



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

June 10, 2008

Motion 12791

Proposed No. 2008-0223.2

Sponsors Hague, Phillips and Lambert

1 A MOTION requesting the county executive to prepare
2 report formats on public transparency in county revenues,
3 expenditures and performance.

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5 WHEREAS, government exists to serve its citizens, and

6 WHEREAS, citizens have the right to understand how well their government
7 operates and if their tax dollars are being spent efficiently and effectively, and

8 WHEREAS, governments have the responsibility to provide that information in
9 an easily understandable and accessible way, and

10 WHEREAS, it is the intent of King County to make county revenue, expenditure
11 and performance information as open, transparent and publicly accessible as is feasible.
12 Increasing the ease of public access to county budget and actual data, particularly where
13 the data are currently available from disparate internal county governmental sources but
14 are difficult for the public to collect and efficiently aggregate, significantly contributes to
15 governmental accountability, public participation, agency efficiency and open
16 government, and

17 WHEREAS, the Advancing Government Accountability's Citizen-Centric
18 Government Reporting Initiative provides guidelines for government to report to their
19 citizens how well their government operates and if their tax dollars are being spent
20 efficiently and effectively, and

21 WHEREAS, the Government Finance Officers Association's Popular Annual
22 Financial Reporting Awards Program provides guidelines for government to report to its
23 citizens on its financial statements;

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

25 A. The county executive is requested to prepare the format for an annual "King
26 County scorecard" and to transmit the report format to the council for its review by
27 motion by July 1, 2008. The report should meet the following criteria:

- 28 1. No longer than four pages;
- 29 2. Visually appealing;
- 30 3. Includes priorities of King County government;
- 31 4. Understandable information is presented to citizens about the financial
32 condition and performance of county government that answers the question "Are we
33 better off today than we were last year?";
- 34 5. Educates the citizens on the programs and services provided by the county,
- 35 6. Available both in hard copy and on the Internet; and
- 36 7. Meets the Advancing Government Accountability's Citizen-Centric Report
37 guidelines.

38 B. The county executive is requested to prepare the format for an annual "state of
39 King County government report" and to transmit the report format to the council for its
40 review by motion by July 1, 2008. The report should meet the following criteria:

- 41 1. Visually appealing;
- 42 2. Understandable information is presented to citizens about the financial
43 condition and performance of county government;
- 44 3. Educates the citizens on the programs and services provided by the county
45 and their cost;
- 46 4. Available on the Internet;
- 47 5. Able to be reported on the prior year to the public by May 1, 2009, based on
48 adopted 2009 King County budget information; and
- 49 6. Includes priorities of King County government.

50 C. The county executive is requested to include the following data components in
51 the annual "state of King County government report":

- 52 1. Adopted budgeted and actual revenues for the county government as a whole
53 and for the general fund and by major revenue source;
- 54 2. Adopted budgeted and actual expenditures for the county government as a
55 whole and for the general fund, by program area, by elected agency, executive
56 department, division and appropriation unit; and
- 57 3. Community and performance measures for the county as a whole, by program
58 area, by elected agency, executive department and division.

59 D. In an effort to make King County's financial statements easily understandable
60 and accessible to the public, the executive is requested to participate in the Government

61 Finance Officers Association's Popular Annual Financial Reporting Awards Program
62 with the goal of achieving a certificate of achievement for excellence in financial
63 reporting program in 2009.

64 E. The report formats for the "King County scorecard" and the "state of King

65 County government report" shall be prepared jointly by the office of performance
66 management and the office of management and budget.

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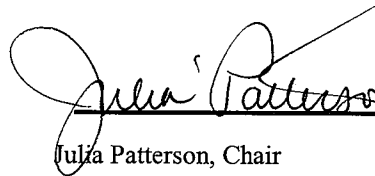
Motion 12791 was introduced on 4/21/2008 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 6/9/2008, by the following vote:

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