



LARRY GOSSETT
Metropolitan King County Council
District Ten

June 17, 2003

TO: Members of BFM

FR: Councilmember Larry Gossett

J.G.

RE: Branch Villa

Please accept my apologies for being unable to attend this morning's BFM meeting. I have a dental appointment that could not be rescheduled.

I hope that all of you in attendance in today's BFM meeting will vote in support of Proposed Ordinance No. 2003-0281.1, the ordinance authorizing King County Executive Ron Sims to purchase the property known as the Branch Villa Health Care Center from HUD and sell the property to the Washington State Opportunities Industrialization Center (WOIC).

I am sponsoring this ordinance because this property is located in Council District 10, as well as due to the significance of this nursing home to King County's African American elderly community. For forty years, many Central Area families have viewed Branch Villa as the nursing home in which they could entrust the care of their senior family members. Situated in the historical heart of the African American community, it is a facility where their love ones could get culturally competent care close to families and friends.

Passing of this ordinance facilitates the passage of land, building and title of the Branch Villa to WOIC. I hope you will join Councilmember Larry Philips and me and vote "yes" on this ordinance.