



Legislation Text

File #: 2004-0411, **Version:** 2

Clerk 09/10/2004

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between King County and the city of Covington for transfer to the city of a portion of the Soos Creek park.

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

1. King County and the city of Covington ("city") have agreed to terms for an interlocal agreement for the transfer of a portion of Soos Creek park that is within the city limits.
2. The recitals in the agreement set forth relevant facts supporting and explaining the terms of the transfer.
3. The city desires to own, operate and maintain parks, open space, recreation facilities and programs and other municipal programs, facilities and property inside its boundaries.
4. The county, under the authority of RCW 36.89.050, King County Resolution 34571 and other federal, state and county laws, has acquired and developed a substantial park, recreation and open space system that depends on the continued operation of its many individual properties and facilities in order to fully serve the needs of the residents of King County and the cities within it.
5. The county acquired this portion of Soos Creek park property with open space bonds and Forward Thrust funds to provide open space as well as a regional trail connection.
6. The county's Regional Trails Plan identified the portions of Soos Creek park that lie within the city's corporate boundary as a functioning part of the regional trails corridor and open space system which should remain in a natural state with the exception of future development of the

already identified Soos Creek Trail corridor.

7. The city and county have a mutual interest in maintaining the regional trail corridor and continued protection of local open spaces.

8. The county desires to divest itself of ownership, management, and financial responsibility for parks, open space, recreational facilities and programs inside the city boundaries.

9. The county does not have a sufficient, stable source of revenue to continue to manage and maintain its parks, open space, recreational facilities and programs at current levels.

10. The county is legally restricted from converting many of these parks, open space, and recreational facilities from their current uses without expending funds to replace the converted facilities.

11. Given the legal restriction regarding conversion of the properties, the marketability of the properties is limited and, as a result, the cost of operating the facility is approximately equal to the value of the property to the county.

12. It is in the best interest of the public that the city and the county take those actions necessary to meet those desires and to cooperate in any transition to ensure a smooth transition and avoid service disruption.

13. King County and the city have agreed that the transfer will take place within thirty days following execution of the interlocal agreement by both parties.

14. Transfer of a portion of the Soos Creek park under the terms and conditions of the attached agreement will serve an important county purpose by transferring in-city land to the city while also ensuring that the park will remain open and available to all county residents.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. The King County executive is hereby authorized to enter into an

interlocal agreement, substantially in the form of the attached agreement, with the city of Covington relating to the transfer of a portion of Soos Creek park.

area paper 10 and not more than 25 days prior & news release, display format

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