



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

April 9, 2013

Ordinance 17556

Proposed No. 2013-0156.1

Sponsors Phillips, Dunn and Hague

1 AN ORDINANCE making supplemental appropriations of
2 \$583,000 to the limited general obligation bond redemption
3 fund and \$8,280,000 to the conservation futures fund for
4 the purpose of buying a conservation easement, and paying
5 related debt service costs, over the King County portion of
6 the White River Tree Farm; and amending the 2013 Budget
7 Ordinance, Ordinance 17476, Sections 130 and 136, as
8 amended, and Attachment H, as amended.

9 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

10 SECTION 1. Findings:

11 A. The White River Tree Farm is a privately-owned forestland located within
12 King and Pierce counties. The property totals just over 86,000 acres, with just over
13 43,000 acres of the property in King County. The property has been managed as a
14 working forest for nearly one hundred years. It is a substantial portion of a larger,
15 contiguous piece of undeveloped forestland, which includes Washington state
16 Department of Natural Resources lands, United States Forest Service lands and Plum
17 Creek Timber lands to the north, the Clearwater Wilderness to the south, and United
18 States Forest Service lands to the east and south, which stretch undeveloped all the way
19 to Mount Rainier National Park. The White River Tree Farm property forms the southern

20 border of the city of Tacoma watershed, which provides drinking water for the residents
21 of Tacoma and south King County.

22 B. The White River Tree Farm property plays an important part of the local and
23 regional timber resource industry and preserving it as a forest helps retain jobs and timber
24 resources important to the local and regional economy.

25 C. An easement preventing development at White River Tree Farm would
26 provide significant environmental benefits including carbon sequestration and habitat for
27 rainier elk, marbled murrelet, Chinook salmon, bull trout and northern spotted owls.

28 D. The White river runs through the middle of the property and preventing
29 development of the property has ecological benefits and would also provide additional
30 flood protection beyond those required by regulations.

31 E. Along with previous conservation easements secured at Snoqualmie forest,
32 Raging River forest, and Plum Creek forest, as well as other King County owned
33 forestland, and city, state and federally owned forest lands, conservation of the White
34 River Tree Farm would help to complete a "wall against sprawl," ensuring public
35 conservation of a nearly contiguous north-south wall of forestland in Eastern King
36 County.

37 F. Conservation of the White River Tree Farm would bring the total amount of
38 forestland conserved by King County to just over 200,000 acres, enabling King County to
39 meet its commitment to conserve 200,000 acres of forest landscape as part of the 2004
40 Cascade Foothills Initiative.

41 G. The White River Tree Farm provides an undeveloped and forested scenic
42 drive along State Highway 410 which the public uses on a regular basis to access Crystal

43 Mountain Ski resort in the winter, and to access Mount Rainier National Park in the
44 spring, summer and fall.

45 H. In November 2012, the King County council approved \$3,000,000 as initial
46 funding toward a White River Tree Farm conservation easement acquisition.

47 I. Permanent financing for the acquisition of the White River Tree Farm
48 conservation easement described in Attachment A to this ordinance will be provided
49 through the issuance of limited tax general obligation bonds backed by conservation
50 futures tax levy funds. These bonds are expected to be sold in the fall of 2013 or in 2014.
51 Interim financing will be supplied through an interfund loan, pursuant to terms approved
52 by the King County executive finance committee.

53 SECTION 2. Ordinance 17476, Section 130, as amended, is hereby amended by
54 adding thereto and inserting therein the following:

55 LIMITED G.O. BOND REDEMPTION \$583,000

56 SECTION 3. Ordinance 17476, Section 136, as amended, is hereby amended by
57 adding thereto and inserting therein the following:

58 BIENNIAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

59 PROGRAM - From the several capital improvement project funds there are hereby
60 appropriated and authorized to be disbursed the following amounts for the specific
61 projects identified in Attachment A to this ordinance.

62	Fund Fund Name	2013/2014
63	3151 CONSERVATION FUTURES	\$8,280,000
64	TOTAL	\$8,280,000

65 SECTION 4. Attachment A to this ordinance hereby amends Attachment H to
66 Ordinance 17476, as amended, by adding thereto and inserting therein the projects listed
67 in Attachment A to this ordinance.
68

Ordinance 17556 was introduced on 3/25/2013 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 4/8/2013, by the following vote:

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

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Gossett, Chair

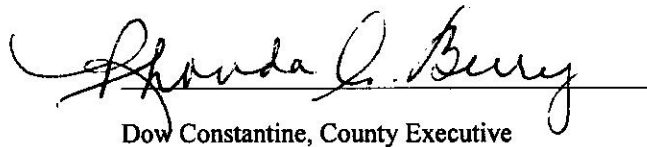
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CLERK
KING COUNTY COUNCIL

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 12th day of April, 2013.



Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: A. Biennial Capital Fund Budgets Dated March 18, 2013

