



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**October 1, 2007**

**Ordinance 15913**

**Proposed No.** 2007-0467.1

**Sponsors** Patterson, Phillips, Hague and  
Lambert

1 AN ORDINANCE approving the Public Health

2 Operational Master Plan.

3

4 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

5 1. The county is responsible for providing regional public health services  
6 to the one million eight hundred thousand residents of King County, as  
7 well as the hundreds of thousands of workers and tourists who enter the  
8 county each day.

9 2. Examples of the wide range of public health services currently  
10 provided by the county include: ensuring food and water are safe for  
11 consumption; monitoring, preventing and controlling communicable  
12 diseases and environmental health threats; assessing the health of the  
13 public; providing vaccines and assuring the immunization of children and  
14 adults; assuring emergency preparedness and response; promoting healthy  
15 behaviors and preventing chronic diseases and injury; and assuring  
16 personal health care services to uninsured and underinsured individuals.

- 17           3. Regional public health services are supported by significant  
18           contributions from the county's general fund, state funds and a variety of  
19           federal sources.
- 20           4. Over the past decade, revenues supporting public health services, such  
21           as the motor vehicle excise tax, have been eliminated, reduced or limited,  
22           requiring reductions in public health programs and significant increases in  
23           the level of county general fund resources.
- 24           5. The significant increases in county general fund resources to support  
25           public health are not sustainable over the long term.
- 26           6. The cost of providing public health services is increasing.
- 27           7. The need for and scope of public health services provided is increasing  
28           as new mandates are instituted, new communicable disease and  
29           environmental health threats emerge, health disparities within the  
30           population of King County intensify, the number of medically underserved  
31           increases and the burden of preventable chronic disease grows.
- 32           8. In Ordinance 15083 adopting the 2005 King County budget, the  
33           council authorized funding for a Public Health Operational Master Plan  
34           ("PHOMP").
- 35           9. A PHOMP is intended to guide development of a sustainable  
36           operational and financing model for the provision of regional public health  
37           services.
- 38           10. The county through Motion 12122 approved the multi-year two-  
39           phased workplan for the PHOMP.

40 11. By Resolution the King County Board of Health approved the  
41 PHOMP workplan.

42 12. The PHOMP was a two-year planning effort conducted in two phases.  
43 Phase I established broad policies regarding public health services in King  
44 County and Phase II resulted in recommendations regarding operational  
45 implementation and funding.

46 13. The adopted workplan created a PHOMP Steering Committee  
47 including representatives from the department of public health, the board  
48 of health, the council and the office of the executive.

49 14. Phase I has been completed and the King County council and the  
50 King County board of health adopted by Motion 12475 and Resolution 07-  
51 02, respectively, A Policy Framework for the Health of the Public.

52 15. The King County council through Ordinance 15652 and amended by  
53 Ordinance 15873 required by proviso the office of management and  
54 budget and the public health department to submit to the council  
55 operational and financing recommendations developed through Phase II of  
56 the PHOMP and that such recommendations shall include a process for  
57 working collaboratively with the community on strengthening the safety  
58 net.

59 16. Phase II has been completed and includes an amended Policy  
60 Framework for the Health of the Public and Operational and Financing  
61 recommendations.

62 17. The operational and financing recommendations contain long term,  
63 short term and four year implementation strategies for the three functions  
64 of public health — which are protection, promotion and provision — and  
65 organizational attributes and financing.

66 18. In response to Ordinance 15873 the PHOMP steering committee  
67 convened an expert panel on the provision of health care in King County.

68 19. The expert panel met four times and developed recommendations on  
69 how the department of public health could work collaboratively with the  
70 community to strengthen the health care safety net and improve access to  
71 care.

72 20. Through the extensive work done thus far by the PHOMP and the  
73 expert panel, the executive, the King County council and the board of  
74 health have collectively come to realize that the proper role of the county  
75 in the direct provision of health services is intimately tied to development  
76 of a broader vision and plan for provision of health care to the uninsured  
77 in our county.

78 21. Work on the broader plan is proceeding.

79 22. In recognition that the development of the broader plan will take time,  
80 on May 4, the King County council and the executive announced that five  
81 million dollars will be reserved to guarantee funding for all ten of the  
82 public health centers through the end of 2008.

83 BE ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

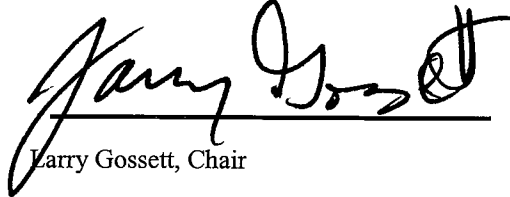
84            SECTION 1. The Public Health Operational Master Plan A Policy Framework  
85 for the Health of the Public – July 2007, and the Public Health Operational Master Plan  
86 Operational and Financing recommendations, the outcome of Phase I and Phase II of the  
87 public health operational master plan, Attachment A to this ordinance, is hereby  
88 approved.

89

Ordinance 15913 was introduced on 9/17/2007 and passed by the Metropolitan King  
County Council on 10/1/2007, 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

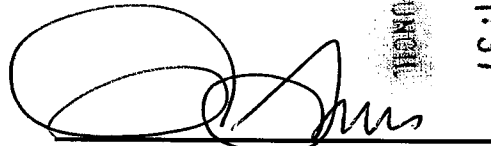
  
Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 12 day of OCTOBER, 2007.



Ron Sims, County Executive

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KING COUNTY COUNCIL

**Attachments**      A. King County Public Health Operational Master Plan dated August 2007