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Title: AN ORDINANCE waiving certain statutory and code requirements relating to the citizen engagement process to development countywide priorities; and declaring an emergency.

Sponsors: Bob Ferguson, Jane Hague, Kathy Lambert

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AN ORDINANCE waiving certain statutory and code requirements relating to the citizen engagement process to development countywide priorities; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Findings:

A. The metropolitan King County council's adopted 2007 budget identified priorities for people that are designed to earn public trust, to enhance the quality of life and to protect public health and safety.

B. The metropolitan King County council included in the 2007 budget an initiative to earn public trust that would engage county citizens through workshops and other means in developing countywide priorities for their county government.

The report from this citizen engagement process will guide alignment of county services to these priorities and will be adopted as a policy directive for development of the executive's proposed 2008 budget.

C. The metropolitan King County council wishes to secure a contract with an independent consultant to help in the conduct of this citizen engagement process by conducting focus groups/workshops with randomly selected citizens. The work of the focus groups/workshops will be used to provide guidance to the council on the citizens' 2008 budget priorities.

D. An emergency waiver of competitive bidding and formal solicitation requirements of state and county law is necessary in order to expedite selection of the consultant to assure that the results of the citizen engagement process are available in a timely manner to inform the executive as he prepares his proposed budget for 2008, and to provide citizen-based policy direction and budget priorities to the council during their 2008 budget deliberations.

E. It is the intent of the council to encourage participation of women and minority-owned business enterprises in securing such a contract to honor the spirit of K.C.C. chapter 4.18 to the fullest extent possible.

SECTION 2. The requirements for competitive bidding and formal solicitation of services under chapters 36.32, 39.80 and 39.10 RCW and K.C.C. chapters 4.04, 4.16, 4.18, 12.16 and 12.18 are hereby waived with reference to any contracts relating to the independent consultant to conduct this citizen involvement process. This waiver expires upon completion of this project.

SECTION 3. For the reasons set forth in section 1 of this ordinance, the county council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency exists due to the imminent

timelines required for this citizen process, and that this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of the peace, health, safety and welfare of the public.