



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

October 6, 2008

Ordinance 16253

Proposed No. 2008-0458.1

Sponsors Dunn and Hague

1 AN ORDINANCE approving the 2006 Comprehensive
2 Plan Water & Sewer Systems, Cedar River Water and
3 Sewer District.
4

5 **STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

6 1. King County adopted K.C.C. chapter 13.24, which requires approval of
7 comprehensive plans for water and sewer utilities that distribute or obtain
8 water, or provide sewer collection or treatment, in unincorporated King
9 County as a prerequisite for operating in unincorporated King County,
10 receiving approval for annexation proposals, being granted right-of-way
11 franchises, and being given approval for right-of-way construction
12 permits. K.C.C. 13.24.060 prescribes the requirements for approval of
13 such plans, including consistency with state and local planning
14 requirements.
15 2. RCW 43.20.260 requires that water system plans for any new
16 industrial, commercial, or residential use are to be consistent with the
17 requirements of any comprehensive plans or development regulations

18 adopted under chapter 36.70A RCW or any other applicable
19 comprehensive plan, land use plan or development regulation adopted by a
20 city, town or county for the service area. King County adopted a
21 Comprehensive Plan that includes water supply and wastewater policies in
22 its provisions for Facilities and Services (Policies F-225 through F-244)
23 that call for consistency with other adopted plans, support for regional
24 water supply planning, pursuit of reclaimed water and water conservation,
25 and protection of water resources.

26 3. King County last approved the Cedar River water and sewer district's
27 Water System Comprehensive Plan ("the plan") in October 2000. The last
28 sewer plan update was in 1994. Both Washington state Department of
29 Health ("DOH") and King County regulations require water system plans
30 to be updated every six years and wastewater plan updates are required
31 when improvements, extensions, or changes to future operation and
32 maintenance are proposed.

33 4. The Cedar River water and sewer district ("the district") operates large
34 water supply and wastewater collection systems in the central part of King
35 County, south and east of the city of Renton. The district provides service
36 to over 12,000 people, 7,400 connections, in its retail service area for
37 water, and has 4,160 connections to the sewer system. The annual average
38 day demand (water consumed) is approximately 2.07 million gallons per
39 day ("mgd"); the peak day consumption, which is generally during the
40 hottest summer/fall periods, is approximately two and one-half times

41 average day demand. Average wastewater production is 0.96 mgd. The
42 district is a partner in the regional wastewater system and provides its
43 wastewater to King County for treatment and discharge.

44 5. The district's water plan describes its intention to assure that water
45 service is provided throughout the future service assigned to the district as
46 part of the approval of the East King County Coordinated Water System
47 Plan ("CWSP"), including much of unincorporated King County. The
48 purpose of the CWSP, which includes individual water system plans, is to
49 identify present and future water service needs, and to set forth the means
50 for meeting those needs. Particularly noteworthy in the district's plan is its
51 expansion of service through satellite management of smaller systems in
52 areas where existing facilities do not exist, or cannot be provided in a
53 timely and reasonable fashion. While the plan does not directly discuss in
54 a single place the district's duty to provide service within its "retail service
55 area," it provides sufficient information to conclude that it has both the
56 intention and capacity to do so.

57 6. The district's plan identifies a set of measures that it has implemented
58 to pursue water conservation within its boundaries, pursuant to DOH 1994
59 planning guidance. Although the plan does not describe certain aspects of
60 the conservation program with specificity, DOH has approved the
61 conservation program. In addition, the district participates with the city of
62 Seattle Public Utilities ("SPU") and other SPU wholesale water purveyors
63 in a program for conservation and efficient use of water. The current SPU

64 regional effort for efficiency of water use is called the Regional 1% Water
65 Conservation Program and it expires in 2010. The program has a target of
66 one percent reduction in demand across the SPU regional system each
67 year, is a regional program, and is not an individual utility goal or
68 mandate. SPU and its operating board, which is a subset of its wholesale
69 customers that includes the district, agreed in concept to a new target of 15
70 mgd in water conservation between 2011 and 2029. Based on discussions
71 with staff at DOH, it appears that the district relied on its understanding
72 that current and past participation in the SPU regional conservation
73 program would meet its system obligations for water conservation.
74 Because of the significance of this issue to multiple water purveyors in
75 King County, staff of the department of natural resources and parks are
76 pursuing with DOH its interpretation of the conservation planning
77 requirements for individual systems within the SPU regional system.

78 7. Pursuant to King County Comprehensive Plan Policies F-208, F-211
79 and F-212, water and sewer districts that provide service in unincorporated
80 King County must have financing strategies to show the ability to meet
81 projected needs for facilities and services in accordance with the Growth
82 Management Act and the County Comprehensive Plan. The district's
83 plans describe a current capital water budget for 2006-2012 of
84 approximately \$5.68 million. The district states that capital improvement
85 projects ("CIP") will be funded by any or all of rates, general facility
86 charges, system development charges and outside funding sources. Total

87 water sales in 2005 were \$3,388,353 of which \$1,561,748 (46 percent)
88 was paid to Seattle for wholesale water. For wastewater, the district's
89 revenue in 2005 was \$2,538,442 of which \$1,567,488 (62 percent) was
90 paid to King County for treatment. The plan provides a combined six-year
91 CIP of \$8.05 million. Much of this expense will be funded by developers
92 when they create additional single-family and multifamily residential
93 units, from utility local improvement districts, with general facilities
94 charges, and with the remainder paid from water and sewer monthly
95 service rates.

96 8. K.C.C. chapter 13.24 requires review of water system plans by the
97 utilities technical review committee ("UTRC"), and a recommendation to
98 the executive and council on the plan and the requirements under K.C.C.
99 chapter 13.24 and consistency with the King County Comprehensive Plan.
100 The planning data and district operations have been reviewed by the
101 UTRC, and consistency is found as follows:

- 102 a. The population and employment forecasts developed by the Puget
103 Sound Regional Council for service areas are appropriately used;
- 104 b. The plan appropriately used the King County land use classifications;
- 105 c. Capital facility plans are adequate to meet anticipated facility and
106 service needs;
- 107 d. The plan is consistent with applicable state water quality, and waste
108 management standards, with reclaimed water use partially evaluated; and

109 e. The plan is consistent with other pertinent county adopted plans and
110 policies.

111 9. Wastewater districts are required to evaluate the opportunities for use
112 of reclaimed water, pursuant to RCW 90.48.112, in the comprehensive
113 wastewater plan. The district did not find the use of reclaimed water to be
114 cost effective at this time.

115 10. The DOH has not yet approved the district's water plan, pending
116 approval by King County. The Washington state Department of Ecology
117 has not yet approved the district's wastewater portion of the plan.
118 Approvals from those agencies are expected after the King County council
119 acts.

120 11. The district completed a SEPA checklist and issued a Determination
121 of Nonsignificance for the issuance of the plan on August 22, 2006.

122 12. The district's operations and facilities meet multiple existing statutory,
123 administrative, and planning standards for both the water and wastewater
124 utilities. As the district's operations, facilities and planning meet the
125 requirements of the King County Code and are consistent with the King
126 County Comprehensive Plan, the UTRC recommends approval of the
127 plan.

128 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

129 SECTION 1. The 2006 Comprehensive Plan Water & Sewer Systems, Cedar
130

131 River Water and Sewer District, Attachment A to this ordinance, is hereby approved as a
132 comprehensive water system plan and comprehensive wastewater plan.

133

Ordinance 16253 was introduced on 9/2/2008 and passed by the Metropolitan King
County Council on 10/6/2008, by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Ms. Patterson, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Constantine, Mr. Ferguson, Mr.
Gossett, Mr. Phillips and Ms. Hague

No: 0

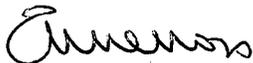
Excused: 2 - Ms. Lambert and Mr. von Reichbauer

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



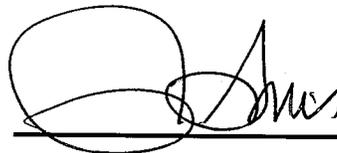
Julia Patterson, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 21 day of October, 2008



Ron Sims, County Executive

Attachments A. 2006 Comprehensive Plan--October 2006--Water and Sewer Systems Cedar River
Water and Sewer District

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2008 OCT 20 PM 4: 03
KING COUNTY COUNCIL
CLERK