



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

October 17, 2017

Ordinance 18585

Proposed No. 2017-0423.1

Sponsors Dembowski and Gossett

1 AN ORDINANCE related to the provision of discounted
2 transit tickets to human service agencies; amending
3 Ordinance 12643, Section 19, as amended, and K.C.C.
4 4A.700.210 and declaring an emergency.

5 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

- 6 1. K.C.C 4A.700.210 authorizes a program for the sale and distribution of
7 transit tickets to human service agencies at ten percent of face value for
8 the purpose of meeting the transportation needs of low income and
9 homeless populations.
- 10 2. The King County council increased the dollar amount of the total
11 annual subsidy amount of the program in 2014 in recognition that the 2015
12 fare increase would otherwise have reduced the number of tickets
13 available to human service agencies.
- 14 3. In 2016, the King County council reduced the cost to human service
15 agencies purchasing tickets through this program from twenty percent of
16 face value to ten percent of face value, in order to increase the number of
17 tickets agencies could purchase to serve the needs of their clients. The
18 effect of this reduction in cost to the agencies is that agencies have greater
19 financial flexibility, including possibly increasing the number of tickets

20 that some agencies could purchase.

21 4. While agencies have the ability to purchase more tickets, the code
22 imposed dollar limit of such subsidy will not allow Metro to sell to the
23 agencies in excess of the subsidy limit set forth in K.C.C. 4A.700.210.

24 5. King County declared a homelessness emergency in November 2015 in
25 response to the growing number of people experiencing unsheltered
26 homelessness. The homelessness crisis in King County continues to
27 persist, increasing the public transportation needs for low and no income
28 individuals lacking permanent shelter.

29 6. A survey of human service agencies conducted by Metro in 2017 found
30 that despite recent increases in the number of tickets available for
31 purchase through the human services ticket program, the demand for
32 tickets among agency's clients continues to exceed the current size of the
33 program.

34 7. In September 2017, the King County department of community and
35 human services initiated a process to reallocate the remaining available
36 program subsidy. During that process, the department learned from some
37 of the agencies that in order for the program to continue through the end of
38 the year, additional capacity for ticket purchases is needed. The
39 department has calculated the necessary increase to the subsidy to be
40 approximately \$60,000.

41 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

42 SECTION 1. Findings: Adoption of this ordinance as an emergency is necessary

43 in order to enable the county to continue the human services ticket program through the
44 end of the year at the current demand level.

45 SECTION 2. Section 3 of this ordinance expires January 1, 2018.

46 SECTION 3. Ordinance 12643, Section 19, as amended, and K.C.C. 4.A.700.210
47 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

48 A. The director is authorized to establish a program for the sale and distribution of
49 tickets to human service agencies at ten percent of their cash value for the purpose of
50 meeting the transportation needs of low income and homeless populations. The total
51 amount of the ninety percent discount provided under the program shall not exceed three
52 million six hundred sixty thousand dollars for any one year. However, the amount of the
53 ninety percent discount may be increased by up to an additional two hundred thousand
54 dollars annually under this human services ticket program for the value of tickets applied
55 to it through the congestion reduction transit incentives program described in Ordinance
56 17295, Section 1. The allocation of discount tickets under the program shall be made by
57 the director in conjunction with local jurisdictions and the county's department or
58 departments responsible for human services programs. The local jurisdictions and the
59 county department or departments shall determine the number of tickets from their
60 respective allocations that shall be sold to the human service agencies eligible under the
61 program. Tickets sold under the program are valid on all public transportation and
62 paratransit service for the purpose of meeting the transportation needs of low income and
63 homeless populations. The program shall provide for the following:

- 64 1. Metro-issued fare payment media, including but not limited to bus tickets, to
65 be sold to human service agencies at ten percent of the cash value; and

66 2. A fare payment medium consisting of a combination of a Metro-issued fare
67 payment medium and a fare payment medium of another transportation agency, to be sold
68 to human services agencies at the higher of either the ten percent of the cash value of the
69 Metro fare medium or the discounted price of the fare medium provided by the other
70 transportation agency under an interagency agreement between Metro and the other
71 transportation agency.

72 B. The allocation of discount fare payment media under the program shall be
73 made by the director in conjunction with local jurisdictions and the county's department
74 or departments responsible for human services programs. The local jurisdictions and the
75 county department or departments shall determine the quantity of fare payment media
76 from their respective allocations that shall be sold to the human service agencies eligible
77 under the program.

78 C. The total amount of discount provided under the program established under
79 subsection A. of this section shall not exceed three million six hundred sixty thousand
80 dollars for any one year.

81 D. Metro fare payment media sold under the program shall be valid for all Metro
82 transportation and paratransit service as well as for service on those Sound Transit bus
83 routes agreed to by Metro and Sound Transit.

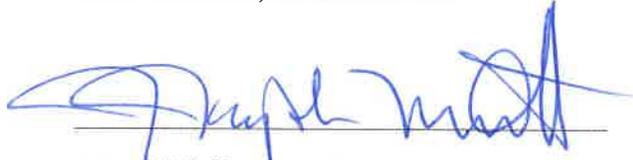
84 SECTION 4. The county council finds as a fact that an emergency exists and that

85 this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, health or
86 safety or for the support of county government and its existing public institutions.
87

Ordinance 18585 was introduced on 10/16/2017 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 10/16/2017, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn,
Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Upthegrove, Ms. Kohl-Welles
and Ms. Balducci
No: 0
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



J. Joseph McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:



Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council



Attachments: None