



Legislation Text

File #: 2016-0221, **Version:** 1

Clerk 04/12/2016

A MOTION approving the 2016 work plan for the Eastside Rail Corridor program.

WHEREAS, the Eastside Rail Corridor ("the ERC") is a forty-two-mile rail corridor that extends from Renton to Snohomish and from Woodinville to Redmond, creating a contiguous land connection through Snohomish county, King County and the cities of Renton, Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond and Woodinville, and

WHEREAS, in May 2007, the Puget Sound Regional Council completed a technical study, titled the BNSF Corridor Preservation Study, of the ERC identifying desirable potential uses and impacts, the comparative costs of those potential uses and the legal or institutional issues associated with preserving or acquiring the ERC, and

WHEREAS, the BNSF corridor advisory committee, made up of local jurisdiction, transportation interests and potential users and beneficiaries, recommended in that 2007 report, for the ERC portion south of Woodinville, that an interim regional multipurpose trail be developed, while assuring that the rail corridor right of way is preserved for future transportation uses, and

WHEREAS, through a series of property transactions, King County, the cities of Redmond and Kirkland, Puget Sound Energy and Sound Transit now hold property interests in the corridor, and King County and Redmond are the interim trail users under federal law, and

WHEREAS, the King County council has declared the Eastside Rail Corridor to be a corridor of regional significance, and has found the transportation, regional trail and county wastewater facilities in the corridor to be essential public facilities, in concert with the region's implementation of the Growth Management

Act, and

WHEREAS, the King County council created the Eastside Rail Corridor regional advisory council for the purpose of initiating a regional planning process in support of the corridor's potential to assist in the implementation of the Puget Sound Regional Council's vision 2040, including regional goals for housing, transportation, public services and the environment, resulting in the transmittal of the 2013 Creating Connections report, and

WHEREAS, the 2016 work plan for the Eastside Rail Corridor represents a set of actions that will fulfill adopted policy of the county and develop recommendations for future actions, including fostering close collaboration among local, state and federal government, with local businesses and with nonprofit stakeholders;

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

A. The 2016 work plan for the Eastside Rail Corridor program, Attachment A to this motion, is hereby approved.

B. Those provisions of the work plan that call for the redesign of the governance structure previously adopted in Motion 13801 shall be carried out consistent with the policies in the 2013 Creating Connections report and any other adopted county policy.

C. All activities undertaken in support of the work plan should pursue and implement best practices for collaboration and problem-solving, in recognition of the multi-jurisdictional and multisector efforts that will be required to realize the full public benefits from this important public asset. The collaboration should include close consultation with representatives of the public, private and nonprofit sectors, anticipating and embracing opportunities to bring government, stakeholder groups and economic actors into successful working relationships.