



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

October 14, 2013

Motion 13987

Proposed No. 2013-0450.2

**Sponsors Phillips, Lambert, Dembowski,
Gossett, McDermott, Hague, Patterson, Dunn
and von Reichbauer**

1 A MOTION expressing support for a special session of the
2 Washington state Legislature to address statewide, regional
3 and local transportation needs.

4 WHEREAS, the global recession has resulted in a steep decline in transportation
5 revenues, including local sales tax revenues for public transportation and local funds used
6 for road maintenance and improvements, and

7 WHEREAS, the transit division, which is also known as Metro, has reduced its
8 multiyear funding shortfall by implementing the regional transit task force
9 recommendations and through fare increases, reducing expenses, deferral of transit
10 service increases, negotiation of a one-year wage freeze for employees, implementation
11 of transit performance audit cost saving efficiencies, deletion of lower-performing bus
12 routes, spending down of reserves, implementation of the temporary congestion reduction
13 charge and other measures, and

14 WHEREAS, these gap-closing measures still leave a Metro transit system deficit
15 that can only be closed by reduction of up to seventeen percent of bus service hours, or
16 approximately six hundred thousand service hours, and

17 WHEREAS, a reduction of up to seventeen percent of bus services hours would
18 eliminate, reduce or revise at least seventy percent of all Metro transit routes and increase

19 personal automobile trips by more than twenty thousand trips per day, thereby increasing
20 congestion costs associated with traffic delays;

21 WHEREAS, the road services division is responsible for an unincorporated area
22 road network that supports more than one million trips per day serving urban and rural
23 trip purposes. For several of King County's rural arterials, more than half of the commute
24 trips originate in urban areas. The system consists of about one thousand five hundred
25 miles of county roads and one hundred eighty bridges, plus numerous sidewalks and
26 pathways, traffic signs and signals, drainage pipes and culverts and other critical
27 transportation infrastructure, and

28 WHEREAS, due to annexations as well as the global recession, the road services
29 division has lost more than one-third of its funding and as a result reduced costs,
30 eliminated hundreds of jobs and reduced road maintenance far below the level of effort
31 required to maintain the long-term integrity of the unincorporated area road network, and

32 WHEREAS, the road services division also expects to close thirty-five bridges
33 before they become unsafe, restrict access to seventy-two miles of failing roadways and
34 reduce storm service on snowy and icy roads by approximately two-thirds this winter,
35 among other consequences without funding to stabilize the declining road system, and

36 WHEREAS, King County cities also are beset by failing roads and bridges,
37 congested corridors and bottlenecked interchanges, which undermine the mobility of
38 vehicles, buses and freight-carriers to transport people and goods, and

39 WHEREAS, the Sound Cities Association, the King County executive and the
40 mayor of Seattle have collaborated to develop a local transportation funding approach
41 that would provide funding shared among transit and local mobility throughout the cities

42 and unincorporated areas of King County should local transportation funding tools be
43 established; and

44 WHEREAS, a countywide coalition of business, labor, education and advocacy
45 organizations have come together as Keep King County Moving to call out the critical
46 need for a robust statewide transportation package, including a local option revenue tool, to
47 address needed transit funding and roads maintenance needs in King County;

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

49 A. The governor of the state of Washington is urged to call a special session of
50 the state legislature in 2013 to address statewide, regional and local transportation needs;
51 and

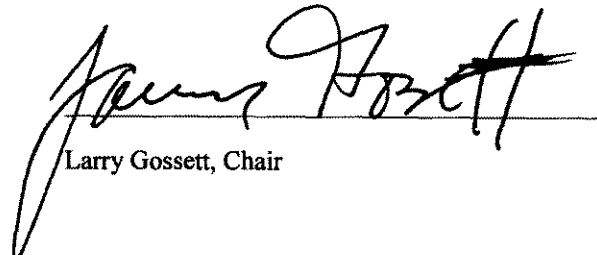
52 B. The members of the Washington state House of Representatives and Senate
53 are strongly encouraged to work together to enact a balanced statewide transportation
54 package, including new local transportation funding options, to address, at a minimum,

55 immediate transportation system construction, maintenance, operations and preservation
56 needs.
57

Motion 13987 was introduced on and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 10/14/2013, 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

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None