



King County

KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

October 9, 2007

Ordinance 15920

Proposed No. 2007-0532.2

Sponsors Phillips

1 AN ORDINANCE ratifying and confirming in all respects
 2 Ordinance 15883 that was introduced on July 16, 2007, and
 3 adopted as amended by the metropolitan King County
 4 council on July 30, 2007; and declaring an emergency.

6 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

7 SECTION 1. Findings:

8 A. The Growth Management Act ("GMA"), Countywide Planning
 9 Policies ("CPPs") and King County Comprehensive Plan ("KCCP") require the
 10 delineation and protection of valuable and increasingly limited agricultural
 11 resource lands and supports regulations that serve to encourage the continuation
 12 of agriculture land uses.

13 B. King County has identified and designated a number of Agricultural
 14 Production Districts including the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production
 15 District.

16 C. The Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District, at fourteen
 17 thousand five hundred eighty-one acres, is the single, largest agricultural

18 production district in King County and historically has had a very productive
19 agricultural industry.

20 D. The Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District is regularly
21 inundated by flood waters and has experienced six of the eight largest flood
22 events on record in the last twenty-one years, with the likelihood of more-frequent
23 occurrences in the future.

24 E. These flood water levels are often increased by a number and variety
25 of factors, such as storm water from development on the uplands that drain into
26 the Snoqualmie valley.

27 F. The Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District is distinct from the
28 other designated agricultural production districts of King County in that a significant
29 majority of the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District is located within the
30 one-hundred-year floodplain.

31 G. The regular occurrence of flooding has greatly impacted agriculture within the
32 Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District due to the lack of elevated farm pads
33 that provide safe havens for farm animals and on which farm products, such as seeds,
34 flower bulbs, hay and similar products and farm equipment could be placed during a
35 flooding event.

36 H. In light of these facts, on July 30, 2007, the metropolitan King County
37 council adopted Ordinance 15883, on an emergency basis, to establish a
38 demonstration project, as authorized under K.C.C. chapter 21A.55, for the
39 emergency repair or reconfiguration of existing livestock flood sanctuaries or

40 converting existing livestock flood sanctuaries to farm flood pads within the
41 Snoqualmie Valley Agriculture Production District.

42 I. Ordinance 15883 was adopted as an interim official control under RCW
43 36.70A.390.

44 J. A question has arisen whether the process followed by the county in adopting
45 Ordinance 15883 was adequate to meet the requirements of RCW 36.70A.390. It is
46 therefore appropriate to adopt this ordinance ratifying and confirming Ordinance 15883
47 in order to address that concern and to clarify that Ordinance 15883 is valid and binding
48 in the county and that all work commenced under it, which complies with its
49 requirements and with all other applicable law, remains consistent with King County law.

50 K. Given the likelihood that future floods will increase in frequency and intensity
51 and in order to expedite the repair, reconstruction and expansion activities authorized by
52 Ordinance 15883 before the start of the next flood season, a waiver of state and county
53 public notice requirements is necessary and an emergency action by the council is
54 appropriate.

55 SECTION 2. Metropolitan King County council Ordinance 15883, establishing the
56 Livestock Flood Sanctuaries and Farm Flood Pads Demonstration Project, which
57 Ordinance is attached hereto as Attachment A to this ordinance and incorporated by
58 reference as if set out in full, is hereby ratified and confirmed in all respects.

59 SECTION 3. For the reasons set forth in section 1 of this ordinance, the county
60 council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency exists and that this ordinance is
61 necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, healthy or safety or for the
62 support of county government and its existing public institutions.

63 SECTION 4. This ordinance is adopted as an interim official control under RCW
64 36.70A.390 and expires February 1, 2008.

65

Ordinance 15920 was introduced on 10/8/2007 and passed as amended by the
Metropolitan King County Council on 10/8/2007, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Gossett, Ms. Patterson, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Dunn, Mr.
Ferguson, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Hague and Mr. Constantine

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Ms. Lambert

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments None