congress to recognize nationally-important natural, cultural, historic, and recreational  
20 resources, and the designation of an area as a National Heritage Area requires an act of  
21 Congress, and

22 WHEREAS, there were forty-nine National Heritage Areas across the United  
23 States as of May 2009, but none on the west coast, and

24 WHEREAS, the possible benefits of designation as a National Heritage Area  
25 include the following, as described by the Washington state Department of Archaeology  
26 And Historic Preservation: "Designation as a National Heritage Area can raise awareness  
27 of the quality and importance of local history, helping communities preserve their historic  
28 resources and share the story of their past. Increased heritage tourism provides economic  
29 benefits to heritage organizations, as well as restaurants, lodging, and other community  
30 businesses. Better coordination between heritage groups strengthens the ability to  
31 compete for grant funding. National Heritage Areas receive technical assistance from the  
32 National Park Service to support development and operations. In the past, National  
33 Heritage Areas have received some federal funding, although future funding of the  
34 program is uncertain," and

35 WHEREAS, there is no increased federal regulation associated with National  
36 Heritage Areas, and

37 WHEREAS, the area being studied for inclusion in a Washington State Maritime  
38 National Heritage Area extends along Washington's coastline north from Willapa Bay,  
39 through the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and around Puget Sound to the Canadian border, and

40 extends into Seattle to include Lake Union, though those boundaries are subject to  
41 modification based on an ongoing feasibility study, and

42 WHEREAS, the feasibility study is being managed by the Washington state  
43 Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, with guidance by a steering  
44 committee assembled for this project. The steering committee includes representatives  
45 from tribes, local and state government, heritage organizations, and other interested  
46 stakeholders. The steering committee's ultimate recommendations will be guided by the  
47 results of the public outreach from the feasibility study;

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

49 A. The King County council hereby expresses strong support for the proposal to  
50 designate Washington state's coastline and Puget Sound a National Heritage Area.

51 B. The clerk of the council shall send a copy of this motion to Governor Gregoire  
52 and to each member of Washington state's congressional delegation.

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54 C. The council thanks the staff of the King County Historic Preservation Program  
55 for its efforts to promote that designation and requests that it continue those efforts.

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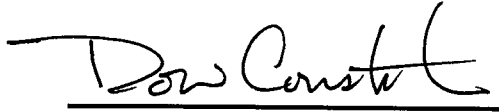
Motion 13029 was introduced on 7/13/2009 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/20/2009, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Constantine, Mr. Ferguson, Ms. Hague, Ms. Lambert, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Patterson and Mr. Dunn

No: 0

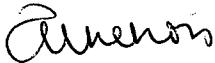
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Dow Constantine, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments None