



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

September 17, 2007

Ordinance 15899

Proposed No. 2007-0279.2

Sponsors Lambert

1 AN ORDINANCE approving the District Court Facility
2 Master Plan.

3
4 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

- 5 1. The district court is the county's court of limited jurisdiction and is the
6 largest court of limited jurisdiction in the state.
- 7 2. The court has responsibility for traffic infractions, certain civil matters,
8 and misdemeanor criminal offenses in the county's unincorporated areas
9 and in cities that contract with the court. The court also has responsibility
10 for the adjudication of "state" offenses, which include those violations of
11 state statute that occur within the county or when the arresting agency is
12 the Washington State Patrol.
- 13 3. The requirements and structure of the district court are contained in
14 state statute, county code, and are also governed by court rules. State law
15 empowers the local county legislative authority with significant flexibility
16 in the development of the court's jurisdictional structure.

17 4. K.C.C. 4.04.200 establishes the processes for operational and facilities
18 master planning efforts that include current and future workload
19 assumptions.

20 5. Ordinance 8935, Section 3, now codified as K.C.C. 2.68.005 and
21 formerly K.C.C. 2.68.060, adopted in 1989, established a single, unified,
22 countywide district court.

23 6. Ordinance 11578, adopted in 1994, established the policy for the
24 regional provision of district court services through an operational master
25 plan pursuant to K.C.C. 4.04.200.

26 7. Ordinance 14430, adopted in 2002, gave the council's approval to the
27 Adult Justice Operational Master Plan, establishing county policies for the
28 use of secure detention capacity and emphasizing system and process
29 efficiencies for both the superior and district courts that would reduce the
30 utilization of jail and reduce overall criminal justice expenditures.

31 8. Ordinance 14797 required that the executive and district court develop
32 an updated and comprehensive operational master plan.

33 9. Ordinance 15195, adopted in 2005, gave the council's approval to an
34 updated district court operational master plan that reaffirmed for the long
35 term the county's aspiration to be the court of choice for court of limited
36 jurisdiction in the county, focusing its energy and resources on improving
37 operations and services, while balancing the needs of citizens, the court,
38 the county and the cities. The council finds that the district court should

39 develop and apply quality service standards and measures for its
40 operations. The council also found that the county shall:

41 A. Continue to support problem-solving courts, improving access
42 to problem-solving courts and incorporating problem-solving courts in the
43 district court's planning process;

44 B. Continue and make explicit the strategy of improving
45 efficiency through unification of governance, administration and planning,
46 centralizing workload where appropriate;

47 C. Continue to develop and implement technological
48 improvements to support the district court operations in order to increase
49 access to court services and information;

50 D. Continue to support the district court's function to serve cities
51 through contracts and support flexibility in providing services and
52 facilities for district court customers;

53 E. Continue to support a unified, countywide district court, using
54 existing facilities, to provide for a more equitable and cost effective
55 system of justice for the citizens of King County:

56 (1) Ensuring court facilities promote system efficiencies, quality
57 services and access to justice;

58 (2) Consolidating district court facilities that exist in the same
59 city;

60 (3) Reconsidering facilities if there are changes with contracting
61 cities or changes in leases; and

62 F. Work together with stakeholders to gain cooperation and
63 assistance to meet the needs of the judicial system at the state and local
64 levels.

65 10. Ordinance 15195 also directed the executive, in conjunction with the
66 district court and court stakeholders, to develop a facility master plan for
67 approval by council.

68 11. Ordinance 15529, implemented the district court redistricting
69 committee's amendment to the districting plan for the 2006 primary and
70 general elections and amended the district court plan to increase the
71 number of electoral divisions from three to five for those and subsequent
72 elections.

73 12. Ordinance 15380, adopted in 2006 authorized the county executive to
74 enter into interlocal agreements with existing contract cities relating to the
75 continued provision of local district court services. The county and the
76 cities in negotiating the agreement created a long-term arrangement that
77 allows the county to recover its costs, supports the directions outlined in
78 the operational master plan, provides structures for all parties to
79 communicate regularly and resolve issues and recognizes specific
80 circumstances under which either party as a last resort can terminate the
81 agreement.

82 13. In 2006, district court and the facilities management division
83 convened a work group to develop a facility master plan that identifies
84 facility related issues within the court system that need improvement over

85 the next six to ten years. The work group operated on a consensus-based
86 model for decision making to ensure the facility master plan reflected the
87 input of all participants.

88 14. Members of the work group met frequently with a wide-array of
89 stakeholders including council staff, superior court representatives and
90 cities that contract with King County for municipal court services. The
91 comments of the stakeholders were considered in the development of
92 facility options.

93 16. The work group deliberated and based the options and analysis of the
94 district court facilities master plan on the policy directive of the
95 operational master plan, adopted by council by Ordinance 15195.

96 17. The work group also took into consideration the other ongoing
97 operational and facility efforts within the county, and based options and
98 analysis on the understanding that those efforts could influence the final
99 outcome of the district court facility master plan. Other efforts include but
100 are not limited to the superior court operational and facility planning
101 effort, the sheriff's operational and facility planning efforts, the department
102 of adult and juvenile operational and facility planning efforts, the
103 Integrated District Court Facility Master Plan and others.

104 18. District court has been an active participant in the development of the
105 District Court Facility Master Plan document. Its content has been
106 reviewed by staff and stakeholders, and approved by the district court

107 executive committee. After presentation of the materials to the full judges
108 committee, it was approved by them as well.

109 19. As required in K.C.C 4.04.200, the King County executive has
110 approved the District Court Facilities Master Plan and has transmitted it to
111 council for its review and action.

112 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

113 SECTION 1. In accordance with K.C.C. 4.04.210, the District Court Facility
114 Master Plan, Attachment A to this ordinance, dated March 2007, is hereby approved.

115 SECTION 2. The executive shall report, by letter, to the county council on the
116 outcome of its negotiations for court facilities in the cities of Bellevue and Kent within
117 ninety days of the conclusion of the negotiations, and show how those decisions will be
118 integrated into the facilities plan for the district court. The letter shall be filed in the form
119 of eleven copies with the clerk of the council, who will retain the original and will

120 forward copies to each councilmember and to the lead staff of the law, justice and human
121 services committee, or its successor.

122

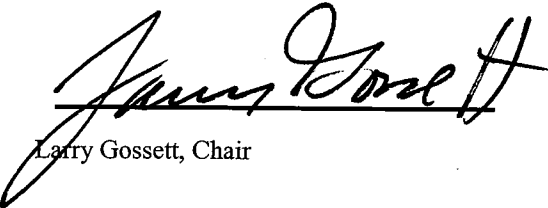
Ordinance 15899 was introduced on 4/30/2007 and passed by the Metropolitan King
County Council on 9/17/2007, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Gossett, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr.
Dunn, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Hague and Mr. Constantine

No: 0

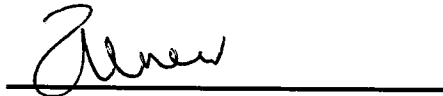
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



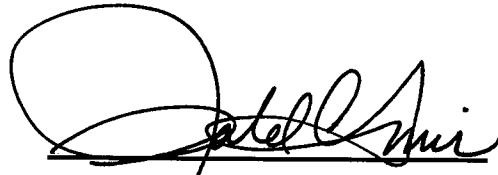
Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 25 day of SEPTEMBER, 2007.



Ron Sims, County Executive

Attachments A. King County District Court--Facility Master Plan--March 2007

RECEIVED
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15899
ATTACHMENT A.

King County District Court 2007-279

Facility Master Plan

March 2007



King County

Department of Executive Services

Facilities Management Division

Capital Planning and Development Section

500 4th Avenue, Room 320
Seattle, WA 98104

King County District Court

Facility Master Plan

March 2007

**Department of Executive Services
Facilities Management Division
Capital Planning and Development Section**
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Seattle, WA 98104

King County District Court

Facility Master Plan

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Executive Summary

A. Introduction

This Facilities Master Plan (FMP) identifies facility related issues within the King County District Court system that will need improvement over the next six to ten years. For the past year, representatives from King County District Court, the King County Executive Office, County Council, Contract Cities and other stakeholders have worked together to evaluate District Court facilities using the policy directives and recommendations provided in the King County District Court Operational Master Plan (OMP) which was approved by Council Ordinance in May 2005. Because the County's District Court is also a partner in a much larger criminal justice system, the FMP was developed within the context of other ongoing Operational and Facility Master Planning efforts in King County including the Superior Court Targeted Facility Master Plan, the Sheriff's Office Operational Master Plan, the Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention Regional Integrated Jail Plan, and the Regional Justice Center Site Master Plan. These planning efforts are expected to be complete within the next 24 to 36 months.

While these studies will generate initial recommendations, final space-related decisions will depend on how these efforts, including the District Court FMP, are integrated into an overall approach. Previously considered scenarios may change as decisions become finalized during the integration process. The work plan to accomplish this integration will be submitted to Metropolitan King County Council in early April 2007.

King County Code (KCC) 4.04.020 states that capital improvements required to implement an approved operational master plan should include the following elements where applicable: general space and construction standards; prototype floor plans and prototype facility designs for standard improvements; space requirements based on the adopted county space plan; initial and life-cycle cost of alternative facilities and locations including lease and lease/purchase approaches; approximate location of planned capital improvements; and general scope and estimated cost of infrastructure. The FMP addresses these requirements and evaluates long and short-term options that respond to the changing needs of the District Court, consistent with the Operational Master Plan and the new city contracts. Options considered as part of this evaluation included changes in operational practices, capital improvements in combination with operational practices, renovation/expansion of existing facilities, and construction of new facilities.

In developing the various options to meet the needs of District Court, some assumptions were made regarding the effect that other operational and facility master plans might have on the amount and location of available space. Before any option within this report can be implemented, additional steps will be required including detailed design development, refinement of costs, negotiations with contracting cities, cost-sharing discussions, and the securing of funds. Implementation of this FMP will take place in the context of King County's six-year capital improvement program which is updated annually.

An overarching goal of the FMP is to facilitate access to justice by appropriately locating and designing quality spaces for the District Court. Serving as the “people’s court”, District Courts provide an institutional representation of democracy in our local communities. The FMP considered how District Court facilities support the dispensation of justice as outlined by their mission and vision statements.

B. Standards and Guidelines

In determining which facility improvements might become capital projects over the next six to ten years, it was necessary to complete an evaluation of existing facilities and how they relate to the long range goals of the OMP. Numerous methods were used to gain a comprehensive picture of the facilities’ place in the system and their overall condition. Where one approach may not have covered all the issues, the combination of approaches did. Resources used for evaluating existing facilities, and any contemplated new work, included the County’s Space Standards which were adopted by Council in 2005, the Trial Court Facilities Guidelines developed by the Task Force on Court Facilities in 2002, and the National Center for State Courts, “The Courthouse: A Planning and Design Guide for Court Facilities, 1998”.

How these guidelines were used depended on the anticipated status of the facility as noted in the latest District Court electoral re-organization and as outlined in the OMP. Chapter One explores that concept in more detail. Obviously, existing facilities may not meet the more recent standards as established by the resources noted above. However, if expansion and/or renovation work were found to be appropriate and cost effective, the industry guidelines would be used to the extent possible. Any plan for new facilities would use the guidelines/standards more literally as they apply to the operational policies developed by the District Court. Chapter Two defines these standards in greater detail where documentation of the comparison data begins. Not all sites will require every type of space, particularly if it is not financially feasible. Choices are also inter-dependent as the selection of one option at one site may impact how other sites will be used in the future.

C. Other Work

In addition to the goals outlined in the FMP, there is other work being accomplished at the various Court facilities. The Facilities Management Division has developed a separate Major Maintenance Reserve plan that outlines work to be accomplished over time to keep the buildings in good operating order. That work will occur on a systematic basis even if no capital work is recommended. There is an ADA accessibility study underway which is identifying work to be done at all County facilities. Recommendations coming out of that report will be submitted as part of the yearly capital budget process and work will be done in a phased approach as funding allows. There are also several projects with funding from previous budget cycles that are currently underway. One will retrofit the judges’ benches so they are in conformance with ergonomic guidelines. Another will assess the potential for upgrading workstations in certain administrative areas to meet ergonomic standards and allow for the implementation of operational changes that would increase efficiency.

D. Process

The process for developing the FMP included an evaluation and documentation of the current District Court organizational structure as defined in the OMP; the development of standard facility program guidelines to evaluate existing buildings or to design new facilities; an assessment of existing sites and buildings based on the program guidelines; and an analysis of the various alternatives which would address the areas needing improvement as identified in the assessment process.

1. Organizational Structure

Chapter One spells out in greater detail, the District Court OMP directives, the Court's Mission and Vision, background on the Court's organizational structure, interlocal agreements with contracting cities, functions of the court at various locations, judicial assignments, and a summary of what would be required at each site to best serve the anticipated needs of the organization.

The District Court Facility Master Plan is based on the directives spelled out in the OMP. The directives that most impact the facilities planning aspect of this process include a) the unification and centralization of workload to improve efficiency where appropriate; b) flexibility in providing services and facilities for customers; c) supporting the Court's function to serve cities through contracts, and d) the consolidation of facilities that exist in the same city. The OMP recommended, and County Council agreed, that the two facilities in Kent should be consolidated at the RJC site.

2. Facility Program Guidelines

Chapter Two details the methodology used to evaluate the various sites, and the planning issues, security requirements, and space standards associated with each function. It also lists the square footage required for each space category at every site. Standards are defined for typical courtroom areas, including the Judge's Bench, Clerk's Station, Witness Stand, Jury Box, Attorney's Area, and Spectator's Area. Also included in Chapter Two is the description of the method used to determine the number of parking stalls required for each courtroom.

3. Site and Building Analysis

The FMP process included a detailed assessment of the existing District Court facilities which are located at the following sites: Seattle Courthouse, Yesler Building, and King County Correctional Facility in downtown Seattle, Regional Justice Center (RJC) in Kent, Kent Courthouse in Kent, Bellevue, Redmond, Shoreline, Issaquah, and Burien. Space issues were evaluated as they related to Court functions, the staff required to perform them, the type of cases heard, caseload volume, and the number of people the various case types and calendars would bring to the Courts during any given time frame. Also considered were issues of accessibility, safety and security, and parking as they related to caseload and the types of cases heard.

Chapter Three contains the results of the site and building analysis using the standards defined in Chapter Two. It shows a space summary for each site, floor plans, lists basic characteristics of the existing building, outlines operations at each Court, and discusses where improvements can be made. It also summarizes the results of a survey that was done where employees and users of each site

commented on issues not defined in the facility program guidelines. A chart showing the Major Maintenance Replacement tasks outlines what is planned to be completed over the next twenty years, and there is a code analysis of the major systems of each building. At the end of each facility analysis, areas needing improvement are described.

4. Facility Alternatives

Chapter Four includes a summary chart of the areas needing improvement for each site, and outlines the facility alternatives most likely to address these issues. After substantial review and analysis, four options are presented. Many approaches were considered as well as combinations with operational changes before arriving at the four presented. Each option provides a solution from a slightly different viewpoint. All assume additional space needs at the RJC site. As stated in Ordinance 15328, passed by County Council in February 2006,

It is the intent of the council that the space plan shall provide additional space needs for the district court at the Regional Justice Center in Kent through the conversion of vacated criminal investigation division space into courtrooms, jury rooms, and associated support space.

While the options presented for consolidating facilities in Kent meet the long-term space requirements of District Court, there is an immediate need for two additional Courtrooms in this electoral district. Two possible solutions for providing this interim courtroom space include 1) not renewing the lease with the City of Kent for use of the existing Aukeen Court so that all four courtrooms at this location can be used by District Court, or, 2) finding an alternate space to lease which can accommodate four courtrooms and their ancillary support space. District Court should not be moved from the Aukeen Court facility until an alternate space is completed that meets this interim need.

The Bellevue site is not included in the estimate ranges shown herein nor is it included in the Chapter Four estimates. The Interlocal Agreement between the county and the City of Bellevue outlines a separate process and time frame for the parties to reach agreement on meeting the facility needs in this community. With the adoption of the Interlocal Agreement at the end of 2006, the county is working with the City of Bellevue on the process to identify a solution to their court facility needs.

What direction is taken at remaining Court sites could yet be influenced by other County operational and facility master plans still in progress. In addition, any changes undertaken at the County's court facilities will need to be reviewed by the Court Facility Management Review Committees as provided for in the Interlocal Agreement for Provision of District Court Services between King County and the suburban cities. This mechanism provides a vehicle for contracting cities to negotiate with the County the type and cost impact of court improvements outside of projects included in the County's major maintenance plan.

The estimates for the various alternatives are shown as a range of cost because the improvements outlined are still conceptual in design. The estimates include a life cycle cost analysis and should be considered preliminary until greater detail can be developed during the implementation of the

selected alternative. Although the estimates presented are preliminary, as tools for comparative analysis, they represent a valid methodology for considering the options described within the FMP.

The following summary outlines the four alternatives being considered as possible solutions for addressing those areas identified as needing improvement at the various District Court locations. Individual elements included under one option may ultimately be combined with other options should that prove to best meet the needs of the District Court operation. Interim solutions may come into being as projects are finalized and other OMP/FMP policy decisions are made. Options will be considered in the context of King County's six-year capital improvement program which is updated annually. However, some improvements recommended within the options may be considered for more immediate implementation as part of the regular capital budget process. Greater detail on the pros and cons of each option is contained in Chapter Four, as is additional information on cost.

Option 1 – Complete minor capital improvements, implement operational changes where deemed reasonable and cost effective, and make building code and security improvements. This option includes security improvements such as holding cells, access control, surveillance cameras, and expanded weapons screening areas, as well as ADA accessibility improvements at Shoreline, Redmond, Burien, and Seattle Courts with minor revisions at Issaquah.

\$15,171,162 - \$27,233,373

Option 2 – No changes to current operational model. To meet space needs, expand Redmond, Burien, Shoreline and RJC; replace Bellevue; remodel Seattle to meet program needs; and consider using Issaquah for other County functions. Expansions would include holding cells, access control, surveillance cameras, expanded weapons screening areas, and ADA accessibility improvements as noted in Option 1.

\$19,340,000 - \$36,095,000

Option 3 – No changes to current operational model. To meet space needs, replace existing facilities at Redmond, Burien, and Bellevue; remodel Shoreline and Seattle; and consider using Issaquah for other County functions. Replacement and remodel work would also include the holding cells, access control, surveillance cameras, expanded weapons screening areas, and ADA accessibility improvements as noted in Option 1.

\$18,818,000 - \$35,285,000

Option 4 – Alter operations to hear State criminal caseload at the Seattle, RJC, and Issaquah facilities. To meet space needs, remodel Seattle to meet program needs; and make minor revisions to Shoreline, Burien, and Redmond facilities. Minor revisions include holding cells, access control, surveillance cameras, expanded weapons screening areas, and ADA accessibility improvements as noted in Option 1.

\$7,054,000 - \$13,183,000

In addition to the above options for Burien, Redmond, Shoreline, Issaquah and Seattle locations, the following alternatives are for the consolidation of facilities in the Kent area:

RJC Expansion with Parking Structure at the existing site

\$20,720,000 - \$38,850,000

RJC New Building on Adjacent Site with Surface Parking

\$14,000,000 - \$26,250,000

5. Preferred Option

District Court and the King County Executive realize that a number of factors exist that could impact how the facility needs of District Court are met in the coming years. Issues including those noted below could change how District Court is affected by circumstances currently considered problematic.

- Integration of other County criminal justice operation and facility planning efforts
- Fluctuations in District Court staffing levels or caseload including case type
- Legislative changes to state laws that may impact the Court's organization and jurisdiction
- Judicial rulings related to limited jurisdiction courts
- Cost-sharing agreements with contract cities
- Availability of funding through the King County budget process

Until these issues are resolved, the preferred option of District Court and the King County Executive is Option 4. It is the least expensive but it is also the option which has enough flexibility to accommodate changes that may occur in the County and with District Court. It combines operational changes and capital improvements. With the integration of the County's criminal justice planning efforts taking shape, this flexibility allows a process to be established to address District Court facility needs including an interim solution to provide additional courtrooms in the Southeast Electoral District which includes the City of Kent.

Acknowledgments and Participants

The FMP process included the work and cooperation of many individuals and organizations. The following is a partial list of those who contributed.

Co Conveners:

Kathy Brown, Director, King County Facilities Management Division
Tricia Crozier, Chief Administrative Officer, King County District Court

Work Group Members:

Chief Presiding Judge Barbara Linde
Assistant Presiding Judge Linda Thompson
Former Chief Presiding Judge Corinna Harn
Leslie Harper Miles, Executive's Office
Jim Burt, Facilities Management Division, Capital Planning & Development
Karen Heidergott, Facilities Management Division, Capital Planning & Development
Donna Brunner, King County District Court
Nina Lemenager, King County District Court
Darlene Allen, King County District Court
Toni Rezab, King County Office of Management and Budget
Bobbie Faucette, King County Office of Management and Budget
Jeremy Jepson, King County Office of Management and Budget

Stakeholders:

District Court Management Review Committee (DCMRC) Members
King County Superior Court

Chapter 1 Organizational Structure

A. District Court Mission and Vision

The King County District Court mission and vision, approved by King County ordinance, provides direction for determining how the OMP will be used in the facility assessment process and the ultimate development of recommendations contained in the FMP.

King County District Court Mission

- A. The King County District Court will serve the public by:
- Providing an accessible forum for the fair, efficient, and understandable resolution of civil and criminal cases; and
 - Maintaining an atmosphere of respect for the dignity of individuals.

King County District Court Vision

- A. The King County District Court will be the preferred forum in King County for the resolution of all cases of limited jurisdiction.
- B. To provide the highest quality of justice, the King County District Court will:
- (1) Protect the public safety by providing resources to hold convicted offenders accountable for their actions;
 - (2) Work as an independent branch of government with other units of government to achieve common goals;
 - (3) Make effective use of taxpayers' resources;
 - (4) Continuously ascertain and respond to the needs and expectations of all court users;
 - (5) Provide a uniform and predictable level of service;
 - (6) Provide efficient, convenient, and safe facilities;
 - (7) Seek out and use modern technology and equipment;
 - (8) Serve as the coordinator for all the services necessary for an effective judicial system;
 - (9) Maintain a diverse and professional workforce;
 - (10) Maintain sentencing options and sentence offenders appropriately;
 - (11) Educate the justice system community, legislative, and executive agencies, and public about the courts; and
 - (12) Respect the diversity of the community.

B. Operational Master Plan Recommendations

Based on the District Court's Mission and Vision, the 2005 Operational Master Plan made the following strategic recommendations intended to guide the District Court for the next five to ten years. These recommendations directed how the facilities' assessment was used and how priorities were determined for the Facility Master Plan.

1. Court of Choice

Retain for the long term, the aspiration to be the court of choice for limited jurisdiction in the County, focusing energy and resources on improving operations and services, balancing the needs of citizens, the Court, the County and the cities.

2. Quality Service Standards

Develop and apply quality service standards and measures for District Court operations, including but not limited to (a) access to justice; (b) case flow management; (c) customer service; (d) jury management; (e) court productivity and (f) collections.

3. Problem Solving Courts

Continue to support Problem Solving Courts, improving access to Problem Solving Courts, and incorporating Problem Solving Courts in the Court's planning process.

4. Unification and Centralization

Continue and make explicit the strategy of improving efficiency through unification of governance, administration and planning, centralizing workload where appropriate.

5. Technological Improvements

Continue to develop and implement technological improvements, such as "paperless" case processing and E-filings that support District Court operations and increase access to court services and information.

6. City Contracts

Continue to support the Court's function to serve cities through contracts.

7. Service and Facility Flexibility

Support flexibility in providing services and facilities for District Court customers.

8. Facilities

Continue to support a unified, Countywide District Court, utilizing existing facilities, to provide for a more equitable and cost effective system of justice for the citizens of King County.

- A. Ensure Court facilities promote system efficiencies, quality services and access to justice.
- B. Consolidate District Court facilities that exist in the same city.

- C. Reconsider facilities if there are changes with contracting cities or changes in leases.
- D. Work with cities to develop a facility master plan as it relates to the District Court.

9. Study Court Integration

Study the integration of District Court, Superior Court and the Department of Judicial Administration assuring that the needs of District Court are met; and best practices are considered.

10. Work with Stakeholders

Work together with stakeholders to gain state and local cooperation and assistance to meet the needs of the judicial system.

11. Additional Resources

Recognize that implementation of these strategic and operational recommendations may require reallocation or commitment of additional resources.

C. Background

The District Court of King County is a part of the judicial branch of King County government and is the largest court of limited jurisdiction in the State, providing District Court services to more than 1.8 million King County residents. Citizens are most likely to experience the judicial system through the District Courts. Matters before the court include small claims, civil matters involving matters up to \$50,000, traffic infractions, protection orders, misdemeanor criminal cases, state offenses (violations of state statute in the County or when the citing agency is the Washington State Patrol or other state law enforcement agency), and death inquests. The court processes more than a quarter million new filings per year in addition to an untold number of pending open cases from previous years. The District Court is funded by the County's general fund. They collect revenue for the general fund in the form of fees, costs, and assessments. Cities contract with King County for Court services through a full cost recovery interlocal agreement. In addition, King County receives funding from the State of Washington for a Trial Court Improvement Account which may be allocated for District Court improvements to the Court.

The District Court currently provides for public access at ten facilities located throughout King County:

- Bellevue
- Burien
- Issaquah
- Kent (Aukeen)
- King County Courthouse (Seattle)
- King County Correctional Facility (Seattle – jail calendars only)
- Redmond
- Regional Justice Center (Kent)
- Shoreline
- Vashon Island (1 day per month)
- Yesler Building (Seattle)

