



WHEREAS, the Oracle Financials software upgrade required purchase of new computer hardware that would support the new software upgrade, and

WHEREAS, PeopleSoft and Oracle Financials software require constant upgrades as older software version are no longer supported by software vendors, and

WHEREAS, King County is currently conducting a business case that is considering deployment of PeopleSoft and Oracle Financials software countywide, and

WHEREAS, the software industry in general offers upgrades to its software, and

WHEREAS, the software industry in general no longer supports older versions of its software, and

WHEREAS, software upgrades in general require purchase of new computer hardware to support new software upgrades, and

WHEREAS, many cities and counties also rely on off-the-shelf software for public administration, and

WHEREAS, King County and other localities may benefit from cooperatively negotiating the purchase of computer software that may result in volume discounts and may result in lengthening the time that older versions of software are supported by the vendor;

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

The executive is requested to research the cost-savings opportunities that may be available through participation in a cooperative software purchasing alliance with other cities, counties and states. The report shall include an analysis of cost-savings opportunities from negotiating both discounts on software purchase costs as well as from extending vendor support to maintain older versions of software. The executive is also requested to report back to the budget and fiscal management committee by March 1,

2004, with a report on whether the county may benefit from joining or creating a cooperative software purchasing alliance.