



KING COUNTY
Signature Report

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

January 25, 2010

Ordinance 16751

Proposed No. 2010-0052.2

Sponsors Ferguson and Hague

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to council rules and order of
2 business; and amending Ordinance 16362, Section 3, and
3 K.C.C. 1.24.017, Ordinance 11683, Section 3, as amended,
4 and K.C.C. 1.24.025, Ordinance 11683, Section 4, as
5 amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.035, Ordinance 11683, Section
6 5, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.045, Ordinance 11683,
7 Section 6, as amended, and 1.24.055, Ordinance 11683,
8 Section 7, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.065, Ordinance
9 11683, Section 10, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.095,
10 Ordinance 11683, Section 16, as amended, and K.C.C.
11 1.24.155 and Ordinance 11683, Section 31, as amended,
12 and K.C.C. 1.24.305.

13 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

14 SECTION 1. Findings.

15 A. King County Charter Section 220.40 requires the council to adopt by
16 ordinance rules of procedure governing the time, place and conduct of its meetings.

17 B. Consistent with the county charter, the council adopted by ordinance rules of
18 procedure, which are codified in K.C.C. chapter 1.24, and passed motions related to the
19 organization and administration of the council.

20 C. The rules ordinance and the organizational motion have been amended from
21 time to time to reflect desired changes in the council's rules of procedure and
22 organization.

23 SECTION 2. Ordinance 16362, Section 3, and K.C.C. 1.24.017 are each hereby
24 amended to read as follows:

25 **Rule 2.2: Succession - council chair.** In the event of the inability of the council
26 chair to serve in that capacity, the following order of succession shall be observed:

27 A. Vice chair ~~((of policy))~~;

28 B. ~~((Vice chair of administration and finance;~~

29 ~~C.))~~ Remaining councilmembers in order of their seniority of service
30 cumulatively in county elective office and state legislative office.

31 SECTION 3. Ordinance 11683, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.025 are
32 each hereby amended to read as follows:

33 **Rule 3: Powers and duties of the vice-chair - acting chair in absence of chair**
34 **and vice-chair.**

35 A. ~~((There shall be two vice-chairs: the vice chair of policy and the vice chair of~~
36 ~~administration and finance. For the purposes of this chapter, unless the context clearly~~
37 ~~requires otherwise, "vice chair" means the vice chair of policy and, in the absence of the~~
38 ~~vice chair of policy, "vice chair" means the vice chair of administration and finance.~~

39 ~~B.))~~The vice-chair ~~((of policy))~~ shall exercise the duties, powers and prerogatives
40 of the council chair in the event of the chair's absence.

41 ~~((C.))~~ B. If the chair and the vice-chair ~~((of policy))~~ are both absent at a meeting
42 of the council, the ~~((vice chair of administration and finance))~~ remaining councilmember

43 present with the greatest seniority of service in county elective office shall preside as
44 acting chair. In the event more than one member has equal greatest seniority based on
45 service in county elective office, the member with the greatest cumulative seniority in
46 county elective office and state legislative office shall preside as acting chair.

47 ~~((D.))~~ C. If, after recommendation by the employment and administration
48 committee, the chair is the subject of a motion that proposes to censure a councilmember
49 for violating the council's antiharassment policy, the vice-chair ~~((of policy))~~ shall
50 introduce the motion.

51 SECTION 4. Ordinance 11683, Section 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.035 are
52 each hereby amended to read as follows:

53 **Rule 4: Meetings.**

54 A.1.a. The time of regular meetings of the council is 11:00 a.m. on Monday of
55 each week, or Tuesday if Monday is a state or county holiday or is a legislative branch
56 furlough day due to a county emergency budget crisis, unless otherwise ordered by the
57 chair or a majority of the council, except that the time is 1:30 p.m. from September 21
58 through December 31. However, the regular meetings of the council shall not take place
59 on the first and second Mondays in August and the third and fourth Mondays in
60 December.

61 b. Each Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. shall be reserved for special
62 standing committee meetings and each fourth and fifth Wednesday of each month from
63 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. shall be reserved for special regional committee meetings as
64 needed. In order to allow each member sufficient time to review legislation and to meet
65 with constituents, staff and officials of other jurisdictions, no special committee meeting

66 may be called for any other time without the prior written consent of the council chair or
67 the consent of a majority of the members of the committee. If a special meeting for more
68 than one committee is called for the same time and location, the meeting for which the
69 agenda was first filed with the council clerk shall have precedence for use of the meeting
70 location. This subsection A.1.b. does not apply to special meetings of the budget and
71 fiscal management committee for purposes of considering the county executive's 2011
72 budget proposal, which shall be called by the chair of the budget and fiscal management
73 committee.

74 2.a. All regular meetings of the King County council and the council's
75 committees, except for the employment and administration committee, shall be held in
76 the council chambers on the tenth floor of the King County Courthouse in Seattle,
77 Washington. All regular meetings of the employment and administration committee shall
78 be held in the southwest conference room on the twelfth floor of the King County
79 Courthouse in Seattle, Washington.

80 b. Whenever, due to an emergency, as defined in K.C.C. 12.52.010, it is
81 imprudent, inexpedient or impossible to conduct the affairs of the council at the regular
82 or usual place or places, the council may meet at any place within or without the
83 territorial limits of the county on the call of the chair or any two members of the council.
84 After an emergency relocation, the affairs of the council shall be lawfully conducted at
85 the emergency location for the duration of the emergency.

86 B.1. Except as provided in subsection B.2. of this section, ((F))the times for
87 regular committee meetings are as follows, unless the council is meeting at that time
88 because the preceding Monday was a state or county holiday:

89 ~~((1-))~~ a. Committee of the whole: Wednesday of each week at 9:30 a.m.
90 January 1 through September 16; thereafter through December 31, Monday of each week
91 at 9:30 a.m.;

92 ~~((2-))~~ b. Budget and fiscal management committee: the first and third Tuesday
93 of each month at 1:30 p.m.;

94 ~~((3-))~~ c. Employment and administration committee: the first and third
95 Mondays of each month at 9:30 a.m. January 1 through September 7; thereafter through
96 December 31 on the first and third Mondays of each month at 3:00 p.m.;

97 ~~((4-))~~ d. Environment and transportation committee: the second and fourth,
98 and fifth if one occurs, Tuesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

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

101 ~~((5-))~~ f. Law, justice, health and human services committee: the second and
102 fourth, and fifth if one occurs, Tuesdays of each month at 1:30 p.m.;

103 ~~((6- Physical environment committee: the second and fourth, and fifth if one~~
104 ~~occurs, Tuesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;~~

105 ~~7-))~~ g. Regional policy committee: the second Wednesday of each month at
106 3:00 p.m.;

107 ~~((8-))~~ h. Regional transit committee: the third Wednesday of each month at
108 3:00 p.m.; and

109 ~~((9-))~~ i. Regional water quality committee: the first Wednesday of each month
110 at 3:00 p.m.

111 2. The regular meetings of the committees shall not take place during the first
112 and second weeks in August and the third and fourth weeks in December.

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

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

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

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

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

127 SECTION 5. Ordinance 11683, Section 5, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.045 are
128 each hereby amended to read as follows:

129 **Rule 5: Agenda.**

130 A. Council business must be disposed of in the following order, or in an order the
131 chair deems appropriate, subject to appeal as provided in Rule 5.D, K.C.C. 1.24.045.D:

132 1. Roll call;

- 133 2. Flag salute and Pledge of Allegiance, the leading of which must be offered by
134 a member of the council and which must rotate among all members of the council;
- 135 3. Approval of minutes;
- 136 4. Additions to the council agenda;
- 137 5. Special items;
- 138 6. ~~((Reports from members serving on special and outside committees;~~
139 7.)) Plat tracings;
- 140 ~~((8.))~~ 7. Motions, from standing committees and regional committees, for
141 council action;
- 142 ~~((9.))~~ 8. First reading of and action on motions without referral to committee;
- 143 ~~((10.))~~ 9. Consent agenda on reappointments to boards and commissions;
- 144 ~~((11.))~~ 10. Consent agenda on reports and recommended actions from the
145 employment and administration committee;
- 146 ~~((12.))~~ 11. Other reports and recommended actions from the employment and
147 administration committee;
- 148 ~~((13.))~~ 12. Consent agenda on hearing examiner recommendations;
- 149 ~~((14.))~~ 13. First reading and referral of ordinances;
- 150 ~~((15.))~~ 14. First reading and referral of motions;
- 151 15. Reports from members serving on special and outside committees;
- 152 16. Recess;
- 153 17. Hearing and second reading of ordinances from standing committees and
154 regional committees;

155 18. First reading of and action on emergency ordinances without referral to
156 committee;

157 19. Extra items;

158 20. Messages from the county executive and other county officials, the
159 judiciary, the regional committees and other agencies;

160 21. Other business; and

161 22. Adjournment.

162 B. Required public hearings and second readings of ordinances on the council's
163 agenda shall begin at 1:30 p.m., unless notice of a different hearing time has been given;

164 C. Legislation or other items for placement on the council meeting agenda must
165 be submitted to the clerk of the council by 10:00 a.m. Thursday of the week before the
166 next scheduled meeting, except that:

167 1. If directed by the chair, the clerk may place an item on the council agenda
168 with a note that the item is contingent on being voted out of committee before the council
169 meeting; and

170 2. Legislation or other items needing action by the full council may be added at
171 the discretion of the chair of the council at a regularly scheduled council meeting. The
172 chair shall apply the following criteria for the additions:

173 a. the legislation is particularly time-sensitive and delay in action either:

174 (1) might impair the effectiveness of the county's responses to emergencies
175 such as natural or human-made disasters, or other circumstances seriously affecting the
176 public health, safety or welfare or the support of county government and its existing
177 public institutions; or

178 (2) might impair timely performance under deadlines of a statute, ordinance,
179 contract, interlocal agreement, real property instrument or other provision requiring
180 immediate action;

181 b. legislation should be delivered to [the] clerk before the beginning of the
182 council meeting. The original should be provided to the clerk, together with an
183 introduction slip from the sponsor; and

184 c. the sponsor should provide a brief written description to the chair of the
185 reason for the need to expedite the legislation without regular committee review.

186 D. The chair shall notify the members present of proposed changes to the agenda.
187 If two members object to a change, a majority of the members present shall decide
188 whether to change the agenda.

189 SECTION 6. Ordinance 11683, Section 6, as amended, and 1.24.055 are each
190 hereby amended to read as follows:

191 **Rule 6: Standing committees.** The standing committees shall operate as
192 follows:

193 A. A majority of a committee constitutes a quorum (~~except for a committee with~~
194 ~~an even number of members, in which case one half of the committee constitutes a~~
195 ~~quorum)). A committee is considered to have a quorum present unless the question is
196 raised by a member of the committee. If a member objects to proceeding because of the
197 lack of a quorum, the committee may not conduct official business, except to conduct a
198 hearing. The appointment or use of alternate members is not allowed for a standing
199 committee.~~

200 B. During its consideration of a vote on legislation, the deliberations of a
201 committee must be open to the public.

202 C. A vote to report legislation out of committee must be taken by the "ayes" and
203 "nos," with the committee clerk recording the names of the members voting for and
204 against, as well as the names of the members absent. On any matter, including but not
205 limited to an amendment, a vote must be taken by oral roll call if requested by a member
206 of the committee. A standing committee may not vote by secret ballot on an issue.
207 Except for a regional committee, legislation may be reported out of committee by less
208 than a quorum of the committee, subject to signature by a majority of the members of the
209 committee, unless a member present requests a vote on the recommendation by a quorum
210 of the committee. If a member so requests, the legislation may not be reported out of the
211 committee at that meeting without an affirmative vote by a majority of the quorum of the
212 committee. The committee's recommendation on legislation reported out of committee
213 subject to signature by a majority of the members of the committee is not effective unless
214 signed by a majority of the committee and delivered to the clerk by the close of the
215 second business day after the committee action. A vote in a committee must be recorded
216 and the vote must be preserved as prescribed by the clerk of the council.

217 D. Legislation reported to the council from a standing committee must have a
218 majority recommendation report, which must be prepared upon a printed standing
219 committee report form and must be signed by a majority of the committee with one of the
220 following recommendations:

- 221 1. Do pass;
- 222 2. Do pass -- consent;

- 223 3. Do pass substitute;
- 224 4. Do pass substitute -- consent;
- 225 5. Do not pass;
- 226 6. Postpone indefinitely;
- 227 7. Pass out of committee with no recommendation; or
- 228 8. Refer to another committee.

229 E. The rules and procedures contained in this chapter must be observed, when
230 applicable, in all proceedings of a standing or special committee of the council.

231 F. The chair of the committee shall set the agenda for the committee, including
232 whether and when to include on a specific agenda for action proposed legislation referred
233 to the committee by the council chair. A change to the last distributed and posted agenda
234 made at a meeting must be announced by the chair and is subject to appeal to the full
235 committee present by any two members of the committee. A majority of the members
236 present shall decide an appeal under this subsection.

237 G. Notice of a special meeting must be made in compliance with the Open Public
238 Meetings Act of 1971, chapter 42.30 RCW. The committee chair may call up to six
239 special meetings per calendar year. An additional special meeting may be called only
240 upon the request of the chair and the written consent of either the vice-chair of the
241 committee or the chair of the council before the meeting. A special meeting may be
242 called only when:

- 243 1. There is time-sensitive legislation or information that cannot be presented and
244 considered in the ordinary committee meeting schedule;

245 2. A joint meeting of two or more committees is necessary to consider a matter;

246 or

247 3. An unusual and extreme workload of a committee does not allow its full
248 consideration during the ordinary committee meeting schedule.

249 H. A committee may not recess a meeting for longer than eight hours unless
250 consent is given consistent with Rule 6.G, K.C.C. 1.24.055.G. Such a recess constitutes a
251 special meeting solely for the purpose of counting the six discretionary special meetings
252 provided for in this rule. If recess is until the next day but less than twenty-four hours,
253 then the maximum possible notice must be given. If recess is for greater than twenty-four
254 hours, then at least twenty-four hours' notice must be given.

255 SECTION 7. Ordinance 11683, Section 7, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.065 are
256 each hereby amended to read as follows:

257 **Rule 7: Regional committees.**

258 A. Establishment. Three regional, standing committees are established as
259 provided under the King County Charter to develop, recommend and review regional
260 policies and plans for consideration by the council: the regional transit committee, the
261 regional water quality committee and the regional policies committee.

262 B. Membership.

263 1. Composition of committees.

264 a. The regional policies committee and regional transit committee are to each
265 have nine voting members. Three members of each committee, including the chair of
266 each, must be county councilmembers appointed by the chair of the council and must
267 include councilmembers from districts with unincorporated residents. Each county

268 councilmember vote shall be weighted as two votes. The chair of the county council
269 shall also appoint the chair (~~(and vice chair)~~) of each committee. The remaining members
270 of each committee must be local elected city officials appointed from and in proportion to
271 the relative populations of the city of Seattle and the other cities and towns in the county.
272 Cities and towns other than the city of Seattle may appoint two persons for each of their
273 allocated memberships in each committee, each person with one-half vote. A vice-chair
274 of each committee shall be elected by majority vote of the committee members who are
275 not county councilmembers.

276 b. The regional water quality committee is to have nine voting members.
277 Three members of the committee, including the chair, must be county councilmembers
278 appointed by the chair of the council, and must include councilmembers from districts
279 with unincorporated residents. The chair of the county council shall also appoint the
280 chair (~~(and vice chair)~~) of the committee. Each county councilmember vote shall be
281 weighted as two votes. The remaining members of the committee must be local elected
282 city officials appointed from and in proportion to the relative populations of the city of
283 Seattle and the other cities and towns in the county, and two members from special
284 purpose districts providing sewer service in King County. Cities and towns other than
285 the city of Seattle may appoint two persons for each of their allocated memberships, each
286 person with one-half vote. Special purpose districts located outside of the county that
287 receive sewerage treatment services from the county may jointly designate one nonvoting
288 representative to serve on the committee. A vice-chair of the committee shall be elected
289 by majority vote of the committee members who are not county councilmembers.

290 2. Alternating memberships. Each appointing authority may alternate members
291 in accordance with the procedures established by the authority. The appointments must
292 be announced at the beginning of each regional committee meeting to the committee
293 chair or vice-chair and committee secretary by a person authorized by the appointing
294 authority. Each appointing authority shall identify those members to receive mailings and
295 notices of meetings.

296 3. Powers and duties of the chair. The chair of the committee has the following
297 powers and duties:

298 a. The chair shall:

299 (1) call the committee to order at the hour appointed for meeting and, if a
300 quorum is present, shall cause the minutes of the previous meeting to be approved;

301 (2) proceed with the order of business; and

302 (3) adjourn the committee upon a motion to adjourn approved by a majority
303 of members present;

304 b. The chair shall preserve order and decorum and in the interest of efficiency
305 may impose time and subject matter limits for testimony and comment given by the
306 public and members of the committee;

307 c. The chair shall promote efficient operation of the committee. The chair's act
308 of adding to, removing from or taking out of order an item on a distributed and posted
309 agenda may be appealed to the full body by members whose cumulative voting power is
310 at least two votes. The chair shall discourage activities that are dilatory or disruptive.
311 The chair shall endeavor to facilitate the will of the majority of members present at all
312 times;

313 d. The chair may speak to points of order, inquiry or information in preference
314 to other members. Upon a ruling of the chair on a point of order, the chair shall allow
315 any members whose cumulative voting power is at least two votes to immediately request
316 that the decision be placed before the body. If a majority of votes present agrees to the
317 ruling of the chair, the business of the committee must proceed without further debate. If
318 a majority of the votes present does not support the ruling of the chair, the chair shall
319 immediately allow a procedural motion to dispense with the issue in question, proceeding
320 until a decision of the committee is secured and the business of the committee is allowed
321 to proceed; and

322 e. The chair shall provide copies to all committee members of all official
323 communications and requests for committee action addressed to the chair.

324 4. Powers and duties of the vice-chair.

325 a. There shall be one vice-chair of each committee.

326 b. At committee meetings, the vice-chair shall exercise the duties, powers and
327 prerogatives of the committee chair in the chair's absence.

328 5. Chair actions, vice-chair consultation.

329 a. The chair shall consult with the vice-chair in:

330 (1) developing a draft work program for consideration by the full committee;

331 (2) setting a schedule for carrying out the committee's work program; and

332 (3) cancelling or changing the date, time or place of committee meeting.

333 b. If the vice-chair disagrees with a chair's proposed decision regarding the
334 matters under subsection B.5.a. of this rule, the chair shall not take unilateral action and
335 shall refer the matters to the full committee.

336 C. Quorum, notice and voting. Members representing six and one-half votes
337 constitute a quorum of a regional committee. In the absence of a quorum, the committee
338 may perform all committee functions except for voting on legislation or a work program.
339 Notice of all regular and special meetings must be provided as specified in the Open
340 Public Meetings Act of 1971, chapter 42.30 RCW, and notice must be given to members
341 of the committees, including members who at any time during the calendar year have
342 served on the committee or have been designated by their appointing authority to receive
343 notice. All recommendations of a regional committee on council-referred ordinances or
344 motions must be approved by a majority of the members present and voting, with no
345 fewer than three and one-half affirmative votes. All recommendations must be signed
346 only by members who were present and voting on the matter and be made on a committee
347 report form supplied by the council. There may not be voting by proxy.

348 D.1.a. Referral to the regional transit committee. The chair of the council shall
349 refer to the regional transit committee countywide policies and plans related to the transit
350 services formerly provided by the municipality of metropolitan Seattle. If a standing
351 committee of the council is considering an issue that, upon the standing committee's
352 subsequent review, the standing committee believes should be considered as a
353 countywide policy or plan related to transit, then the standing committee shall so inform
354 the chair of the council. The chair of the council may then determine whether the policy
355 or plan is to be referred to a regional committee.

356 b. Referral to the regional water quality committee. The chair of the council
357 shall refer to the regional water quality committee countywide policies and plans related
358 to the water quality services formerly provided by the municipality of metropolitan

359 Seattle. If a standing committee of the council is considering an issue that, upon the
360 standing committee's subsequent review, the standing committee believes should be
361 considered as a countywide policy or plan related to water quality, then the standing
362 committee shall so inform the chair of the council. The chair of the council may then
363 determine whether the policy or plan is to be referred to a regional committee.

364 2. Regional policies committee work program. The regional policies committee
365 shall establish its subject matter through a work program adopted by a majority of those
366 committee members present and voting, with no fewer than three and one-half
367 affirmative votes, though the work program shall be limited as provided by charter or
368 ordinance, including but not limited to, subsection K. of this rule. Once the work
369 program is adopted, all regional policies and plans related to the subject matter must be
370 referred to the committee by the council.

371 3. Provisions applicable to referrals by council chair and rereferrals. Referrals
372 by the council chair or rereferrals are subject to the procedures, rights and constraints of
373 Rules 13, 17 and 26, K.C.C. 1.24.125, 1.24.165 and 1.24.255.

374 E. Time for review -- committees. A regional committee shall review legislation
375 referred to it by the county council within one hundred twenty days of the legislation's
376 referral or such other time as is jointly established by the council and the committee,
377 which shall be confirmed in the form of a motion adopted by the council. However, the
378 committee may request, and the county council may grant by motion, additional time for
379 review. If the committee fails to act upon the proposed policy or plan within the
380 established time limit, the county council may adopt the proposed policy or plan upon six
381 affirmative votes.

382 F. Time for review - council. The council shall amend, adopt or defeat the
383 legislation referred to a regional committee within ninety days after receipt of an initial
384 regional committee recommendation. However, upon receipt of the council chair's
385 written request for an extension of the time limit, the committee may approve the request
386 in writing by a majority vote at a special meeting or the next regular meeting of the
387 committee.

388 G. Adoption.

389 1. A proposed policy or plan recommended by a regional committee may be
390 adopted, without amendment, by the county council by five affirmative votes.

391 2. A proposed policy or plan that differs from the policy or plan recommended
392 by a regional committee may be adopted by the county council by six affirmative votes
393 after the regional committee has had the opportunity to review all county council
394 amendments.

395 H. Amendments and rereferral.

396 1. If the county council votes before the final passage to amend a proposed
397 policy or plan that has been reviewed or recommended by a regional committee, the
398 proposed policy or plan, as amended, must be referred to the appropriate regional
399 committee for further review and recommendation.

400 2. The timeline for the committee's review after rereferral may not be greater
401 than sixty days. However, the committee may request, and the county council may grant
402 by motion, additional time for review. The committee may concur in, dissent from or
403 recommend additional amendments to the policy or plan.

404 3. The council shall amend, adopt or defeat the legislation within sixty days
405 after receipt of a regional committee recommendation following rereferral by the council.

406 I. Regional committee consideration of other regional issues. The chair of the
407 council may request that one or more regional committees examine and comment upon
408 other pending issues that are not countywide policies or plans but would benefit from
409 interjurisdictional discussion. The issues may include, but are not limited to, operational,
410 organizational or implementation measures for countywide plans and policies. This type
411 of regional committee analysis and comment is not subject to the mandatory procedural
412 requirements of Section 270.30 of the King County Charter and the county council may
413 need to act on such issues before comment from the regional committee.

414 J. The regional committee is governed by the King County Charter, the King
415 County Code and, except to the extent expressly provided otherwise, the rules and
416 procedures established for standing and special committees in this chapter.

417 K. Role of regional committees.

418 1. A regional committee shall focus on planning and policy setting in program
419 areas where it has been determined that regional service or facility planning is required
420 and in area where it is agreed the opportunity and need for the planning exist. A regional
421 committee is not responsible for routine review and recommendation on operational and
422 administrative matters such as contracts, budgets, appropriations, and fares and rates,
423 formerly performed by the council of metropolitan Seattle. A regional committee may,
424 however, deal with policies to develop fares and rates within the committee's subject
425 matter area.

426 2. The regional transit committee shall develop, review and recommend
427 countywide policies and plans related to the transportation services formerly provided by
428 the municipality of metropolitan Seattle. Plans and policies that must be assigned to the
429 committee include, but are not limited to, the long-range transit system and capital
430 improvement plans, service design, development and allocation policies, financial
431 policies, fare policies, facility siting policy and major facilities siting process, and review
432 and comment upon Regional Transit Authority plans.

433 3. The regional water quality committee shall develop, review and recommend
434 countywide policies and plans related to the water pollution control functions formerly
435 provided by the municipality of metropolitan Seattle. Plans and policies that must be
436 assigned to the committee include, but are not limited to, water quality comprehensive
437 and long-range capital improvement plans, service area and extension policies, rate
438 policies, and the facility siting policy and major facilities siting process.

439 4. The regional policies committee shall review and recommend regional
440 policies and plans, other than transit and water quality plans, that are within the subject
441 matter area for the committee. Also, the committee may develop proposed policies and
442 plans on issues of countywide significance but, unless referred to the committee by the
443 county council, the policies and plans are not subject to the procedural requirements of
444 Section 270.30 of the King County Charter. Issues that may be referred to the committee
445 or be the subject of the committee's policy development include, but are not limited to,
446 public health, human services, open space, housing, solid waste management, regional
447 services financial policies, criminal justice, jails and district court services, and regional
448 facilities siting. In addition, the regional policies committee may consider major regional

449 governance transition and consolidation issues, particularly those involving potential
450 changes in organization and responsibilities with other county, city or regional
451 organizations.

452 L. Policies or plans proposed by regional committees. A regional committee may
453 develop and propose directly to the council, an ordinance or motion adopting, amending
454 or repealing a countywide policy or plan regarding regional transit, water quality or other
455 countywide policies and plans within the subject matter area of the committee. The
456 proposals must be approved by a majority of the committee members present and voting,
457 with no fewer than three and one-half affirmative votes. For purposes of this subsection,
458 "the subject matter area" of the regional policies committee includes matters in the
459 committee's adopted work program. Within one hundred twenty days of introduction by
460 the committee, the council or a standing committee shall consider the proposed
461 legislation and take such action on the proposed legislation as the council or standing
462 committee deems appropriate, including approval, rejection, amendment and rereferral,
463 postponement or any other action of record during a council or standing committee
464 meeting. Within five calendar days following council or standing committee action, the
465 clerk of the council or the standing committee shall notify the vice-chair of the committee
466 of the action taken. If the council amends the proposed legislation, the procedures
467 described in subsection H. of this rule shall be followed, except that the council's duty to
468 act on the legislation under subsection H.3. of this rule shall be satisfied by approval,
469 rejection, amendment and rereferral, postponement or any other action of record taken
470 during a council or standing committee meeting within sixty days following receipt of the
471 legislation from the regional committee.

472 M. To assist each regional committee in evaluating countywide policies and
473 plans, the committee may conduct public meetings and hearings and request briefings and
474 other information from citizens, county, state and local agencies, business entities and
475 other organizations.

476 SECTION 8. Ordinance 11683, Section 10, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.095 are
477 each hereby amended to read as follows:

478 **Rule 10: Public hearing and second reading.** At least seven days must elapse
479 after ~~((first reading))~~ introduction of a proposed ordinance, other than an emergency
480 ordinance, before the council may conduct the required public hearing on the proposed
481 ordinance. ~~((This rule may be temporarily suspended for a special purpose by a vote of
482 two-thirds of the members elected.))~~. The council must conduct a public hearing before
483 adopting an ordinance. Public testimony at the hearing must be germane to the proposed
484 ordinance and must be made in such a manner as to comply with the requirements
485 imposed by the chair under Rule 2B, K.C.C. 1.24.015.B. The chair shall liberally
486 construe this rule as it relates to public testimony.

487 SECTION 9. Ordinance 11683, Section 16, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.155 are
488 each hereby amended to read as follows:

489 **Rule 16: Amendments.** A member may offer amendments to proposed
490 legislation for consideration by the council or a standing committee, in accordance with
491 the following:

492 A. The clerk of the council shall establish the proper form for an amendment.
493 Except as provided in subsection F₂ of this rule, an amendment must:

494 1. Be in writing;

495 2. Bear the ((signature)) name of the member who offers it as well as the page
496 and line number of the proposed legislation to be amended; and

497 3. Be distributed to each member at the time the legislation is before the council
498 or standing committee.

499 B. As a courtesy to the clerk, amendments should be filed one-half hour before
500 the beginning of the council meeting.

501 C. An amendment to proposed legislation may not change the scope and object of
502 the proposed legislation. An amendment must be germane and must embrace the single
503 subject contained within the proposed legislation.

504 D.1. For the purposes of this subsection D:

505 a. "line amendment" means an amendment that either adds or deletes, or both,
506 material in a specified portion of legislation. A "specified portion of legislation" includes
507 either or both the legislation's body and any substantive attachment incorporated as part
508 of the legislation; and

509 b. "striking amendment" means an amendment that deletes the entire text of
510 legislation and inserts new language.

511 2. Striking amendments should be considered before any line amendments. If a
512 striking amendment is moved, all line amendments to the striking amendment, including
513 amendments to the attachment, must be approved or rejected before the striking
514 amendment is approved or rejected.

515 3. Line amendments should be considered section by section with perfecting
516 amendments considered first.

517 4. Only one amendment and one amendment to the amendment are permitted at
518 a time, but any number of each may be offered in succession if a question already
519 decided is not raised again.

520 5. Title amendments must be considered after the amendments to the proposed
521 legislation.

522 E.1. Substitute legislation may only come before the council after consideration
523 by a standing committee. A member may demand a vote on the question of whether the
524 committee substitute is to be substituted for the original proposed legislation. A
525 substitute ordinance must be within the scope and object of the original proposed
526 ordinance.

527 2. A member may offer proposed substitute legislation for a standing
528 committee's consideration, but a member may demand a vote on the question of whether
529 the standing committee is to consider the original legislation rather than the proposed
530 substitute legislation. A proposed substitute ordinance must be within the scope and
531 object of the original proposed ordinance.

532 F. In accordance with Rule 14.A, K.C.C. 1.24.135.A, proposed legislation on the
533 consent agenda is not subject to amendment except as recommended in the committee
534 report.

535 G. To promote efficiency, the council chair, or the chair of a standing committee
536 at the committee's meeting, may accept for consideration an oral amendment that is easily
537 understood.

538 SECTION 10. Ordinance 11683, Section 31, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.305
539 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

