



**Signature Report**

**June 24, 2008**

**Motion 12799**

**Proposed No.** 2008-0207.1

**Sponsors** Phillips and Patterson

1                   A MOTION approving King County’s plans for supporting  
2                   the Puget Sound Partnership, which include a work  
3                   program; existing and potential expansion of water quality  
4                   monitoring programs and scientific studies; and county  
5                   organization for Puget Sound recovery.

6  
7                   WHEREAS, the Puget Sound Partnership, the new state agency established to  
8                   lead the recovery and protection of Puget Sound is still completing its formation and  
9                   development of the 2020 Action Agenda, and

10                  WHEREAS, King County has committed to establishing King County as a model  
11                  local government for aggressively addressing our impacts to the health and protection of  
12                  Puget Sound, and

13                  WHEREAS, King County is already a leader in environmental protection and will  
14                  work with the region to further improve our stewardship of Puget Sound, and

15                  WHEREAS, the King County department of natural resources and parks (DNRP)  
16                  and other county agencies administer numerous programs that support the Puget Sound  
17                  Partnership’s vision and goals, and

18           WHEREAS, many of these programs offer award-winning and innovative  
19 approaches to managing natural resources and public infrastructure, and

20           WHEREAS, DNRP proposes to coordinate and identify countywide priorities for  
21 Puget Sound actions and funding through these existing and successful collaborative  
22 programs, and

23           WHEREAS, King County communicates with and reaches out to the public about  
24 the protection of water quality in a variety of different ways and with a wide range of  
25 messages, and

26           WHEREAS, King County also participates in a number of venues that provide  
27 opportunities for communication and coordination among elected officials, jurisdictions,  
28 and other stakeholders in Puget Sound recovery, and

29           WHEREAS, examples of these venues include, but are not limited to, the  
30 county's leadership and participation in watershed forums and councils collaborating on  
31 salmon recovery; the county executive's leadership and involvement in the Ecosystem  
32 Coordination Board, an advisory council of the Puget Sound Partnership; and county  
33 scientists' participation in the Puget Sound Partnership science work, and

34           WHEREAS, King County and other local elected officials successfully  
35 collaborated and coordinated at the December 2007 watershed assembly, and

36           WHEREAS, King County seeks to build stronger coordination among existing  
37 King County operations rather than creating a new organization, division, or unit to fulfill  
38 its responsibilities in Puget Sound recovery, and

39           WHEREAS, King County has established an interdepartmental and  
40 interdisciplinary workgroup similar to the King County climate change implementation

41 team that has successfully begun the implementation of the County Climate Change Plan,  
42 and

43 WHEREAS, the Puget Sound Team includes staff from King County's DNRP  
44 (wastewater treatment division, water and land resources division, and director's office),  
45 department of transportation (roads services division), department of development and  
46 environmental services, Seattle-King County department of public health, King County  
47 council and the executive's office, and other departments and divisions as needed, and

48 WHEREAS, the individuals who will serve on the Puget Sound Team will have  
49 direct responsibilities related to the protection of Puget Sound that will enable them to  
50 lead and understand the complexity of actions and strategies needed to protect and  
51 recover Puget Sound, and

52 WHEREAS, the Puget Sound Team will provide expertise to the Puget Sound  
53 Partnership as it moves forward with the development of the Puget Sound-wide Action  
54 Agenda and with other jurisdictions and stakeholders to ensure the interests of the South  
55 Central Puget Sound Action Area are included, and

56 WHEREAS, the Puget Sound Team will work in collaboration with the Puget  
57 Sound Partnership to consider whether the policy and regulatory options and actions that  
58 promote protection and recovery of Puget Sound require changes for King County, and

59 WHEREAS, the Puget Sound Team will assess the King County organizational  
60 structure upon completion of the 2020 Action Agenda and may recommend changes to  
61 the current organizational structure to ensure King County aggressively implements its  
62 responsibilities under the Action Agenda,

63 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

64           The King County council adopts the work program recommendation from the  
65 executive and the department of natural resources and parks (DNRP) to support the Puget  
66 Sound Partnership that includes, but is not limited to:

67           A. Communicating and coordinating with the public, elected officials, local  
68 jurisdictions, tribes, and other stakeholders through existing and proposed venues  
69 regarding protection and recovery of Puget Sound. This includes collaborating with the  
70 Puget Sound Partnership and the state legislature to encourage the formation of a task  
71 force under the Ecosystem Coordination Board and the Science Panel to research both  
72 science and policy issues related to the establishment of marine reserve areas in Puget  
73 Sound.

74           B. Implementing existing and planned county programs in DNRP, Seattle-King  
75 County department of public health (DPH), King County department of development and  
76 environmental services (DDES), and the roads division of King County department of  
77 transportation (DOT) that address Puget Sound recovery. As the Puget Sound Action  
78 Agenda is developed and evolves, these programs may need to be revisited. The county's  
79 programs address the five immediate actions requested by the governor:

80           1. To identify and address areas with immediate septic problems, DPH expects  
81 to:

82           a. In coordination with Puget Sound Partnership efforts Sound-wide, develop  
83 a strategy for increased funding for DPH's monitoring and coordination related to onsite  
84 sewer system issues, including looking at reprioritization of existing funds;

85           b. Support alternative funding for septic repairs and provide options to  
86 landowners with limited land available for traditional systems.

87                   2. To protect Puget Sound habitat, county departments expect to take the  
88 following actions:

89                   a. DOT expects to identify opportunities for enhanced protection on roads  
90 services division projects;

91                   b. DNRP wastewater treatment division (WTD) expects to conduct a  
92 combined sewer overflow (CSO) treatment technology pilot study and submit a CSO plan  
93 to Washington state Department of Ecology;

94                   c. WTD expects to initiate the reclaimed water comprehensive plan;

95                   d. The King County climate team expects to continue efforts to understand  
96 and address climate change;

97                   f. DDES expects to continue to educate property owners and to implement  
98 the critical areas ordinance.

99                   3. To implement priority projects to restore damaged forests, rivers, shorelines,  
100 and marine waters, county departments expect to take the following actions:

101                   a. DOT roads services division expects to complete short span bridge  
102 replacements scheduled for 2008;

103                   b. WLRD, in coordination with the King County council, expects to support  
104 Puget Sound Partnership in seeking increased funding for Puget Sound habitat restoration  
105 projects.

106                   4. To accelerate control and cleanup of toxic pollution, county departments  
107 expect to take the following actions:

108           a. WLRD and the local hazardous waste management program (LHWMP)  
109 expect to support requests for federal Drug Enforcement Administration waiver to collect  
110 unused pharmaceuticals;

111           b. WTD expects to clean up contaminated sediments at Denny and  
112 Duwamish CSO sites;

113           c. WTD expects to develop a food web model for Central Puget Sound.

114           5. To significantly reduce polluted stormwater runoff, WLRD expects to:

115           a. Secure grant funding for STORM program and stormwater retrofit  
116 analysis pilot;

117           b. Develop a strategy for complying with the increased requirements of the  
118 municipal stormwater permits anticipated for 2009-2010;

119           c. Work with Puget Sound Partnership, Washington state Department of  
120 Ecology, and others to develop a major new effort to address critical local government  
121 stormwater retrofits.

122           SECTION 2. The King County council adopts the recommendation of the  
123 executive and DNRP to continue current water quality and quantity monitoring programs  
124 as funding allows and to collaborate with the Puget Sound Partnership, and local, state,  
125 and federal agencies, and other monitoring groups to help develop a strategy for funding  
126 and implementing a collaborative Puget Sound – wide monitoring program that meets  
127 both King County’s, and to the extent possible, the region’s regulatory and adaptive  
128 management needs and contributes to progress toward the recovery of Puget Sound.

129           SECTION 3. The King County council adopts the work plan recommendation as  
130 outlined herein and in the December 2007 report titled *King County’s Plans for*

**Motion 12799**

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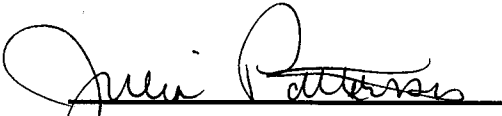
131 *Supporting the Puget Sound Partnership* (Attachment A) for the establishment of the  
132 Puget Sound Team, an interdepartmental and interdisciplinary workgroup of individuals  
133 with direct responsibilities related to the protection of Puget Sound to align and  
134 coordinate all of King County's work that affects the health and recovery of Puget Sound,  
135 including policy, operational, technical, and intergovernmental relations efforts, as well  
136 as communications and outreach as part of the Puget Sound Partnership's public  
137 awareness campaign.

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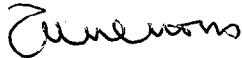
Motion 12799 was introduced on 4/7/2008 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 6/23/2008, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Ms. Patterson, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Constantine, Ms. Lambert, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Gossett, Mr. Phillips and Ms. Hague  
No: 0  
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Julia Patterson, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments**      None