



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**December 7, 2010**

**Motion 13383**

**Proposed No. 2010-0574.1**

**Sponsors Phillips, Gossett and Drago**

1           A MOTION concerning the recommendations of the  
2           regional task force on King County's transit system.

3           WHEREAS, King County department of transportation transit division carried  
4           one hundred twelve million passengers in 2009 on the fastest-growing transit system in  
5           the United States of America, and

6           WHEREAS, the Puget Sound Regional Council-adopted Vision 2040 regional  
7           growth strategy projects King County's population to grow by forty-two percent and jobs  
8           to grow by fifty-seven percent over the next thirty years, and

9           WHEREAS, the Puget Sound Regional Council-adopted Transportation 2040  
10          plan anticipates growth in transit ridership greater than seventy four percent over current  
11          levels, and

12          WHEREAS, the great recession that began in 2008 creates a cumulative shortfall  
13          for the King County transit system of 1.176 billion dollars by 2015, requiring the  
14          equivalent of a twenty two percent reduction in county transit services, and

15          WHEREAS, the King County council is engaged in a multiyear process to create  
16          a more sustainable transit system, including conducting a comprehensive financial and  
17          performance audit of the transit division and its operations, which led to implementing  
18          operational and scheduling efficiencies; reducing no-essential services; increasing fares

19 to address a ninety-million-dollar shortfall in 2009 and a two-hundred-million-dollar  
20 shortfall in the 2010-2011 biennium, and

21 WHEREAS, even with the cost reductions and efficiencies of previous years, the  
22 King County transit division is anticipated to face annual deficits of at least sixty million  
23 for the 2012-2013 biennium, which are planned to be addressed through the reduction of  
24 six hundred thousand hours of transit service, and

25 WHEREAS, the King County council appointed a twenty-eight-member regional  
26 transit task force to recommend a new policy framework to help shape the policies  
27 associated with delivering service throughout the King County transit system, and

28 WHEREAS, the regional transit task force, following eight months of intensive  
29 work, has successfully fulfilled its charge and transmitted its final recommendation report  
30 to the King County council and executive;

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

32 A. The King County council accepts the King County Regional Transit Task  
33 Force Report and Recommendations that were forwarded with the unanimous consensus  
34 of the task force members in October 2010.;

35 B. The King County executive shall develop the transit comprehensive and  
36 strategic plans using the recommendations in the task force's report to guide the  
37 development of new and redevelopment of existing policies and transit service  
38 guidelines. As identified in the 2010 Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 16717, Section 131,  
39 Expenditure Restriction ER1, these plans shall be transmitted by February 28, 2010, for  
40 consideration by the regional transit committee and the King County council in advance  
41 of the 2012-2013 biennial budget process.

42 C. The development of the transit comprehensive and strategic plan should be  
43 supported by a collaborative interbranch effort. This effort should include:

44 1. An interbranch working group of staff representatives of the executive,  
45 council and transit division to coordinate and review the development of policies,  
46 guidelines and materials for the plans; and

47 2. An executive committee consisting of the executive and four  
48 councilmembers, without designees, appointed by the chair of the King County council in  
49 accordance with OR-1-020 of the council's Organizational Motion Compilation. The  
50 executive committee should provide guidance to the interbranch working group and serve  
51 as a sounding board for the development of policy and service guideline  
52 recommendations.

53 D. Through the next update of the King County State Legislative Agenda, the  
54 county should incorporate the regional task force on King County's transit system  
55 identified priority of a long-term sustainable transit system and begin building a coalition  
56 of partners to inform state legislative leaders about the breadth of the potential service  
57 reductions facing the transit system, the task force recommendations and the actions that  
58 the county is taking to address the anticipated revenue shortfall.

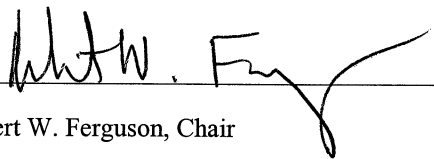
59 E. The regional task force on King County's transit system should be reconvened  
60 following adoption of updated transit comprehensive and strategic plan: to update the  
61 task force on emerging issues; to review how the county used the task force

62 recommendations; and to review the next steps for the county and its transit division in  
63 implementing the new vision and mission.  
64


Motion 13383 was introduced on 11/8/2010 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 12/6/2010, by the following vote:

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

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert W. Ferguson, Chair

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** None