



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

### Ordinance 19958

**Proposed No.** 2025-0169.1

**Sponsors** Zahilay and Dembowski

1           AN ORDINANCE imposing an additional sales and use tax  
2           of one-tenth of one percent, as authorized in Section 201,  
3           Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025 for criminal justice  
4           purposes; providing for the use of the sales and use tax  
5           proceeds for eligible expenditures; and adding a new  
6           section to K.C.C. chapter 4A.500.

7           BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

8           **SECTION 1. Findings:**

9           A. An adequately funded public safety system is necessary to maintain safe and  
10          livable communities.

11          B. Under Washington state law, counties provide many regional and local  
12          services advancing community health and public safety through the criminal justice  
13          system.

14          C. The projected budget deficit within the county's current expense fund  
15          threatens the county's ability to provide these services.

16          D. The county's current expense fund currently anticipates reductions of up to  
17          one hundred and fifty million dollars in the 2026-2027 biennium, with further reductions  
18          in future biennial budgets, absent new revenues.

19          E. Through Section 201, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025, the  
20          Washington state legislature has allowed a qualified city or county to authorize, by

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21 resolution or ordinance, a new sales and use tax of one-tenth of a percent for criminal  
22 justice purposes.

23 F. Under Section 201, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025, the ordinance  
24 authorizing the sales and use tax must include a finding that the county has met the  
25 requirements to receive a grant from the Local Law Enforcement Grant Program created  
26 through Section 101, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025.

27 G. The county, through its law enforcement agency, the King County sheriff's  
28 office, meets the requirements to receive a grant from the Local Law Enforcement Grant  
29 Program created through Section 101, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025, having:

30 1. Issued and implemented policies and practices consistent with RCW  
31 43.17.425 and 10.93.160, and the office of the attorney general's keep Washington  
32 working act guide, model policies, and training recommendations for state and local law  
33 enforcement agencies;

34 2. Participated in commission training as required by RCW 43.101.455 and  
35 36.28A.445;

36 3. Issued and implemented policies and practices regarding use of force and de-  
37 escalation tactics consistent with RCW 10.120.030 and the office of the attorney general's  
38 model policies, and all other commission and attorney general model policies regarding  
39 use of force for law enforcement including, but not limited to, duty to intervene and  
40 training and use of canine teams;

41 4. Implemented use of force data collection and reporting consistent with  
42 chapters 10.118 and 10.120 RCW when the program is operational, as confirmed by a  
43 notice from the attorney general's office to all police chiefs and sheriffs;

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- 44           5. Issued and implemented policies and practices consistent with chapters 7.105  
45 and 9.41 RCW and the commission model policies and training addressing firearm  
46 relinquishment pursuant to court orders;
- 47           6. A twenty-five percent officer completion rate with the commission's forty-  
48 hour crisis intervention team training;
- 49           7. One hundred percent officer compliance rate for those officers required to  
50 complete trauma-informed, gender-based violence interviewing, investigation, response,  
51 and case review training developed or approved by the commission pursuant to RCW  
52 43.101.272 and 43.101.276, and if requested by the commission, participated in agency  
53 case reviews;
- 54           8. Received funding from a sales and use tax authorized pursuant to RCW  
55 82.14.340;
- 56           9. A sheriff who is certified by the criminal justice training commission, and  
57 who has not been convicted of a felony anywhere in the United States or under foreign  
58 law, or been convicted of a gross misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, dishonesty,  
59 fraud, or corruption; and
- 60           10. Issued and implemented policies and practices that prohibit volunteers who  
61 assist with agency work from enforcing criminal laws, other than for assistance with  
62 special event traffic and parking, including engaging in pursuits, detention, arrests, the  
63 use of force, or the use of deadly force, carrying or the use of firearms or other weapons,  
64 or the use of dogs to track people or animals other than for purposes of search and rescue;  
65 and that set forth the required supervision of volunteers, including that they must be

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clearly identifiable by the public as distinguishable from peace officers and any identifying insignia must be officially issued by the agency and used only when on duty.

H. The county, through its law enforcement agency, the King County sheriff's office, has provided the criminal justice training commission with a detailed staffing plan specifying:

1. The total number of commissioned officers currently employed by the agency;
2. The total number of specially commissioned officers currently employed by the agency;
3. The total number of co-response teams established within the county and what staffing are included in each co-response team;
4. The total number of administrative staff currently employed by the agency;
5. The number of officers on flexible work schedules;
6. The average 911 response rate of the county over the twelve-month period immediately preceding the month in which the county is submitting documentation to the criminal justice training commission; and
7. The average case closure rate of the county over the twelve-month period immediately preceding the month in which the county is submitting documentation to the criminal justice training commission.

NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 4A.500 a new section to read as follows:

A. To provide funding for criminal justice purposes as authorized by Section 201, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025, an additional one-tenth of one percent sales and

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89 use tax is hereby levied, fixed, and imposed on all taxable events within the county as  
90 defined in chapter 82.08, 82.12, or 82.14 RCW beginning on January 1, 2026, except as  
91 provided in subsection B. of this section. The tax shall be imposed upon and collected  
92 from those persons from whom sales tax or use tax is collected in accordance with  
93 chapter 82.08 or 82.12 RCW, and shall be collected at the rate of one-tenth of one percent  
94 of the selling price, in the case of a sales tax, or value of the article used, in the case of a  
95 use tax. The additional sales and use tax shall be in addition to all other existing sales and  
96 use taxes currently imposed by the county.

97 B. The tax imposed in subsection A of this section shall not apply to sales of  
98 lodging to the extent that the total sales tax rate imposed on such sales of lodging would  
99 exceed the greater of:

- 100 1. Twelve percent; or
- 101 2. The total sales tax rate that would have applied to the sale of lodging if the  
102 sale were made on December 1, 2000, to the extent required by RCW 82.14.410.

103 C. For the purposes of this section, the definitions in this subsection apply unless  
104 the context clearly requires otherwise:

105 1. "Criminal justice purposes" means activities that substantially assist the  
106 criminal justice system, which may include circumstances where ancillary benefit to the  
107 civil justice system and behavioral health system occurs, and which includes:

108 a. domestic violence services such as those provided by domestic violence  
109 programs, community advocates, and legal advocates, as defined by RCW 70.123.020;

110 b. staffing adequate public defenders to provide appropriate defense for  
111 individuals;

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112 c. diversion programs;  
 113 d. reentry work for inmates;  
 114 e. local government programs that have a reasonable relationship to reducing  
 115 the numbers of people interacting with the criminal justice system including, but not  
 116 limited to, reducing homelessness or improving behavioral health;  
 117 f. community placements for juvenile offenders; and  
 118 g. community outreach and assistance programs, alternative response  
 119 programs, and mental health crisis response including, but not limited to, the recovery  
 120 navigator program.

121 2. "Proceeds" means the principal amount of moneys raised by the sales and use  
 122 tax authorized by this section and any interest earnings on the principal.

123 D. The proceeds from the tax imposed in subsection A. of this section shall be  
 124 distributed to the King County current expense fund, and shall be used in a manner  
 125 consistent with Section 201, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington 2025 to support criminal  
 126 justice purposes.

127 E. To the extent required by Section 201, Chapter 350, Laws of Washington  
 128 2025, the county executive shall, within one calendar year of imposition of the tax and  
 129 annually thereafter, make a report to the Washington state association of counties on how  
 130 the moneys received have been expended.

131 **SECTION 3. Effective date.** This ordinance takes effect on October 1, 2025,  
 132 except section 2 of this ordinance, which takes effect on January 1, 2026.

133 **SECTION 4. Authority supplemental.** The authority granted in this ordinance  
 134 is supplemental to all other powers of the county, and nothing in this ordinance shall be

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135 construed as limiting or restricting any powers or authority conferred upon the county by  
136 law.

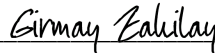
137 **SECTION 5. Severability.** If any provision of this ordinance or its application to  
138 any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the  
139 application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Ordinance 19958 was introduced on 6/10/2025 and passed by the Metropolitan King  
County Council on 7/22/2025, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Mosqueda, Perry, Quinn,  
von Reichbauer and Zahilay  
No: 1 - Dunn

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Signed by:



1AEA3C5077F8485...

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:



8DE1BB375AD3422...

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of 8/4/2025, \_\_\_\_.

Signed by:



AAA4841FD7644BE...

Shannon Braddock, County Executive

**Attachments:** None

## Certificate Of Completion

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Cherie Camp

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SEATTLE, WA 98104

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## Signer Events

### Signature

### Timestamp

Girmay Zahilay

girmay.zahilay@kingcounty.gov

Council Chair

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

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1AEA3C5077F8485...

Sent: 7/23/2025 10:13:36 AM

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ID: 4500f1b0-9ed0-47d5-a626-1dd7e1715372

Melani Hay

melani.hay@kingcounty.gov

Clerk of the Council

King County Council

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

DocuSigned by:

  
8DE1BB375AD3422...

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### Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

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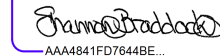
Shannon Braddock

Shannon.Braddock@kingcounty.gov

Deputy Executive

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

Signed by:

  
AAA4841FD7644BE...

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Using IP Address: 174.21.96.166

### Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

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### Timestamp

## Editor Delivery Events

### Status

### Timestamp

## Agent Delivery Events

### Status

### Timestamp

## Intermediary Delivery Events

### Status

### Timestamp



Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
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Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp
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Ames Kessler  
akessler@kingcounty.gov  
Executive Legislative Coordinator & Public Records  
Officer  
King County  
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Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
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Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
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Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
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Certified Delivered	Security Checked	8/4/2025 10:31:54 AM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	8/4/2025 10:32:16 AM
Completed	Security Checked	8/4/2025 10:32:16 AM

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Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure
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