



King County
Metropolitan King County Council
Committee of the Whole

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No.: 4	Date: 11 Jan 2010
Briefing No.: 2010-B0001	Prepared by: Chuck Williams

SUBJECT

This is a briefing on Proposed Motion 2010-0037, which would establish the King County, Washington 2010 (FY 2011) Federal Agenda Appropriations Requests and King County, Washington 2010 (FY 2011) Federal Agenda Legislative Interests.

The proposed motion has not yet been referred to committee; hence, no action will be taken in committee. At the Council meeting immediately following the committee meeting, however, the Council is expected to take action on the proposed motion without referral to committee.

SUMMARY

Each year King County develops Federal Legislative Agenda Appropriations Requests to direct the efforts of the consultant representing King County on federal issues (The Ferguson Group). The proposed Federal Legislative Agenda Appropriations Requests and Statement of Legislative Interests are developed by the Executive, Executive Staff and Executive Departments working with the Government Relations Staff and The Ferguson Group. This proposal is reviewed by the Executive before transmission to the Council. Proposed Motion 2010-0037 is Attachment (1) to this staff report; the King County, Washington 2010 (FY 2011) Federal Agenda Appropriations Requests is Attachment (2); the King County, Washington 2010 (FY 2011) Federal Agenda of Legislative Interests is Attachment (3); and the Transmittal Letter is Attachment (4).

ATTENDING

1. Chuck Williams, Director of Government Relations, Council Staff
2. Genesee Adkins, Executive Constantine’s State and Federal Relations Manager

ATTACHMENTS

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KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

January 7, 2010

Motion

Proposed No. 2010-0037.1

Sponsors Ferguson

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A MOTION establishing the 2010 (FY 2011) Federal
Agenda for King County.

WHEREAS, the metropolitan King County council and the King County
executive have worked together to develop a federal agenda and desire to bring their
positions on issues to the attention of the United States Congress, and

WHEREAS, King County desires to work cooperatively with other local
governments and other organizations to achieve its 2010 (FY 2011) federal legislative
goals, and

WHEREAS, King County is dependent on a strong fiscal partnership with the
federal government for transportation, public health, homeland security, salmon recovery,
flood control, affordable housing and other important needs, and

WHEREAS, the King County council and the King County executive will
continue to review congressional developments for possible revisions of King County's
2010 (FY 2011) federal legislative program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

The King County council hereby adopts the attached 2010 (FY 2011) Federal

- 18 Agenda for King County as King County's highest priorities for federal action in the 2010
- 19 (FY 2011) congressional appropriations cycle.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Robert W. Ferguson, Chair

ATTEST:

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, ____.

Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: A. 2010 (FY 2011) Federal Agenda - Appropriations Requests, B. 2010 (FY2011) Federal Agenda - Legislative Interests



KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON
2010 (FY 2011) FEDERAL AGENDA
Appropriations Requests

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	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST
1.	Howard Hanson Dam	<p>Secure \$1.75 million in the Homeland Security Appropriations bill, FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation account for full deployment of unmanned aircraft systems for early warning, monitoring, search and rescue and resource logistics coordination.</p> <p>Support immediate full funding, currently estimated at \$530 million, in FY 2011 for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a permanent and complete repair of the Howard Hanson Dam. The full amount is needed in FY2011 in order to execute appropriate contracts.</p> <p>Support emergency appropriations within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other agencies to assist Green River flood control efforts associated with the reduced operating capacity of Howard Hanson Dam.</p> <p>Support for federal funding to assist in protection and continued operation of critical wastewater infrastructure in response to Green River flooding concerns associated with the Howard Hanson Dam.</p>
2.	Transportation	<p>Secure the following in the Transportation/HUD Appropriations Bill:</p> <p>Small Starts Account:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. \$2 million for the Aurora RapidRide Project (Design Only) <p>Very Small Starts Account:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. \$ Ballard-Uptown RapidRide Project 2. \$ West Seattle RapidRide Project <p>Bus and Bus Facilities Account:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. \$5 million for Electric Bus and Rapid Charging System 2. \$1 million for the On Board Closed-Circuit Television Project <p>Surface Transportation Account:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. \$5.0 million for the South Park Bridge Replacement Project; 2. \$2 million for the Berrydale Overcrossing; <p>Sustainable Communities Program Account:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. \$5 million for Sustainable Communities Initiative
3.	King County	Secure the following in the Transportation/HUD Appropriations bill in the



KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON
2010 (FY 2011) FEDERAL AGENDA
Appropriations Requests

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	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST
	International Airport (KCIA)	Airport Improvement Project Account: 1. \$ King County International Airport (KCIA) Taxiway Alpha Rehabilitation Project
4.	Salmon Recovery	Secure \$12.3 million in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill, under the Army Corps of Engineers Construction account for the Duwamish/Green Ecosystem Restoration. Support the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's request for a \$5 million new start for the Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration under the Army Corps of Engineers Construction account. Support \$90 million in Department of Commerce Appropriations for the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Program, which is critical to habitat recovery projects in King County.
5.	Homeland Security/ Emergency Management	Secure \$5 million in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bill, FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation account for floodplain buyouts and home elevations to reduce flood risks for the residential area of North Bend and Snoqualmie.
6.	Reclaimed Water	Secure \$1.5 million in the Interior and Environment Appropriations bill in the EPA's State and Tribal Assistance Grant (STAG) program for construction of reclaimed water distribution facilities for agricultural irrigation in the Sammamish Valley.
7.	Public Safety	Secure the following in the Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations bill: 1. \$500,000 for the School Resource Officers Project 2. \$500,000 for the Gang Intervention Initiative Project 3. \$500,000 for the Community E-Policing Technology Project.
8.	Health Care Reform	Secure \$350,000 in the Department of Health and Human Service Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services account for the Puget Sound Health Alliance for continued development as a Charter Value Exchange through the funding of a health information database to measure and share quality of care information across employers and health plans in the Puget Sound region.

	<p>KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON 2010 (FY 2011) FEDERAL AGENDA Appropriations Requests DRAFT***DRAFT***DRAFT***DRAFT***DRAFT***</p>
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	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST
9.	Housing and Community Development	Secure \$1 million in the Housing and Urban Development Economic Development Initiative (EDI) account for the relocation of Alpine Manor Mobile Home Park tenants in the Snoqualmie River Basin. <i>The park is proposed for acquisition and demolition in 2010-2011.</i>
10.	Superior Court	Secure \$2 million in the Commerce, Science, Justice Appropriations bill in the COPS Technology Account for the development and implementation of the King County Superior Court Criminal Tracking System.
11.	Flood Control	Secure \$20 million in the Energy and Water Appropriation bill under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program for the Horseshoe Bend 205 Levee Rehabilitation Project. Secure enhanced federal appropriations for the U. S Army Corps of Engineers PL84-99 Rehabilitation and Inspection Program for the repair and rehabilitation of the Green River Levee System and other flood protection infrastructure resulting from the reduced operations at Howard Hanson Dam.

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**KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON
2010 (FY 2011) FEDERAL AGENDA
Legislative Interests**

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1.	Transportation	<p>Support legislation that would supplement the definition of “Bridge” as used in section 650.403 of the Code of Federal Regulations to include short span structures whose replacement would be more than 20 feet long. This would allow short-spans to qualify for the federal bridge replacement and rehabilitation program.</p> <p>Support the reauthorization of the Airport Improvement Program. (Since its authorization first expired during the 110th Congress, the Federal Aviation Administration has been operating under a series of short-term extensions, the 7th of which will expire on December 31, 2009.)</p> <p>Support the reauthorization of the SAFETEA-LU legislation (authorizing all surface transportation programs) with a special emphasis on transportation components of the Climate Communities Action Blue Print for President Obama and the 111th Congress to address a more balanced investment in highway and mass transit; with a special emphasis on reducing the transportation sectors’ impact on climate change. Support continued solvency of the Highway Trust Fund and oppose any raiding of Federal Transit Administration Funds to offset the shortfall.</p> <p>Support mileage reimbursement for volunteers and carpools. Support increased transit funding in the reauthorization of the SAFETEA-LU legislation. Support the development of energy efficient buses and providing funds to defray the cost differential for hybrid buses.</p> <p>[Note: this is on the appropriations agenda.]</p>
2.	Lake Washington Ship Canal	<p>Support funds in the Energy and Water Appropriation bill for permanent solutions to fish passage problems at the Lake Washington Ship Canal.</p>

3.	Workforce Development	Support \$500,000 in the Labor-Health and Human Services-Education Appropriations bill for the Seattle King County Workforce Development Council to integrate workforce training services into other social services currently offered to ex-offenders transitioning back into the community.
4.	Homelessness Resources	Support legislation to provide supportive services to eliminate homelessness as outlined in the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness in King County by 2015. Support the Services to End Long-Term Homelessness Act.
5.	Immigration Reform	Support legislation that respects established civil rights and ensures due process for immigrants, including freedom from racial profiling, enforcement that is neither arbitrary nor selective, reunites and protects families, protects workers regardless of immigration status, and offers a pathway to citizenship undocumented immigrants.
6.	Workforce Training	Support Workforce Investment Act funding for dislocated workers, youth education and training funds, and Green Jobs. Support funding for the Department of Labor Youthbuild program.
7.	Emergency Management	Support federal legislation to prohibit caller identification spoofing, require higher caller location accuracy from manufacturers of telecommunications equipment and provide federal funding for these services. Monitor activity pertaining to the FCC regulation requiring VoIP to provide e-911 service.
8.	Homeland Security/ Bioterrorism	Support efforts to designate the Seattle/King County area as a Tier I threat area under the Urban Area Security Initiative and Transit Security Grant Programs. Oppose imposition of non-federal matching requirements for federal homeland security funds. Oppose proposed 15 percent personnel cap on federal homeland security and Emergency Management Performance Grant Program funds.

9.	Health Care Reform	<p>Support acceleration and expansion of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) efforts to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support health care reform legislation that includes payment reform based on quality, preventative and value-based care, expansion of public insurance coverage and access, preservation of private and employer-sponsored insurance, consumer engagement, and incentives for primary care recruitment; • Support health care reform legislation that provides additional resources for efforts to combat obesity and other chronic health problems; • Support public reporting of nationally-vetted process and outcome measures and cost transparency of all care regardless if paid for by private or public insurance; • Support health information technology, clinical information system adoption and clinical management capabilities; • Fund regional, interoperable health information technology networks; • Fund medical home/patient-centered care demonstration pilot programs; • Support legislation related to approval of biogenics; • Support legislation related to developing criteria as to when a specialty drug should be included in a benefit plan; • Support legislation aimed at reducing employer costs or crediting employers for offering comprehensive health benefits, prevention and supportive wellness programs; and • Support legislation that reduces hospital acquired conditions and denies payment for services caused by hospital acquired conditions. <p>Support CMS and the Agency of Health Research and Quality (AHRQ) to continue to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publicly support cost-effective evidence-based medicine and medical practices; • Advocate the importance of improving quality of health care delivered. <p>Support reauthorization of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment and Modernization Act that provides additional resources to local service providers, additional flexibility for the King County continuum of care, and including stabilized funding over multiple award periods, and also:</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing 2 percent up to 5 percent under expenditures • Allowing state AIDS drug assistance programs not to count drug rebate money as earned income; • Maintaining eligibility of current low-end transmittal grant areas; • Have HRSA not implement the “severity of need” index. <p>Support reauthorization of Child Nutrition and WIC legislation.</p> <p>Support the Prevention and Public Health Fund, which will provide for an expanded and sustained national investment in prevention and public health programs.</p> <p>Support the National Prevention and Wellness priorities.</p>
10.	Housing and Community Development Funds	<p>Housing and Urban Development Appropriations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore funding to at least \$4.2 billion for the CDBG Program, which is able to spend funds and create jobs immediately by addressing its current backlog of projects. Provide full funding for the Section 8 Program, including funding for 200,000 new Section 8 Housing Choice vouchers and 10,000 HUD Veterans’ Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers; • Fund the McKinney/Vento Act for Homeless Assistance at \$1.8 billion and ensure the renewal of Shelter Plus Care funding; • Fund the HOME Program with at least \$2 billion The HOME Program is able to spend funds and create jobs immediately by addressing its current backlog of projects. • Provide a minimum \$1 billion mandatory allocation for the National Housing Trust Fund. Require funding to be based upon the same formula distribution factors used to allocate funds to states; • Support legislation to amend and improve the Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities program. The Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act of 2008 will improve the Section 811 program and increase new Section 811 units every year. • Support the Nationwide Mortgage Fraud Task Force Act to investigate mortgage fraud including Web-based activity and provide training to federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. • Support the Zero Tolerance for Veterans Homelessness Act to provide funding for services and authorize an increasing number of vouchers annually

		<p>for homeless veterans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the Reduce Emergency Department Utilization through Coordination and Empowerment Act (REDUCE Act), which would allow service providers to be reimbursed by Medicaid for coordinated case management coupled with housing. Comprehensive, coordinated services reduces unnecessary and expensive health care treatment and ends homelessness.
11.	Endangered Species	<p>Support federal funding for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to complete the status review process for the listing of the Lake Sammamish Kokanee salmon (King County and 6 partners petitioned for the listing in July 2007).</p> <p>Oppose any attempts to weaken environmental protections provided by the Endangered Species Act.</p> <p>Support any and all efforts to increase funding for salmon habitat restoration.</p>
12.	Natural Resources	<p>Support legislation directing a portion of federal transportation project mitigation funding toward high priority salmon recovery projects within watersheds and allowing for mitigation banking for ESA implementation.</p>
13.	Abandoned Mines	<p>Support legislation reauthorizing Abandoned Mines Land fund.</p>
14.	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<p>Support legislation that creates a national “cap and trade” system for power plant operators and major industrial emitters. Include provisions to provide incentives for local governments to address their impacts on global warming, by increasing investment in energy efficiency, renewable energy, transit systems, alternate fuel, reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and powered fleets; and reclaimed water investments at wastewater treatment plants.</p>
15.	Renewable Fuels	<p>Support House legislation mandating minimum fuels content for ethanol in gasoline and bio-diesel in diesel.</p>
16.	Electric/Alternative-Fuel Vehicles	<p>Support funding for a pilot program to convert public agency fleets to electric plug-in and alternative fuel vehicles.</p>

17.	Resource Efficiency and Renewable Resources	Support legislation providing grants and incentives of all types to encourage wider development and implementation of resource (including energy) efficiency and renewable energy, where consistent with King County energy and climate policies and not detrimental to the county or its residents.
18.	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program	Support continuing annual appropriation to the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program providing assistance to local and state governments to develop and implement a comprehensive energy efficiency strategy which emphasizes a bottom-up, community-based approach in helping the nation meet its energy and climate protection goals.
19.	Climate Change	<p>Support provisions to provide funding for climate change adaptation planning and implementation (e.g., investments in sustainable resources, such as reclaimed water; evaluation and replacement of vulnerable infrastructure, and salmon recovery planning).</p> <p>Support legislation designed to facilitate the improvement of water management by the Bureau of Reclamation taking into account the impacts of global climate change on water resources.</p> <p>Support a cap and trade program that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Allocates at least 5percent of the \$100 billion in carbon allowances to the U.S. Department of Energy’s Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program; ● Allocates at least 10 percent of the carbon allowances to finance additional investment in mass transit, passenger rail systems, transit-oriented development, and bicycle and pedestrian trails; ● Allocates at least 2 percent of the carbon allowances to help local governments create green jobs in communities with closed manufacturing plants and other underutilized economic sites; ● Allocates at least 1% of the carbon allowances for local government adaptation initiatives that prepare for the impacts of climate change, and ● Makes local government green infrastructure, efficiency, and clean energy projects that reduce carbon emissions eligible for offset credits. <p>Should support the Qualified Energy Conservation Bond Program.</p>

<p>20.</p>	<p>Clean Water Act (wetlands protection, infrastructure, CSO affordability, watershed management)</p>	<p>Support maximized funding for clean water infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reauthorization of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund at \$40 billion; • Support legislation establishing a Clean Water Trust Fund • Support Clean Water Infrastructure spending in any new stimulus bills; • Advocate for greater use of grants over loans; against provisions limiting funding for non-economically-disadvantaged communities; against “Buy American” provisions and unduly burdensome reporting requirements. <p>Support federal legislation promoting use of green infrastructure including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal funding to local areas for green infrastructure projects; • Measures to integrate green infrastructure into EPA regulatory programs. <p>Support legislation establishing EPA (rather than HHS) as the agency responsible for regulating clean water agencies, along with drinking water utilities.</p> <p>Advocate for reasonable clean water regulations that protect public safety without posing an unreasonable compliance burden.</p> <p>Support legislation directing EPA to revise the 1997 CSO Affordability Guidance, to a more integrated, site- specific, and flexible approach.</p> <p>Support legislative efforts to focus implementation the Clean Water Act on holistic watershed management, evaluating needs and prioritizing activities across different programs at a watershed level.</p> <p>Support King County’s \$8.2 million grant award for a Waste-to-Energy project from EPA. An agreement with EPA Region X has been signed, but is currently under review by EPA Headquarters because it is a remnant of an old grant and funds have not been drawn down.</p>
<p>21.</p>	<p>Flood Control</p>	<p>Support language allowing the use of federal funds for Right-of-Way acquisitions for Tukwila 205, Horseshoe Bend 205, and non-federal levees.</p>

		<p>Support the City of North Bend's funding request for the North Bend 205 Project.</p> <p>Support the appropriation of \$20 million for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to rehabilitate the federal Horseshoe Bend Levee in the City of Kent in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill. Federal funds would leverage approximately \$13 million in state and local funds already budgeted for this project.</p> <p>Support enhanced federal appropriations for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Seattle District under the PL 84-99 Rehabilitation and Inspection Program to repair and rehabilitate the Green River Levee system and other flood protection infrastructure as a result of the damage caused by the reduced operation capacity at the Howard Hanson Dam.</p> <p>Revise Corps civil works budget from annual appropriations to a multi-year capital program similar to Federal Highways Administration, so that the Corps has dedicated funds for multiple years rather than annual appropriations, and greater certainty regarding funding and project planning.</p>
22	Public Safety	<p>Support the continued funding of the Washington State Methamphetamine Initiative.</p> <p>Support legislation that would allow mentally ill offenders to retain Medicaid benefits for the purpose of maintaining medication for treating mental illness while being held in local jails for assessment and evaluation.</p> <p>Support enactment of the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Law Enforcement Assistance Act..</p>
23.	Forest Legacy Program	<p>Support continued funding for this program to set aside working forest lands. It would help achieve the 100,000 acre goal.</p>
24.	Employee Free Choice	<p>Support enactment of the Employee Free Choice Act legislation to amend the National Labor Relations Act to establish an efficient system to enable employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations.</p>
25	Toxic Chemicals Regulation and Product Stewardship	<p>Support Removing Barriers to Pharmaceuticals Take-Back Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support amending the Controlled Substances Act, and other relevant statues, to allow additional options for

		<p>collection of legally prescribed controlled substances by secure drug take-back programs, without requiring involvement of law enforcement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the Safe Drug Disposal Act. • Support removal of regulatory barriers that restrict or burden safe medicine return programs for consumers, including regulations of DEA, DOT, EPA, USPS. <p>Support Improved Chemicals Regulation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support reform of the Toxic Substance Control Act to reduce exposure of children, consumers, and workers to toxic chemicals used in consumer products and manufacturing processes. • Support ban or restriction of use of bisphenol-A (BPA) in products for infants and children. • Support expanded authority for the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the Food & Drug Administration to regulate chemical hazards in consumer products, especially children’s products and personal care products. • Oppose federal preemption of state and local chemical regulation and product Stewardship to protect human health and the environment. • Support a ban on export of E-waste to prevent it from being sent to countries that do not follow adequate processes results in highly hazardous conditions for workers and appalling environmental contamination. • Oppose weaker legislation that allows for the export of recycled electronics for reuse without sufficient standards and monitoring to ensure proper handling and/or dumping. <p>Support efforts to reverse the 2006 EPA-issued Toxics Release Burden Reduction Rule that weakened reporting requirements for the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI), including for persistent bioaccumulative toxins (PBTs).</p> <p>Support fluorescent lighting product stewardship including provisions in energy efficiency legislation to require manufacturers of mercury-containing lights to finance and implement a recycling program that reduces mercury exposure.</p> <p>Support efforts to finalize the pesticide container recycling rule, and expand the rule to require producer responsibility for recycling of residential and landscaping containers.</p>
26.	Transportation Fringe Benefit	Raise transit/vanpool portion of 132(f) Transportation Fringe Benefit to equal parking benefit.

27.	Puget Sound Protection and Recovery	<p>Support the federal funding request for the Puget Sound Partnership in the Interior and Environment Appropriations bill.</p> <p>Support legislation similar to establish an office within EPA to coordinate the expanded efforts to address pollution impacts on Puget Sound and authorize grants to local communities.</p> <p>Support including year-round permanent funding for the Neah Bay rescue tug in the Coast Guard Reauthorization Act.</p> <p>Support effort in Washington, California, and other states to restrict the use of copper in car brakes and to fund research to find a less toxic alternative.</p> <p>Support Puget Sound Restoration Act (or equivalent) that would authorize Puget Sound recovery as a line item in the federal budget, similar to the Chesapeake Bay and the Great Lakes.</p>
28.	Court Emergency Preparedness	<p>Support legislation to create a new grant program to assist state courts with emergency preparedness, which would expand on the allowable uses for state court emergency preparedness funding, including continuity of operations planning, pandemic planning, risk assessments, training and equipment.</p> <p>Support funding for riot control measures at the County's juvenile facility, including parking lot cameras and a separate parking lot for judges.</p>
29.	Mental Health	<p>Support legislation to address co-occurring disorders (mental health and substance abuse) eligibility and integration of services.</p> <p>Support legislation to modify 42 CFR Part 2 to allow for information on chemical dependency treatment to be shared for the purpose of offering services such as housing, mental health treatment, physical health, and co-occurring disorder treatment.</p> <p>Support legislation that reduces Medicare Mental Health Co-payment to 20 percent.</p> <p>Support legislation to increase the Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage (FMAP) for Washington state.</p>
30.	Public Health	Health Care Reform: Prevention and Public Health Trust Fund

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Care Reform must expand and sustain funding for population-based prevention and public health programs. • Funding public health programs that address the links between public health, the built environment, mobility, and air quality should be a priority of health care reform. <p>Access and coverage to all – public plan should be one option offered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All individuals should have coverage and access to affordable, comprehensive health care services on an equitable basis, and at the right place and time. Care should not be limited or denied based upon ability to pay, pre-existing conditions, gender, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration status, language, availability of transportation, neighborhood, or other factors. Costs to individuals should be based on an individual’s ability to pay and preventive and wellness services should be at no direct cost to the patient. • Also important is ensuring that children in states like Washington, that exceed the federal standards, are offered the same coverage and benefits, i.e. do no harm to kids and make sure that federal legislative standards are “a floor, not a ceiling”. • <i>A public insurance plan</i>, or other similar system, should be one option offered to individuals and groups. <p>Equity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health care reform must support funding for strategies, policies, and culturally appropriate interventions that assure health equity. • Funding should be available to providers, employers, and health plans to collect information on race, ethnicity, primary language, and location of residence to enable the analysis of healthcare experience on a stratified basis and identify where inequities exist and should be addressed.
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		<p>HIT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for Health IT should include the standardization of clinical information, billing and reporting in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare data, and for public health monitoring of population health. <p>Quality Reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance of the health care system should be measured broadly with national standards and should move beyond measures of process quality, cost and patient experience to also include outcomes, functional status, efficiency and equity. <p>Home Visiting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Children and Families Act 2 (S. 1052/H.R. 3024) • Support legislation to build the Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) program model into SCHIP and Medicaid authority. This legislation provides states with the option of offering, within their SCHIP and Medicaid programs, evidence-based, nurse home visitation services such as NFP to low-income pregnant women and their children to assist them in accessing health insurance, comprehensive health care and social and community services. By creating a new category of service, this legislation will increase reimbursement for NFP services. • Support the President's budget request for \$10 million in funding through the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) for evidence-based home visitation programs. <p>Medicaid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support efforts to provide Medicaid coverage for pre-trial inmates of jails. <p>Land Use and Built Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King County favors legislation which avoids, minimizes, or mitigates the public health impacts of land use policies and planning, including: urban and suburban development standards; siting of hazardous
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		<p>land uses; transportation infrastructure; transit planning; and building construction requirements.</p> <p>Health Care for the Homeless/Federal Health Center Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in the Growth of Health Centers – strengthen and expand community health centers. Urge Health Centers Program funding of \$2.602 billion of FY2010, bringing total funding to the authorized level, and use those funds to stabilize and support existing centers, expand access to new communities, and bring health-quality medical, dental, and behavioral health care to nearly two million new patients in need nationally. Include continuation of 8.7percent set-aside for the Health Care for the Homeless program. • Support efforts to use Medicaid to pay for more cost-effective services to help and homelessness among people with disabilities and complex health problems, including Medical Respite (recuperation) programs. • Support the (Reduce Emergency Department Utilization through Coordination and Empowerment Act (REDUCE Act, S. 1781). The legislation would create a Medicaid demonstration program aimed at reducing frequent use of health services by individuals who have multiple chronic conditions. Ten states would receive Medicaid reimbursement for a number of comprehensive care services including recuperative care in a respite program. The bill would be offered as a floor amendment during Senate floor action on health care reform. <p>National Menu Labeling</p> <p>Two bills were introduced regarding National Menu Labeling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Menu Education and Labeling Act (MEAL) • Label Education and Nutrition Act (LEAN Act) <p>Through a negotiated agreement based on the two bills – identical language for National Menu Labeling is in both the House and Senate versions of the Health Care Reform Bill. We support of legislation as it is</p>
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written – other than the preemption language that is stated. We encourage preemption language to include a clause that would allow those jurisdictions that have implemented menu labeling laws to be able to continue to enforce local regulation until the FDA rule making is completed and the national law goes into effect.

Oral Health

As part of the Health Care Reform – support activities and services for all persons as outlined in the legislation.

- Prevention and education campaign raising awareness of oral disease.
- Demonstration grants for research-based dental caries disease management activities.
- School-based sealant program – amend language of the Public Service Act from “may award” – to – “shall award” grants to each of the 50 States, territories and to Indians, Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and urban Indian organizations.
- Require CDC to enter into a cooperative agreement with states, territories, and tribal units of government to establish oral health leadership and program guidance, data collection and interpretation, a multi-dimensional delivery system for oral health, and to implement science-based programs to improve oral health.

Family Planning

Family planning and reproductive health issues, as a part of health care reform legislation, needs to include advocacy for the following:

- Support family planning coverage for family planning (up to 200 percent of FPL) as is currently in the Obama plan or to the same level that pregnancy care is covered.
- Assure that the full scope of family planning

services is included in health care reform coverage discussions. Coverage and access to services includes; no limits to access for services (direct access to providers), covers all contraceptive options, plus, STD/HIV services and abortion services need to be included.

Federal legislation to improve access to family planning and related services has already been introduced and some of these measures may be included in health care reform legislation, if any were dropped, then this legislation would be necessary:

The Prevention First Act (H.R. 1709, H.R. 463/S. 20) was introduced in the 109th Congress by Senator Harry Reid (D-NV) and Representative Louise Slaughter (D-NY) is an omnibus family planning initiative that expands access to preventive health care services and education programs to help reduce unintended pregnancy prevent the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), reduce the need for abortion, and improve women's health – all while saving scarce public health dollars.

The Prevention First Act will:

- Increase access to family planning services by increasing funds to Title X clinics that help women prevent unintended pregnancies, reduce the number of abortions, lower rates of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV, and detect breast and cervical cancer at its earliest stages.
- Eliminate cost barriers for poor and low-income women who cannot afford to purchase contraceptive services.
- Ensure equity in prescription insurance and contraceptive coverage by requiring private health plans to offer the same level of coverage for contraception as they do for other prescription drugs and services.
- Provide sexual assault victims medically accurate information and access to emergency contraception (EC).

- Reduce the risk of unintended pregnancy by improving awareness about Emergency Contraception (EC). EC is an essential component of comprehensive health care that should be easily accessible to all women, including those who have experiences contraceptive failure, those who have had unprotected intercourse, and those who have been sexually assaulted.
- Protect teens against infection and unintended pregnancy. The bill would provide \$20 million in annual funding for competitive grants to public and private entities to establish or expand teen pregnancy prevention programs.

School Based Health

School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs), as a part of health care reform legislation, needs to include advocacy for the following:

- The creation of a federal grant program to fund SBHCs, and
- Assurance that SBHCs are reimbursed under publicly funded health insurance.

Current versions of health care reform legislation include these provisions. If they were dropped from the reform bills, SBHC champions on Capitol Hill would introduce stand alone bills for creation of a federal grant program:

- The School Based Health Clinic Act (H.R. 3003) would authorize a grant-based program for the operation and development of SBHCs, which provide comprehensive and accessible primary health care services to medically underserved youth and families; improve the physical health the emotional well-being and academic performance of such populations; and work in collaboration with schools to integrate health into the overall school environment.

Federal legislation to ensure payment under Medicaid

and the State Children's Health Insurance Program for covered items and services furnished by SBHCs has already been introduced:

- The Healthy Schools Act (S. 1034/H.R. 2840) establishes a mechanism for States to certify SBHCs to be recognized under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program for Medicaid and SCHIP-enrolled school children and adolescents. The act would establish a certification procedure for States to certify that the State has implemented procedures to pay for SCHIP and Medicaid provided health care in a SBHC. The act would also set minimum criteria for "primary health services" as the core group of services offered by a SBHC, including comprehensive health and mental health assessments, intervention and treatment, as well as oral health, social, and health education services.

New grant program for Community Coalitions for Access and Quality Improvement (S. 652, H.R. 1614)

- Support Community Coalitions for Access and Quality Improvement (CCAQI) legislation. Would allow community collaboration to achieve better health care for more people at less cost.

Student-to-School Nurse Ratio Improvement Act (H.R. 2730)

- The Act would provide competitive demonstration grants through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to eligible states so that they may reduce the student-to-school nurse ratios.
- CDC would then report to the Congress on the efficacy of the piloted grant program regarding the relationship between the provision of student health services and educational outcomes.

Colorectal Cancer Prevention, Early Detection and Treatment Act (H.R. 1189)

ALERT: Bill Access to Lifesaving Early Detection, Research

		<p>and Treatment Act (S. 717)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The legislation will establish a colorectal cancer screening and treatment program for uninsured people with low incomes. It will be similar to the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, called Washington Breast and Cervical Health Program. • •
31.	Repeal Institutions for Mental Disease (IMD) Exclusion	Facilities of greater than 16 beds that are primarily devoted to the care of psychiatric patients are deemed to be Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD). Persons in such a facility do not qualify for Medicaid and no Title XIX funding can be used for their care. The IMD Exclusion impacts over 400 individuals who reside in King County residential facilities.
32.	Solid Waste	Support legislation to end unregulated solid waste operations along rail lines and the ability of these waste facilities to operate independent of state and local environmental, health and safety regulations by amending the Interstate Commerce Commission Termination Act and remove only solid waste operations from the exclusive jurisdiction of the Surface Transportation Board.
33.	Developmental Disabilities	Support legislative efforts to increase funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) for early intervention services to birth to three year old infants and toddlers with developmental delays.

January 7, 2010

The Honorable Bob Ferguson
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Ferguson:

Enclosed for your consideration and approval is a motion establishing the 2010 (FY '11) Federal Agenda of King County. Also attached are the proposed 2010 (FY '11) Federal Appropriations Requests and 2010 (FY '11) Legislative Interests documents. As in previous years, it may be necessary to further amend these at a later date to incorporate major issues and concerns that arise during the congressional session.

Federal officials were faced this past year with several significant policy challenges, compounded by the staggering impacts of the nation's greatest recession in generations. Nevertheless, the Obama Administration has advanced a number of critical policy and revenue conversations, and King County continues to have a strong voice in the federal policy arena. From clean energy and economic development to health care reform and infrastructure investment, we continue to market the resources and attributes that make King County a logical choice for new programs and investment.

Collaboration will again play a key role in succeeding with our priorities for 2010. We will work with our intergovernmental partners, including the Governor, the Puget Sound Regional Council, the cities of Seattle and Bellevue and the other suburban cities to aggressively advocate for federal funding for the challenges our region faces. This includes continued federal support for transportation, public health, homeland security, salmon recovery, flood control, affordable housing and other important needs.

The imminent flood control situation threatening the Green River valley is a natural opportunity for renewed partnerships at all levels of government. The potential for major flooding in the valley caused by operation decisions of the federally-owned Howard Hansen Dam is a particular challenge from which we simply cannot turn our backs. I will continue to work with you and our federal and statewide elected officials to address this very real crisis,

The Honorable Bob Ferguson

January 7, 2010

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including sheltering solutions at the state level and engaging the federal agencies and lawmakers in funding solutions. With so many lives and livelihoods at stake, we cannot delay in accelerating solutions from federal agencies and providing the federal funding to put them in place in the affected communities.

We will continue the strong collaboration we have with the County Council and separately elected officials to address the priorities outlined in the attached documents. We also look forward to continuing our strong collaboration at the national level with the National Association of Counties, the American Public Transportation Association and Climate Communities. Furthermore, we look forward to continuing to support the efforts of the Ferguson Group and Patton Boggs who work on our behalf in Washington, D.C.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this document, please feel free to contact Genesee Adkins, State and Federal Relations Manager, at 206-263-9628, or genesee.adkins@kingcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosures

cc: King County Councilmembers
 ATTN: Tom Bristow, Interim Chief of Staff
 Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council
 Al Sanders, Acting Communications Director
Steve Call, Interim Director, Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
Fred Jarrett, Deputy County Executive, Office of the Executive
Sung Yang, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Office of the Executive
Genesee Adkins, State and Federal Relations Manager, Office of the Executive
Joe Woods, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
De'Sean Quinn, Regional and Local Affairs Manager, Office of the Executive
Frank Abe, Communications Director, Office of the Executive