



Legislation Text

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Clerk 07/24/2009

AN ORDINANCE limiting King County's participation in the Newcastle Revitalization Area known as "Newcastle Downtown Project"; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Findings:

- A. King County has received notification from the city of Newcastle of the city's intent to create a Revitalization Area as recently authorized under Chapter 270, Laws of Washington 2009.
- B. As set forth in Chapter 270, Laws of Washington 2009, local taxing jurisdictions that levy regular property or local sales and use taxes in the proposed Revitalization Area are automatic participants in the revitalization areas unless contrary notification is provided to the initiating jurisdiction before formal action by the initiating jurisdiction to create the Revitalization Area. The city of Newcastle indicates that formal action will be taken on August 25, 2009.
- C. Automatic local jurisdiction participants pledge seventy-five percent of regular property tax increases resulting from new construction in the Revitalization Area to repayment of debt issued to fund public improvements in the area.
- D. King County's general fund faces substantial budget shortfalls for the foreseeable future. Allowing the diversion of property and sales tax revenues during this budget crisis would exacerbate the current funding crisis. Given the limited time for the county to notify the city of its intent to opt out of the Newcastle Revitalization Area, a declaration of an emergency is warranted.

SECTION 2. Through this ordinance, King County removes itself as a participating taxing district for the Newcastle Revitalization Area known as "Newcastle Downtown Project." By this action, King County removes the county regular property tax levy, the road district levy, the conservation futures levy, the transit levy and the emergency medical services levy from the Newcastle Downtown Project Revitalization Area and will not pledge any King County local property tax allocation revenues to the Newcastle Downtown Project Revitalization Area.

SECTION 3. Through this ordinance, King County will not participate as a local government in the Newcastle Downtown Project Revitalization Area. By this action, King County will not allow the use of any local sales and use tax imposed by King County to be used for the Newcastle Downtown Project Revitalization Area.

SECTION 4. Notification to City of Newcastle of withdrawal from Revitalization Area. The clerk of the council is hereby directed to send a notice to Mr. Bob Baker, the Newcastle City Clerk that King County has removed all King County taxing districts as participating taxing districts in the Newcastle Downtown Project Revitalization Area. The notice shall also indicate that King County has removed itself as a participating local government in the Newcastle Downtown Project Revitalization Area. The notice shall indicate that the county will not pledge local property tax allocation revenues or local sales and use taxes to the Newcastle Downtown Project Revitalization Area. The clerk of the council shall attach a copy of this ordinance with the notice and ensure that notice is received by the Newcastle city clerk no later than 4:30 p.m., August 24, 2009.

SECTION 5. The council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency exists and that this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, health or safety or for the support of county government and its existing public institutions.

none