



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance 19074

Proposed No. 2020-0157.1

Sponsors Balducci and McDermott

1 AN ORDINANCE amending the King County council
2 rules meetings in response to an emergency declaration
3 issued by the King County executive; amending K.C.C.
4 1.24.035; and declaring an emergency.

5 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

6 SECTION 1. Findings:

7 A. On February 29, 2020, public health - Seattle & King County confirmed the
8 first cases of the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19"), including one death, in the county.

9 B. COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death
10 and can easily spread from person to person.

11 C. On March 1, 2020, King County executive Dow Constantine signed a
12 proclamation of emergency in response to COVID-19, enabling "extraordinary measures"
13 to fight the outbreak.

14 D. On March 16, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee ordered the statewide closure of food
15 establishments to sit in serve and the prohibition of gatherings of more than fifty people.

16 E. Dr. Jeff Duchin, health officer for public health - Seattle & King County
17 issued a parallel local Health Officer Order in King County stating "These orders are
18 essential to protect our whole community from an unprecedented outbreak, especially the
19 most vulnerable people and our health care system."

20 F. Foremost among the directives in the local Health Officer Order are the
21 imposition of social distancing and the discouragement of the congregation of persons.

22 G. To that end, and in the interests of focusing all immediate efforts on COVID-19
23 response and recovery, King County council has temporarily suspended both standing and
24 regional committee and judiciously scheduling full council meetings to address time
25 sensitive matters and issues related to the COVID-19 response and recovery efforts.

26 H. As the duration and impact of the emergency cannot be foreseen, the council
27 desires to make formally provisions for how to effectively proceed with doing the people's
28 business, especially focusing on the need to address COVID-19 response and recovery
29 issues in King County.

30 SECTION 2. Ordinance 11683, Section 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.035 are
31 hereby amended to read as follows:

32 A.1.a. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, ((F))the time of regular
33 meetings of the council is 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday of each week. However, the regular
34 meetings of the council shall not take place(~~((: from March 30, 2020, through April 11,~~
35 ~~2020;))~~) from August 1, 2020, through August 14, 2020; and from December 16, 2020,
36 through January 3, 2021. Until either the executive terminates the March 1, 2020,
37 proclamation of emergency in response to COVID-19 or this subsection is amended, the
38 regular meeting time of the council is 1:00 p.m. on every-other Tuesday, starting with the
39 regular council meeting on April 14, 2020. All regular or special meetings of council
40 committees shall be regular or special council meetings, in accordance with subsection F.
41 of this rule.

42 b. Each fifth Wednesday of each month from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. shall be

43 reserved for special regional committee meetings as needed. Each first and third
44 Wednesday from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. is reserved for meetings of the flood control
45 district executive committee. Each Monday at 9:30 a.m. is reserved for special meetings of
46 standing committees. Each fifth Monday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. is
47 reserved for special regional and standing committee meetings. If a special meeting for
48 more than one committee is called for the same time and location, the meeting for which
49 the council clerk first receives written notice shall take precedence for use of the meeting
50 location. In order to allow each member sufficient time to review legislation and to meet
51 with constituents, staff and officials of other jurisdictions, no special committee meeting
52 may be called for any other time than the days and times specified in this subsection for the
53 respective committees without the prior written consent of the council chair or the consent
54 of a majority of the members of the committee. This subsection A.1.b. does not apply to
55 special meetings of the budget and fiscal management committee for purposes of
56 considering the county executive's biennial budget proposal, which shall be called by the
57 chair of the budget and fiscal management committee.

58 2.a. All regular meetings of the King County council and the council's
59 committees, except for the committee of the whole work sessions, shall be held in the
60 council chambers on the tenth floor of the King County Courthouse in Seattle, Washington.
61 All regular meetings of the committee of the whole work sessions shall be held in the
62 southwest conference room on the twelfth floor of the King County Courthouse in Seattle,
63 Washington.

64 b. Whenever, due to an emergency, as defined in K.C.C. 12.52.010, it is
65 imprudent, inexpedient or impossible to conduct the affairs of the council at the regular or

66 usual place or places, the council may meet at any place within or without the territorial
67 limits of the county on the call of the chair or any two members of the council. After an
68 emergency relocation, the affairs of the council shall be lawfully conducted at the
69 emergency location for the duration of the emergency.

70 B.1. Except as provided in subsection B.2. and 3. of this rule, the times for regular
71 and special committee meetings are as follows:

72 a. Budget and fiscal management committee: the second and fourth
73 Wednesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

74 b. Committee of the whole, except for work sessions, which are the second and
75 fourth Mondays of each month at 12:30 p.m.: the second and fourth Mondays of each
76 month at 1:30 p.m.;

77 c. Community, health and housing services committee: the first and third
78 Wednesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

79 d. Employment and administration committee: the third Tuesday of each month
80 at 1:30 p.m.;

81 e. Government accountability and oversight committee: the first and third
82 Tuesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

83 f. Law and justice committee: the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at
84 9:30 a.m.;

85 g. Local services committee: the first and third Mondays of each month at 1:30
86 p.m.;

87 h. Mobility and environment committee: the second and fourth Wednesdays of
88 each month at 1:00 p.m.;

89 i. Regional policy committee: the second Wednesday of each month at 3:00
90 p.m.;

91 j. Regional transit committee: the third Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m.;;
92 and

93 k. Regional water quality committee: the first Wednesday of each month at 3:00
94 p.m.;

95 2. The regular meetings of the committees shall not take place during the times
96 when the council meeting does not take place, as prescribed in subsection A. of this rule.

97 3. Until either the executive terminates the March 1, 2020, proclamation of
98 emergency in response to COVID-19 or this subsection is amended, the regular meeting
99 time of the committee of the whole is 1:00 p.m. on every-other Tuesday, starting with the
100 regular committee meeting on April 7, 2020. In addition, a regular meeting of the
101 committee of the whole shall occur on March 31, 2020.

102 C. Council and committee meetings must be held in accordance with the Open
103 Public Meetings Act of 1971, chapter 42.30 RCW.

104 D. A meeting may be continued, in accordance with chapter 42.30 RCW, to
105 another date and does not conclude until adjourned in accordance with these rules.

106 E.1. An executive session may be held during a council or committee meeting if
107 one of the specific grounds under chapter 42.30 RCW for an executive session exists.

108 2. Before convening in executive session, the chair of the council or committee
109 shall publicly announce the purpose for excluding the public from the meeting place and
110 the time when the executive session will be concluded. The executive session may be
111 extended to a stated later time by announcement of the chair.

112 3. Only members of the council or committee, special invitees and those
113 employees or staff members the council or committee determines to be necessary are
114 allowed to remain in the room. Persons attending an executive session shall maintain the
115 confidentiality of the proceedings.

116 F.1. A legal analysis of the Open Public Meetings Act by the office of the Attorney
117 General, 2010 AGO No. 9, has advised that when a committee meeting is attended by a
118 quorum of the governing body it must be noticed not only as a committee meeting but also
119 as a meeting of the governing body. For this reason, all meetings, including work sessions,
120 of council committees shall be noticed both as committee meetings and as council meetings
121 whose agenda is limited to the committee business.

122 2. In all committee meetings, which are council meetings in accordance with
123 subsection F.1. of this rule, only the rules and procedures applicable to committees apply,
124 and not those rules and procedures applicable to full council meetings. This includes, but is
125 not limited to:

126 a. only those members who serve on the committee have the right to exercise
127 parliamentary rights in the meeting, including, but not limited to, raising points of order,
128 making motions and voting;

129 b. attendance shall be recorded only for members serving on the committee, and
130 the quorum for the meeting shall be the committee quorum; and

131 c. committee meetings shall be chaired by the committee chair.

132 SECTION 3. The council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency exists
133 and that the enactment of this ordinance as an emergency ordinance is necessary for the

134 immediate preservation of public peace, health or safety or for the support of county
135 government and its existing public institutions.
136

Ordinance 19074 was introduced on 3/24/2020 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 3/24/2020, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Upthegrove, Ms. Kohl-Welles, Ms. Balducci and Mr. Zahilay



KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Claudia Balducci", is written over a horizontal line. Below the signature, the name "Claudia Balducci, Chair" is printed in a standard black font.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melani Pedroza", is written over a horizontal line. Below the signature, the name "Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council" is printed in a standard black font.

Attachments: None