



**Signature Report**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**July 26, 2018**

**Motion**

**Proposed No.** 2018-0266.1

**Sponsors** McDermott, von Reichbauer and  
Kohl-Welles

1           A MOTION proposing the allocation of future lodging tax  
2           collections to support arts, culture and heritage programs,  
3           workforce housing and youth services, and capital or  
4           operating programs that promote tourism.

5           WHEREAS, rapid population growth in King County will necessitate building  
6           affordable and market rate housing near improved public transportation options, and

7           WHEREAS, equally important are: the building of new gathering places, sites  
8           where our diverse histories can be interpreted and shared and public cultural spaces; and  
9           the preservation of historic structures that create community identity, encourage strong  
10          social connections and further opportunity for entertainment, education and interactions,  
11          and

12          WHEREAS, civic institutions, such as history and art museums, public galleries,  
13          community cultural organizations, performing art centers, sports venues and historic  
14          structures, play a central role in our economy, and benefit local businesses, residents and  
15          tourists, and

16          WHEREAS, arts, culture and heritage make this region an attractive place for new  
17          businesses that bring with them new jobs, as arts and heritage businesses add two billion  
18          dollars in business activity, eight hundred eighty-two million dollars in payroll and thirty-  
19          two thousand five hundred jobs to the central Puget Sound region, and

20 WHEREAS, the Washington State Major League Baseball Stadium Public  
21 Facilities District operates Safeco Field, which is a gathering place providing an array of  
22 public benefits and employs over two thousand full and part time employees, in addition  
23 to being a venue for the Seattle Mariners, and

24 WHEREAS, the Seattle Mariners attendance between 2012 and 2017 exceeded  
25 12,100,000, with many coming from out of state and supporting the local tourist industry,  
26 and over 45,000,000 people have attended baseball games since Safeco Field opened, and

27 WHEREAS, the attendance at Kent's accesso ShoWare Center exceeded 400,000  
28 in 2017, and the Center is home to sports and cultural events in south King County, and

29 WHEREAS, the county acknowledged with motion 14987 the Transit Oriented  
30 Development Bond Allocation Plan in 2016 with a goal of financing up to eighty-seven  
31 million dollars of housing projects, and

32 WHEREAS, as authorized by the state Legislature through RCW 67.28.180,  
33 beginning in 2021 thirty-seven and one-half percent of the lodging taxes generated every  
34 year in King County will be used to support art museums, cultural museums, heritage  
35 museums, the arts and the performing arts, and

36 WHEREAS, as authorized by the state Legislature through RCW 67.28.180,  
37 beginning in 2021 thirty-seven and one-half percent of the lodging taxes generated every  
38 year in King County will be used to support affordable workforce housing within one-  
39 half mile of a transit station and to provide services for homeless youth, and

40 WHEREAS, as authorized by the state Legislature through RCW 67.28.180,  
41 beginning in 2021 twenty-five percent of the lodging taxes generated every year in King  
42 County will be used to support tourism-related facilities, enabling the county to pay debt

43 service on the Building For Culture Program bonds beginning in 2021 and funding new  
44 programs to support tourism;

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

46 A. Beginning in 2021, King County intends to allocate lodging tax revenues for  
47 the following programs and to the following organizations:

48 1. Thirty-seven and one half percent shall be transferred to 4Culture to support  
49 art museums, cultural museums, heritage museums, the arts and the performing arts;

50 2. Thirty-seven and one half percent shall be allocated to the department of  
51 community and human services to support transit oriented development including  
52 projects that preserve or develop workforce housing and ongoing services or projects that  
53 support homeless youth;

54 3. twenty-five percent shall be allocated by the county for the following  
55 purposes that promote tourism and attract tourists to the county:

56 a. debt service paid for the original Building 4 Culture bonds;

57 b. a transfer of sixty percent of the remaining amount to the Washington State  
58 Major League Baseball Stadium Public Facilities District for twenty-three years for  
59 capital projects that will help to sustain the long-term viability of the facility; and

60 c. a transfer of three percent of the remaining amount to the Kent Special  
61 Events Center Public Facilities District from 2021 to 2029 to support capital maintenance  
62 of the accesso ShoWare Center facility.

63 B. The executive, in consultation with the council, will develop a countywide  
64 strategic arts, heritage, historic preservation, and culture plan for the allocation of the  
65 lodging tax revenues in section A.1. of this motion. The proposed strategic plan should

66 be forwarded to the council by December 31, 2019, in order to inform the budget process  
67 for the 2021 - 2022 budget.

68 C. The council, the executive and county visitor and tourism organizations will  
69 work in collaboration to set up a tourism promotion fund in order to encourage visitors in  
70 all parts of the county.

71 D. The executive is requested to develop and transmit legislation to support the  
72 identified planned allocations including appropriation requests, and any necessary

- 73 agreements with the Washington State Major League Baseball Stadium Public Facilities  
74 District, the Kent Special Events Center Public Facilities District or 4Culture.  
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KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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J. Joseph McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:

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Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

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Dow Constantine, County Executive

**Attachments:** None