## STAFF REPORT

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| **Agenda Item:** | 5 | **Name:** | Wendy K. Soo Hoo |
| **Proposed No**.: | 2013-0352 | **Date:** | January 14, 2014 |

**SUBJECT**

Proposed Ordinance 2013-0352 would update King County Code provisions relating to Public Health – Seattle & King County (Public Health).

**SUMMARY**

The proposed legislation would update code provisions relating to Public Health to better reflect the current priorities and practices of the department. No budgetary impacts or service changes would result from this legislation.

**BACKGROUND**

Public Health provides a wide variety of regional services that protect and promote the health of King County residents, workers and tourists. Services provided by Public Health include restaurant and drinking water inspections, hazardous waste disposal, communicable disease control, immunizations, chronic disease and injury prevention programs, health education and promotion, emergency preparedness, pandemic flu and disaster planning, maternal and child health programs, and clinical health services for low-income and uninsured residents.

**ANALYSIS**

The proposed ordinance would update King County Code to better reflect the current priorities and practices of Public Health – Seattle & King County (Public Health). The significant changes are summarized in the table below.

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| **Summary of Proposed King County Code Changes** | |
| Section 3.A.1 | * *Updates department description*: “[Public Health] is responsible to manage and be fiscally accountable for providing a functionally integrated set of services that are fully responsive to urban, suburban city and unincorporated communities.” * *Elevates Jail Health Services to a division.* Jail Health Services is currently organized as a section within another division. However, it is a major program that is functionally distinct from other Public Health activities. |
| Section 3.A.3 | * *Adds language identifying services that reduce health inequities among Public Health’s services.* Reducing health inequities has been a key focus of the department and the Board of Health, and this code change would be consistent with the county council’s commitment to equity and social justice. |
| Section 3.A.3 | * *Removes responsibility for providing veterinary care for animals in the King County animal shelter.* This responsibility was transferred to Regional Animal Services in 2011. |
| Section 6.F | * *Adds duties of inspecting animal-related business* (such as dog daycares, etc.) to Environmental Health Division – this change was approved by the Board of Health in 2010 |
| Throughout | * *Various technical changes and reorganization* |

**Potential Budgetary Implications: The proposed changes are generally technical in nature and make no changes that would have any budgetary impact.**

**INVITED:**

Chrissy Russillo, Chief of Policy, Community Partners and Communications, Public Health

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Proposed Ordinance 2013-0352
2. Transmittal letter
3. Fiscal note