## STAFF REPORT

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| **Agenda Item:** | 8 | **Name:** | Clifton Curry |
| **Proposed No**.: | 2020-0166 | **Date:** | April 21, 2020 |

**SUBJECT**

Proposed Motion 2020-0166 would create a Blue-Ribbon panel of representatives from a variety of organizations to identify issues and make recommendations relating to the economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic in King County.

**SUMMARY**

Proposed Motion 2020-0166 would call on the Executive to establish a Blue-Ribbon group (named the “Coronavirus Recovery Economic” (CuRE) task force) of representatives from state and local governments, business and industry and other organizations, to identify and address issues relating to the economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic in King County.

**BACKGROUND**

The King County Executive issued a Proclamation of Emergency on March 1, 2020, in order to allow King County to quickly respond to the new and different demands on service in response to the emerging COVID-19 pandemic.[[1]](#footnote-1) The Washington State Governor issued a “Stay-at-Home” order on March 23, 2020,[[2]](#footnote-2) for all but essential activities and essential workers, including those responding to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Due to these orders and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and response measures has resulted in a significant reduction in economic activity in retail, construction, manufacturing, travel, tourism, hospitality, professional services, personal services, and other industries and businesses deemed non-essential in the Washington State Governor’s and other local stay-at-home orders. Furthermore, COVID-19 response measures have resulted in significant unemployment claims[[3]](#footnote-3) and many Washington and King County businesses have already identified long-term negative impacts that will affect the reopening of businesses after the emergency is lifted.

Both the state and federal governments have taken actions to ameliorate the financial impact of the pandemic on persons and businesses through a variety of regulatory changes, moratoriums, and the federal government has adopted a $2.2 trillion-dollar stimulus package for the country, with funds being allocated to state and local governments, private businesses, non-profit organizations, and individuals.[[4]](#footnote-4) The local impact of all of these actions will have significant short- and long-term impacts on the County.

**ANALYSIS**

This Proposed Motion would call on the Executive to establish a Blue-Ribbon panel named the “Coronavirus Recovery Economic” (CuRE) task force made up of state and local government leaders and business and industry representatives and leaders to identify issues and make recommendations for the economic recovery to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Motion establishes the membership of the task force to include representatives of state and local government, specific industries, unions, and other affected organizations. In addition, the Motion states that the Executive should begin the establishment of the task force by May 15, 2020 and be prepared to report to the Council its recommendations within three months of effective date of this motion.

**AMENDMENT**

There is a Striking Amendment that incorporates format and technical changes recommended by the Code Reviser.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Proposed Motion 2020-0166
2. Striking Amendment S-1
1. #  Proclamation of Emergency, “Significant Health Emergency Caused by Novel Coronavirus” **Document Code No.:**PHL-10-4-EO,March 1, 2020.

 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Proclamation 20-25, by the Governor Amending Proclamation 20-05 “Stay Home-Stay Healthy” Office of the Washington State Governor, March 23, 2020. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Over “170,000 new jobless claims were filed in the state for the week ending April 4 – seven times the peak during the height of the Great Recession.” Business and Worker’s Weekly Update, Washington State Department of Commerce, April 15, 2020. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. “Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020,” H.R. 6074, March 6, 2020. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)