



King County

1200 King County
Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Minutes Law and Justice Committee

Councilmembers:
Jorge L. Barón, Chair;
Claudia Balducci, Vice-Chair;
Rod Dembowski, Reagan Dunn

Lead Staff: Wendy Soo Hoo (206-477-0890)
Committee Clerk: Gabbi Williams (206-477-7470)

1:00 PM

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

Hybrid meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Barón called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Present: 4 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski and Dunn

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Councilmember Dembowski moved approval of the minutes of the August 28, 2024 meeting. Seeing no objections, the minutes were approved.

4. **Public Comment**

The following individuals were present to provide public comment:
Alex Tsimmerman
Joe Kunzler

Discussion and Possible Action

5. [Proposed Motion No. 2024-0293](#)

A MOTION acknowledging receipt of the second of two reports on progress toward addressing the legal system backlog that resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic, in response to the 2023-2024 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 19546, Section 17, Proviso P4.

Erica Newman, Council staff, briefed the committee. Leesa Manion, King County Prosecutor, Matthew Sanders, Interim Director, Department of Public Defense, Judge Ketu Shah, Presiding Judge, King County Superior Court, Judge Corinna Harn, King County District Court, and David Baker, Director of Data and Analytics, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, also addressed the committee and answered questions from the members.

Councilmember Dembowski moved Amendment 1. The amendment was adopted.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dembowski that this Motion be Recommended Do Pass Substitute Consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski and Dunn

6. [Proposed Motion No. 2024-0284](#)

A MOTION acknowledging receipt of the proviso report on a crisis response program plan required by the 2023-2024 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 19546, Section 21, as amended by Ordinance 19633, Section 17, Proviso P1.

Nick Bowman, Council staff, briefed the committee. Geoffrey Thomas, Chief of Staff, King County Sheriff's Office, Cheol Kang, Chief of Community Programs and Services Division, King County Sheriff's Office, Susie Kroll, Program Manager, Therapeutic Response Unit, King County Sheriff's Office, also addressed the committee via a video and PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dembowski that this Motion be Recommended Do Pass Consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski and Dunn

7. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2025-0016](#)

AN ORDINANCE related to the repeal of RCW 10.70.140; and amending Ordinance 17706, Section 2, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.15.020.

Melissa Bailey, Council staff, briefed the committee. Steve Larsen, Deputy Director, Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention, also addressed the committee.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dembowski that this Ordinance be Recommended Do Pass. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Balducci, Barón and Dembowski

Excused: 1 - Dunn

Briefing

8. [Briefing No. 2025-B0009](#)

2025 Law and Justice Committee Look Ahead

Wendy Soo Hoo, Council staff, briefed the committee.

This matter was Presented

Other Business

There was no other business to come before the committee.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____

Clerk's Signature