



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

June 4, 2013

Ordinance 17598

Proposed No. 2013-0165.1

Sponsors Dunn and McDermott

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to the funding and provision of
2 Medic One emergency medical services; providing for the
3 submission to the qualified electors of King County, at
4 special election on November 5, 2013, of a proposition to
5 fund county-wide Medic One emergency medical services
6 by authorizing the continuation of an additional regular
7 property tax levy for a consecutive six year period, for
8 collection beginning in 2014, at a rate of \$0.335 or less per
9 \$1,000 of assessed valuation to provide for Medic One
10 emergency medical services.

11 PREAMBLE:

12 The Medic One Emergency Medical Services ("EMS") system of King
13 County, publicly known as Medic One, is an integrated publicly funded
14 partnership between the county, cities, fire districts, regional fire
15 authorities, hospitals and the University of Washington.

16 Medic One/EMS is a tiered response system that is based on the regional
17 medical model and collaborative partnerships. The services that EMS
18 personnel provide are derived from the highest standards of medical
19 training, practices and care, scientific evidence and close supervision by

20 physicians experienced in EMS care. It includes basic life support by city,
21 fire district and regional fire authority emergency medical technicians,
22 advanced life support by University of Washington/Harborview Medical
23 Center trained paramedics, and regional support programs that provide
24 citizen and EMS personnel training, regional medical control and quality
25 improvement.

26 The Medic One/EMS system of King County is recognized as one of the
27 best emergency medical services program in the country. It saves
28 thousands of lives every year, providing life-saving services on average
29 every 3 minutes. Compared to other cities, cardiac arrest victims are 4 to
30 5 times more likely to survive. In 2011, it achieved a 52% survival rate
31 for cardiac arrest, which is the highest rate to date anywhere.

32 The provision of Medic One emergency medical services on a countywide
33 basis is a public purpose of King County. King County supports Medic
34 One emergency medical services as a regional service that requires a
35 continuing leadership role for the county. The county should continue to
36 exercise its leadership and assume responsibility for assuring the orderly
37 and comprehensive development and provision of Medic One emergency
38 medical services throughout the county. The concern for assuring the
39 continuance of a county-wide Medic One/EMS system is shared by King
40 County cities, fire protection districts, and regional fire authorities that
41 participate in the Medic One emergency medical services programs.

42 Sustained funding for the regional Medic One/EMS system is needed to
43 continue this essential service for the residents of King County.

44 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

45 **SECTION 1. Approval of cities over 50,000 in population.** Pursuant to RCW
46 84.52.069, before submission to the electors of King County at a special election on
47 November 5, 2013, approval to place this countywide levy proposal on the ballot will be
48 obtained from the legislative bodies of all cities in the county over 50,000 in population.

49 **SECTION 2. Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this
50 ordinance unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

51 A. "County" means King County.

52 B. "Levy" means the levy of regular property taxes, for the specific purpose and
53 term provided in this ordinance and authorized by the electorate in accordance with state
54 law.

55 C. "Levy proceeds" means the principal amount of funds raised by the levy, any
56 interest earnings on the funds and the proceeds of any interim financing following
57 authorization of the levy.

58 **SECTION 3. City of Seattle reimbursement.** It is recognized that the city of
59 Seattle operates and funds a Medic One emergency medical services program that is
60 separate from the county program but part of the regional delivery system. All levy
61 proceeds collected pursuant to the levy authorized in this ordinance from taxable property
62 located within the legal boundaries of the City of Seattle shall be reimbursed and
63 transferred to the city of Seattle and used solely for the Seattle Medic One emergency
64 medical services program in accordance with RCW 84.52.069.

65 **SECTION 4. Levy submittal to voters.** To provide necessary funds for the
66 Medic One/EMS system under the authority of RCW.84.52.069, the county council shall
67 submit to the qualified electors of the county a proposition authorizing a regular property
68 tax levy for six consecutive years, with collection commencing in 2014, at a rate not to
69 exceed \$0.335 per one thousand dollars of assessed value. As provided under state law,
70 this levy shall be exempt from the rate limitations under RCW 84.52.043, but subject in
71 years two through six to the limitations imposed under Chapter 84.55 RCW.

72 **SECTION 5. Deposit of levy proceeds.** Except for the levy proceeds provided
73 to the City of Seattle under section 3 of this ordinance, all levy proceeds shall be
74 deposited into the county Emergency Medical Services fund.

75 **SECTION 6. Eligible expenditures.** If approved by the qualified electors of the
76 county, all levy proceeds authorized in this ordinance shall be used in accordance with
77 RCW 84.52.069.

78 **SECTION 7. Call for special election.** In accordance with RCW 29A.04.321, a
79 special election is called for November 5, 2013, to consider a proposition authorizing an
80 additional regular property tax levy for the purposes described in this ordinance. The
81 director of elections shall cause notice to be given of this ordinance in accordance with
82 the state constitution and general law and to submit to the qualified electors of the county,
83 at the said special election, the proposition hereinafter set forth. The clerk of the council
84 shall certify that proposition to the director of elections, in substantially the following
85 form:

86 **PROPOSITION ONE:** The King County Council passed Ordinance _____
87 concerning funding for the county-wide Medic One emergency medical services system.

88 This proposition would replace an expiring levy to continue funding of Medic One
89 emergency medical services. It would authorize King County to impose regular property
90 tax levies of \$0.335 or less per thousand dollars of assessed valuation for each of six
91 consecutive years, with collection beginning in 2014, as provided in King County
92 Ordinance _____. Should this proposition be:

93 Approved? _____

94 Rejected? _____

95 **SECTION 8. Interlocal agreement.** The county executive is hereby authorized
96 and directed to enter into an interlocal agreement with the City of Seattle relating to the
97 Medic One program, to implement the provisions of section 3 of this ordinance.

98 **SECTION 9. Local voters' pamphlet.** The director of elections is hereby
99 authorized and requested to prepare and distribute a local voters' pamphlet, pursuant to
100 K.C.C. 1.10.010, for the special election called for in this ordinance, the cost of the
101 pamphlet to be included as part of the cost of the election.

102 **SECTION 10. Ratification.** Certification of the proposition by the clerk of the
103 county council to the King County director of elections in accordance with law before the
104 election on November 5, 2013, and any other act consistent with the authority and before
105 the effective date of this ordinance are hereby ratified and confirmed.


106 **SECTION 11. Severability.** If any provision of this ordinance or its application

107 to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the
108 application of the provision to other persons or circumstances if not affected.
109


Ordinance 17598 was introduced on 4/8/2013 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 6/3/2013, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Mr. McDermott and Mr. Dembowski
No: 0
Excused: 0

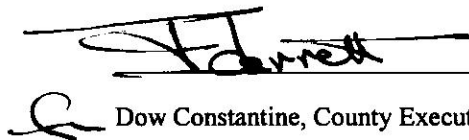
KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:


Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 7 day of June, 2013.


Dow Constantine, County Executive

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KING COUNTY CLERK
KING COUNTY COUNCIL

Attachments: None