

TRACK CHANGES VERSION FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY

March 20, 2025

S1

Parks Levy Ordinance Striker

[S. Hsu, J. Tracy, B. Paribello] Sponsor: Dembowski
 Proposed No.: 2025-0070

STRIKING AMENDMENT TO PROPOSED ORDINANCE 2025-0070, VERSION**1**

1 On page 2, beginning on line 26, strike everything through page 20, line 416, and insert:

2 "STATEMENT OF FACTS:

3 1. King County owns and operates a system of regional and local parks
 4 and trails that consists of thirty-two thousand acres of parklands and more
 5 than one hundred eighty-five miles of regional trails. The county provides
 6 regional trails, regional recreational facilities, regional natural areas,
 7 regional parks, and local parks in unincorporated areas. Examples of
 8 regional and local county parks and trails include Marymoor park, Cougar
 9 Mountain Regional Wildland park, Steve Cox Memorial park, Dick
 10 Thurnau Memorial park, the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center,
 11 and the Sammamish River trail.

12 2. Parks, natural areas, and trails contribute to a high quality of life. A
 13 robust system of parks and trails provides: physical, social, and mental
 14 health benefits to individuals; economic opportunity through recreation
 15 and tourism; economic growth for private businesses that must attract and
 16 retain skilled workers; increased climate resilience; environmental benefits

like clean water and healthy habitat, and cultural resource protection through open space conservation. King County's open space system provides all these benefits to King County residents and businesses.

3. The 2002 Parks Business Transition Plan, adopted by the King County council and enacted by Ordinance 14509, became the blueprint for establishing the regional open space system we have today. Building on that blueprint, the county has adopted open space plans, which have provided the framework guiding King County in the acquisition, planning, development, stewardship, maintenance, and management of its complex system of parks, regional trails, and acres of open space. The latest open space plan was updated in 2022 and adopted by Ordinance 19501.

4. In implementing the open space plan, the parks and recreation division of the department of natural resources and parks has successfully focused its lines of business on regional parks and trails, backcountry trails, natural ~~lands~~areas, and local parks in unincorporated King County and has implemented business practices that generate revenue from park system assets by implementing or increasing user fees and establishing corporate and community partnerships that enhance park amenities and leverage public and private dollars to improve parks and increase access to parks.

5. Consistent with the recommendations of past parks-related task forces and community advisory committees, the county has sought voter-approved levies on four prior occasions: in 2003, enacted by Ordinance 14586, to provide maintenance and operating funding for the parks and

recreation division for 2004 through 2007; in 2007, enacted by Ordinance 15759, to provide funding for maintenance and operations as well as funding for open space acquisition, regional trail development, the Woodland Park Zoo and for King County towns and cities for use in their open space acquisition and trail projects for 2008 through 2013; in 2013, enacted by Ordinance 17568, to provide funding for maintenance and operations as well as for open space acquisition, asset maintenance and improvement, parks and trails projects, the Woodland Park Zoo and for King County towns and cities to use for their parks and recreation for 2014 through 2019; and in 2019, enacted by Ordinance 18890, to provide funding for maintenance and operations as well as for open space acquisition, asset maintenance and improvement, parks and trails projects, the Woodland Park Zoo, the Seattle Aquarium, aquatic facilities, and for King County towns and cities to use for their parks and recreation for 2020 through 2025. Voters approved the funding measures on all four occasions that they were on the ballot. The voter-approved levies have helped keep the open space system clean, safe, and open.

6. Tribal nations are ~~co-managers~~comanagers with the county in managing our shared public lands, waters, and resources. The county recognizes that this relationship is informed and guided by the treaty rights, which many tribes exercise within King County. The department of natural resources and parks has undertaken many actions with tribes as comanagers in an effort to foster mutual respect, and establish regular and

63 meaningful communication, cooperation, and consultation with tribal
64 officials in developing and executing state and King County policies that
65 have tribal implications. The county has an ongoing goal to strengthen the
66 government-to-government relationship with tribes that share territory
67 with and have interests in King County

68 7. The 2020 through 2025 voter-approved parks, trails, and open space
69 replacement levy provides approximately eighty-five percent of the
70 operating budget of the parks and recreation division, with approximately
71 fifteen percent generated through business activities and entrepreneurial
72 efforts. King County general fund support to the parks and recreation
73 division was eliminated as of 2011.

74 8. The community partnerships and grants program enacted by Ordinance
75 14509 enhances parks amenities by partnering with parks and recreation
76 organizations. Since the inception of the community partnership and grant
77 program in 2003, more than seventy projects representing more than
78 seventy million dollars' worth of new, enhanced, or preserved public
79 recreation facilities have been completed, with only twenty-two million
80 dollars of King County capital investment.

81 9. The Woodland Park Zoo received distributions from the past three
82 voter-approved levies to supplement zoo operating revenue for education
83 and conservation programs, horticulture and maintenance, and capital
84 improvements. Levy proceeds distributed to the zoo provided
85 environmental education, programming and transportation focusing on

accessibility for underserved areas, supported thousands of students-
annually, and benefitted residents throughout King County. Levy
proceeds also provided conservation and animal care for threatened
Pacific Northwest species.

10. The Seattle Aquarium received distributions from the past voter-
approved levy for capital costs for the Ocean Pavilion project to amplify
the aquarium's existing global conservation efforts by bringing visitors
face-to-face with tropical species native to the Coral Triangle and by
housing approximately three thousand five hundred sustainably sourced
tropical fish and invertebrates, including rays, sharks, mangroves, and up
to ~~30~~thirty species of coral.

~~11. The removal of the Alaskan Way Viaduct provided an unprecedented
opportunity to create new green space in the heart of Seattle. The
resulting waterfront park is a twenty-acre public space stretching from
Belltown to Pioneer Square, providing the entire region lasting economic,
social, and environmental benefits. Seattle Waterfront park will link
iconic attractions including Olympic Sculpture park, Pike Place Market,
the Seattle Aquarium, the Colman Dock ferry terminal, Pioneer Square,
stadiums, and surrounding neighborhoods.~~

~~12.~~11. The Memorial Stadium project will create an innovative multi-
purpose student and community events facility at Seattle Center. That
transformative project will be led by Seattle Public Schools and the city of

108 Seattle, providing an improved venue for local and regional sports and
109 events.

110 ~~13~~12. King County towns and cities received funding from the past three
111 voter-approved levies. In 2008 through 2013, towns and cities could use
112 levy proceeds for open space and natural lands acquisition and
113 development of town or city trail projects that supported connections to
114 the regional trail system with distributions being contingent upon an equal
115 or greater contribution of matching moneys from the recipient town or city
116 for the same project. In the 2014 through 2019 and the 2020 through 2025
117 levies, types of uses for the distribution to King County towns and cities
118 were broadened to provide flexibility and better meet the parks and
119 recreation needs of cities.

120 ~~14~~13. Parks levy oversight committees were established to monitor the
121 expenditures of the proceeds from the 2004 through 2007, 2008 through
122 2013, 2014 through 2019, and 2020 through 2025 levies. Annual
123 committee review has concluded that the county has complied with all
124 levy requirements.

125 ~~15~~14. During the 2008 through 2013, 2014 through 2019, and 2020
126 through 2025 levy periods, the process for developing, reviewing, and
127 recommending potential conservation futures tax and parks levy
128 acquisition projects has maximized acquisitions for open space, natural
129 lands, and regional trail rights of way due to the similar objectives for the
130 conservation futures tax and parks levy acquisition programs. Parks levy

open space funding distributed to King County is a critical component of match for county applications for conservation futures tax funding. The process for conservation futures tax outlined in K.C.C. 26.12.010 maintains transparency, accessibility, and consistency of the distribution of conservation futures tax and parks levy acquisition funds for the public, stakeholder groups, government agencies, and officials.

~~46~~¹⁵. King County is growing rapidly as a region. In 2024, King County's population increased by more than thirty thousand people; over the next ten years, the county is expected to grow by another two hundred fifty thousand people. Recent trend reports indicate that participation in outdoor recreation continues to grow, increasing by more than four percent nation-wide in 2023. More and more people are using King County parks and trails, which puts greater pressure on the system. As development increases to accommodate population growth, the risk of losing natural open space lands ~~and green spaces, including urban greenspaces~~ throughout the county grows. Those valuable lands contribute to King County residents' high quality of life. The cost of land to accommodate this growth and preserve open spaces is also increasing. Today is the opportune time to address future needs of residents by investing in our parks and trails and accelerating conservation of open space.

~~47~~¹⁶. In King County, many communities have experienced a history of inequitable and limited regional investments in parks, recreation, and open

space, limiting the ability of residents to lead healthy lives.

Approximately five hundred thousand King County residents live without ready access to parks, recreation, and open spaces. There is a need to address disparities in access to parks, recreation, and open space for traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities. This ~~proposal~~ordinance provides an opportunity to address parks and recreation needs of these traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities.

~~18~~17. Recognizing growth in population, increased use of parks and trails and the need to address disparities, to prepare the 2026 through 2031 levy, the parks and recreation division conducted outreach to obtain feedback on the current park system and future parks and recreation needs for all King County residents. In March and April 2024, parks and recreation division staff conducted twenty-one in-person and virtual community engagement events and hosted two online surveys across eight languages. Participants represented all geographic areas of the county including towns and cities, business, recreation, community, and environmental interests. More than four thousand eight hundred people across all nine King County Council districts participated in the surveys. Parks and recreation division staff also met with towns and cities, parks districts, and key partners to receive additional feedback about the levy.

~~19~~18. Feedback from engagement events, online surveys, and meetings showed support for the King County open space system and defined

measures of success. Four themes emerged as top priorities: safety and belonging; new parks, trails, recreation, and infrastructure; equity, representation, inclusion, and access; and maintenance, repairs, and staffing. Feedback supported funding for King County towns' and cities' parks and recreation programs; expansion of the regional trails system; and natural lands conservation.

~~20~~19. From January through July 2024, parks and recreation division staff convened a Community Advisory Committee tasked with recommending how to preserve King County's open space system of parks, trails, and ~~open space~~ natural areas and resource lands after the 2019 through 2025 levy expires. The Community Advisory Committee also advised staff about how best to meet the growing parks and recreation needs in King County and the region. Representing King County Boards, cities, non-profit organizations, community and environmental interests, businesses, and sports, the Community Advisory Committee met nine times to provide guidance on developing the 2026 through 2031 levy.

~~21~~20. The King County executive took into consideration information obtained from this engagement, the region's growing population, increased use of parks and trails across King County, and the lack of parks, recreation, and open space in some communities, and has put forth this ~~proposal~~ ordinance that acknowledges the changing landscape and the need to grow the open space system to keep up with regional demand. This

~~proposal~~ordinance is also consistent with the goals and priorities of past
levy task forces.

~~2221~~. This proposal would exempt low-income ~~senior citizens~~seniors,
disabled veterans, and other people with disabilities from the regular
property tax increase on their residences resulting from a levy authorized
by this ordinance if they have been approved for an exemption under
RCW 84.36.381.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Definitions. The definitions in this section apply throughout this
ordinance unless the context clearly requires otherwise. For those definitions herein that
contain terms not defined but include a reference to the 2022 Open Space Plan adopted
by Ordinance 19501, or the provisions of the Growth Management Act, chapter 36.70A
RCW , then the definition or categorization found in the referenced document shall apply.

A. "Aquatic facilities grants program" means the program through which King
County provides moneys to publicly owned pools for: capital improvement projects,
including planning, feasibility studies, preconstruction and design, and construction; and
major maintenance repair or replacement projects.

~~_____B.~~ B. "Ballfield access and preservation grant program" means the program
through which King County provides moneys to eligible entities to increase public access
to ballfields.

~~_____C.~~ C. "Community partnerships and grants program" means the program through
which King County provides moneys to recreation-oriented groups, sports associations,
and community-based organizations to undertake any combination of developing,

operating, or maintaining a recreation facility or public park in unincorporated King County and King County towns and cities for public benefit.

~~ED~~. "Conservation" means protection of natural ~~and~~areas, as defined in the county's open space plan, natural resource lands, categorized in RCW 36.70A.170, from development through fee or easement acquisition, restoration of natural functions, and administration of incentives for landowners that voluntarily preserve open space.

~~DE~~. "Conservation futures tax program" means the program defined in K.C.C. chapter 26.12.

~~EF~~. "Educational and civic venues" means the Woodland Park Zoo, Seattle Aquarium, ~~Seattle Waterfront park, and~~ Memorial Stadium, and Pacific Science Center.

~~F.~~ G. "Get active/stay active grant program" means the program through which the King County council provides councilmanic grant awards for youth or amateur sport activities or facilities.

H. "Healthy community and parks grants program" means the program through which King County provides moneys to eligible entities in order to achieve equitable opportunities and access to parks and recreation for traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities, located in unincorporated King County and King County towns and cities.

~~GI~~. "Levy" means the levy of regular property taxes for the specific purposes and term provided in this ordinance and authorized by the electorate in accordance with state law.

244 ~~HJ.~~ "Levy proceeds" means the principal amount of moneys raised by the levy,
245 any interest earnings on the moneys, and the proceeds of any interim financing following
246 authorization of the levy.

247 ~~IK.~~ "Limit factor" means the most recent published King County office of
248 economic and financial analysis King County inflation plus population index, or the
249 limitation contained in chapter 84.55 RCW, whichever is greater.

250 ~~JL.~~ "Open space system" means the categories of King County's open space
251 system ~~that includes~~of parks, including recreation and multiuse sites, regional trails,
252 natural areas, and natural resource lands, ~~and~~. "Open space system" also includes
253 structures or buildings owned or otherwise under the jurisdiction of the parks and
254 recreation division of the department of natural resources.

255 ~~_____K.~~ M. "Open space" means any land defined as part of the open space system
256 or a parks district, town, or city parks system.

257 ~~_____N.~~ "Parks capital and open space grants program" means the program through
258 which King County provides moneys to metropolitan park districts, towns, or cities
259 located in King County to ~~achieve~~acquire open space and invest in capital improvement
260 projects and major maintenance repair; or replacement of parks or recreation
261 infrastructure.

262 ~~LO.~~ "Parks district" means the active metropolitan park districts under chapter
263 35.61 RCW and parks and recreation service areas under chapter 36.68 RCW in King
264 County.

265 ~~MP.~~ "Town or city parks system" means any building or other structure related to
266 parks or recreation; ~~operations and maintenance of~~ parks, trails, ~~and open space such as~~

267 natural areas, natural resource ~~or ecological~~ lands, and other parks or recreation property
268 owned or otherwise under the jurisdiction of a town or city within King County.

269 **SECTION 2. Levy submittal to voters.** To provide necessary moneys for the
270 purposes identified in section 4 of this ordinance, the King County council shall submit to
271 the qualified electors of the county a proposition authorizing a regular property tax levy
272 in excess of the levy limitation contained in chapter 84.55 RCW for six consecutive
273 years, with collection commencing in 2026, at a rate not to exceed \$0.~~2443~~2343 per one
274 thousand dollars of assessed value in the first year of the levy period. The dollar amount
275 of the levy in the first year shall be the base upon which the levy amounts in year two
276 through six shall be calculated. In accordance with RCW 84.55.050, this levy shall be a
277 regular property tax levy subject to the limit factor.

278 **SECTION 3. Deposit of levy proceeds.** The levy proceeds shall be deposited
279 into a dedicated subfund of the parks and recreation fund, or its successor.

280 **SECTION 4. Eligible expenditures.** If approved by the qualified electors of the
281 county, levy proceeds shall be used for the following purposes:

282 A. Costs incurred by the county that are attributable to the special election called
283 for in section 5 of this ordinance as well as future parks, recreation, trails, and open space
284 levy elections;

285 B. Distributions to educational and civic venues, limited to the following
286 facilities:

287 1. Up to forty ~~two~~ million dollars for distribution to the Woodland Park
288 Zoological Society which shall be used solely for: environmental education with an
289 emphasis on accessibility to traditionally underserved areas and communities, including

people with disabilities; horticulture and maintenance of buildings and grounds;
conservation of threatened species; and development of conservation and education
strategies to mitigate impacts to animals and habitats from climate change;

2. Up to ~~fifteen~~twelve million dollars for distribution to the Seattle Aquarium
which shall be used solely for: environmental education with an emphasis on
accessibility to traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with
disabilities; maintenance of buildings and grounds; conservation of threatened species;
and development of conservation and education strategies to mitigate impacts to animals
and habitats from climate change;

3. Up to ~~nine~~two million five-hundred thousand dollars for distribution to
~~Friends~~the city of ~~Waterfront Park~~Seattle, which shall be used solely for: ~~accessibility to~~
~~traditionally underserved areas and communities, including people with disabilities;~~
~~support capital costs for a clean and safe environment; free arts, culture, wellness, and~~
~~recreation programming to all visitors; and inclusive community partnerships; and~~the
Memorial Stadium project;

4. Up to ~~two~~six million ~~five-hundred thousand dollars~~ for distribution to the
~~Memorial Stadium project~~Pacific Science Center, which shall be used solely for capital
~~costs~~or operations and maintenance purposes relating to environmental and climate
stewardship and education;

C. Up to ~~thirty~~twenty-five million dollars to eligible entities for the parks capital
and open space grants program;

D. Up to sixty-eight million dollars for aquatic facilities, limited to the following:

1. Up to forty-six million dollars for the aquatic facilities grant program; and

313 2. Up to twenty-two million dollars for the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic
314 Center for major maintenance capital projects;

315 E. Up to ten million dollars for the Get Active/Stay Active grant program, to be
316 divided evenly among the nine council districts;

317 F. At least thirty million dollars for distribution to eligible entities for the healthy
318 communities and parks grant program;

319 G. Up to twelve million five-hundred thousand dollars for distribution to eligible
320 entities for the community partnerships and grants program;

321 H. Up to thirteen million five-hundred thousand dollars for distribution to eligible
322 entities for the ballfield access and preservation grant program;

323 I. ~~E.~~ The remainder of levy proceeds for the following purposes:

324 1. ~~Forty three~~forty percent of levy proceeds for maintenance and operations of
325 King County's open space system ~~and the healthy community and parks grants program,~~
326 ~~but no more than thirty million dollars may be used for the healthy community and parks~~
327 ~~grants program;~~

328 2. ~~fifty~~ ~~2. Forty-eight~~ percent of levy proceeds for:

329 a. Acquisition, conservation, and stewardship of additional open space ~~lands,~~
330 including urban greenspaces, natural areas, natural resource ~~or ecological~~ lands, and
331 rights of way for regional trails, ~~and urban green spaces;~~

332 b. Acquisition of rights of way for and development of regional and other
333 ~~public~~publicly owned trails; and

c. Capital improvement projects and major maintenance repair or replacement of open space system infrastructure, town and city parks system infrastructure, and recreation facilities owned or operated by a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization;

~~d. Community partnerships and grants program; and~~

~~e. Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center;~~

3. ~~Nine~~Ten percent of levy proceeds for distribution to towns, cities, and parks districts in King County for their town or city parks system operations and capital improvement projects, of which amount:

a. ~~One hundred~~Thirty thousand dollars shall be distributed annually to each town, ~~and~~ city, and to each of the following parks districts that predominantly serve unincorporated King County: ~~Fall City Metropolitan Park District;~~ Si View Metropolitan Park District; ~~and~~

b. An additional ninety thousand dollars shall be distributed annually to each town and city with a population over four thousand;

c. An additional twenty thousand dollars shall be distributed annually to each town and city containing one or more parcels defined as an opportunity areas under K.C.C 26.12.003.J.1.; and

~~d.~~ Of the remainder of levy proceeds, after the distributions made in accordance with subsection E.3.a., b., and c. of this section, sixty percent shall be distributed in proportion to each town or city's population and forty percent shall be distributed in proportion to the assessed value of parcels within each town or city; and

4. Of the levy proceeds ~~in subsections B., C., D., E.2.d., and E.3. of this section~~ distributed to entities other than King County, a portion shall be retained by the

county to be used for expenditures related to administration of the distribution of levy proceeds. Eligible administrative expenditures shall include all costs and charges to the parks and recreation division or the county associated with or attributable to the purposes listed in ~~subsections B., C., D., E.2.d., and E.3. of~~ this section as well as sections 6 and 7 of this ordinance.

SECTION 5. Call for special election. In accordance with RCW 29A.04.321, the King County council hereby calls for a special election to be held in conjunction with the primary election on August 5, 2025, to consider a proposition authorizing a regular property tax levy for the purposes described in this ordinance. The King County director of elections shall cause notice to be given of this ordinance in accordance with the state constitution and general law and to submit to the qualified electors of the county, at the said special county election, the proposition hereinafter set forth. The clerk of the council shall certify that proposition to the King County director of elections in substantially the following form, with such additions, deletions or modifications as may be required for the proposition listed below by the prosecuting attorney:

King County

Proposition No. 1

Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Levy

The King County council ~~passed~~adopted Ordinance _____ ~~concerning~~
~~replacement of an~~replacing the expiring parks levy. If approved, this
proposition ~~would fund~~supports county, city, park district, and town
parks; open space, and trails; recreation; public pools; and educational
and civic venues. It ~~would reauthorize~~authorizes an additional six-year

property tax beginning in 2026 at \$0.~~2443~~2343 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, ~~use~~uses the 2026 levy amount to compute annual increases in 2027-2031 by the King County inflation plus population index or ~~the~~ chapter 84.55 RCW limitation, whichever is greater, ~~exempting and~~ exempts qualifying seniors, veterans, and disabled persons ~~per~~under RCW 84.36.381. Should this proposition be:

Approved? _

Rejected? _

~~SECTION 6. Distributions. Each distribution of levy proceeds to a King County town or city, park district, the Woodland Park Zoological Society or its successor, the Seattle Aquarium or its successor, the Seattle Waterfront park, and Memorial Stadium project partners or their successor for the eligible purposes identified in section 4 of this ordinance shall be subject to the execution of a contract between the county and each entity for the same purposes. Distribution of levy proceeds shall be subject to the execution of a contract for: publicly owned pool capital improvement projects, major maintenance repair, replacement projects or aquatics programming; capital improvement projects and major maintenance repair or replacement projects to parks or recreation infrastructure in metropolitan park districts, towns or cities; and acquisition, conservation and stewardship of additional natural areas, resource or ecological lands, rights of way for regional trails and urban green spaces. General requirements for levy grant programs are included in Attachment A to this ordinance. Distribution of levy proceeds to King County for open space acquisition purposes shall be in accordance with the annual conservation futures tax process for the development, review and recommendation to the~~

~~King County council as set for in the open space and natural lands acquisition process, which is included in Attachment B to this ordinance.~~

SECTION 6. Distributions. Before distribution of levy proceeds to an entity other than King County, the receiving entity and the county shall have fully executed a contract setting forth the terms and conditions, including the applicable eligible purpose or purposes identified in section 4 of this ordinance, under which the entity is receiving a distribution of levy proceeds.

SECTION 7. Parks levy oversight board established.

A. If the proposition in section 5 of this ordinance is approved by the qualified electors of King County, a parks levy oversight board shall be appointed by the executive. The board shall consist of nine members. ~~Each~~By March 31, 2026, each councilmember shall nominate a candidate for the board who resides in the councilmember's district ~~no later than. If, by March 31, 2026. If,~~ the executive does not appoint ~~by May 31, 2026,~~ the person nominated by a councilmember, the executive must request that the councilmember should, by June 30, 2026, nominate another candidate for appointment. Members shall be confirmed by the council. Members may not be elected or appointed officials of any unit of government, except that individuals serving in a civic capacity on a local board or commission would be eligible to serve on the parks levy oversight board.

B. The board shall review the allocation of levy proceeds and progress on achieving the purposes of this proposition. On or before December 31, 2027, the board shall review and report to the King County executive, the King County council and the regional policy committee on the expenditure of levy proceeds for 2026. Thereafter, the

board shall review and report to the King County executive, the King County council and the regional policy committee annually. Each report shall include an accounting of levy spending by King County council district. Any report to the King County council under this section shall be ~~made in the form of a paper original and an electronic~~ copyelectronically filed with the clerk of the council, who ~~shall~~will retain ~~the original an~~ electronic copy and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers. ~~the council chief of staff, and the chief policy officer.~~ The board expires December 31, 2032.

SECTION 8. Exemption. The additional regular property taxes authorized by this ordinance shall be included in any real property tax exemption authorized by RCW 84.36.381.

SECTION 9. Ratification. Certification of the proposition by the clerk of the King County council to the director of elections in accordance with law before the election on August 5, 2025, and any other acts consistent with the authority and before the effective date of this ordinance are hereby ratified and confirmed.

SECTION 10. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or its application

~~eto~~ any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected~~-. "~~

Strike Attachment A, General Requirements for King County Parks Levy Grant Programs.

Strike Attachment B, Open Space, Natural Lands, and Urban Green Space Acquisition Guidelines.

EFFECT prepared by J. Tracy: Striking amendment S1 would:

- Reduce the levy rate by one cent, to 23.43 cents.
- Add up to \$10 million in councilmanic Get Active/Stay Active grant funding for youth or amateur sports facilities and activities.
- Add a new Ballfield Access and Preservation grant program, with up to \$20 million in funding.
- Add Pacific Science Center as an educational and civic venue, with up to \$6 million in funding for environmental and climate stewardship and education.
- Make Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center an off-the-top allocation of up to \$22 million, rather than an unspecified amount of the capital allocation.
- Make the Community Partnerships and Grants program and Healthy Communities and Parks grant programs off-the-top allocations, rather than subsets of the capital and operating allocations, respectively. Add that Community Partnerships and grants is up to \$12.5 million (amount unspecified in Executive proposed).
- Make the following changes to Executive-proposed off-the-top allocation amounts:

- Healthy Communities and Parks grants – *at least* \$30 million (Executive proposed *up to* \$30 million).
 - Parks Capital and Open Space grants – up to \$25 million (Executive proposed up to \$30 million)
 - Woodland Park Zoo – up to \$40 million (Executive proposed up to \$42 million)
 - Seattle Aquarium – up to \$12 million (Executive proposed up to \$15 million)
 - Seattle Waterfront Park – removed. Note that there is a proposal in the striking amendment to the Parks Levy Motion 2025-0077 to provide funding in the tribal, indigenous, and historic interpretive program for Seattle Waterfront Park.
- Clarify the recipient for Memorial Stadium funding.
- Balance percentage allocations based off of new levy rate and off-the-top allocation amounts.
- Specify that money in the capital allocation can also be used for town and city park system infrastructure, and for recreation facilities owned or operated by a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
- Change the formula by which city, town and park district funding amounts are calculated. Rather than a \$100k per year base for each jurisdiction, with the remainder of funding being distributed in a 60/40 split based on city/town population and assessed value, respectively, the striking amendment would use the following formula:

- 487 ○ \$30k annually to each city/town/park district;
- 488 ○ An additional \$90k annually to each city/town with a population of more
- 489 than 4,000;
- 490 ○ An additional \$20k annually to each city/town containing an opportunity
- 491 area as defined in K.C.C. 26.12.003.J.1. These are defined as areas that:
- 492 ▪ are located in a census tract in which the median household
- 493 income is in the lowest one-third for median household income for
- 494 census tracts in King County;
- 495 ▪ are located in a ZIP code in which hospitalization rates for asthma,
- 496 diabetes and heart disease are in the highest one-third for ZIP
- 497 codes in King County; and
- 498 ▪ are within the Urban Growth Boundary and do not have a publicly
- 499 owned and accessible park or open space within one-quarter mile
- 500 of a residence, or are outside the Urban Growth Boundary and do
- 501 not have a publicly owned and accessible park or open space
- 502 within two miles of a residence.
- 503 ○ Remaining funding would be distributed to cities and towns based on the
- 504 60/40 split described above.
- 505 • Remove Attachment A (Grant Program Requirements) and Attachment B
- 506 (Acquisition Guidelines). These are separately proposed to be added to PM 2025-
- 507 0077.
- 508 • State that the annual oversight committee report shall include information on
- 509 funding by Council district.

- 510 • Streamline and clarify definitions and terminology used.
- 511 • Make technical changes and clarifying changes to match Executive intent.