King County

King County

1200 King County Courthouse 516 Third Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 2018-0321 **Version**: 2

Type: Ordinance Status: Passed

File created: 7/16/2018 In control: Government Accountability and Oversight

Committee

On agenda: Final action: 7/30/2018

Enactment date: 8/2/2018 Enactment #: 18775

Title: AN ORDINANCE naming the 500 Fourth Avenue block, and any building on the block, the John

Spellman Block and Memorial Building in honor of the late John Dennis Spellman, former King County

Commissioner, former King County Executive and Governor of the State of Washington.

Sponsors: Reagan Dunn, Pete von Reichbauer, Joe McDermott, Claudia Balducci, Dave Upthegrove, Larry

Gossett, Rod Dembowski, Jeanne Kohl-Welles, Kathy Lambert

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. Ordinance 18775.pdf, 2. 2018-0321 legislative review form, 3. 2018-

0321_SR_Spellman_Block_and_Building.docx, 4. 2018-0321_ATT1_Proposed_Ordinance.docx, 5.

2018-0321_AMD1_Block_Location.docx, 6. 2018-

0321 REVISED SR Spellman Block and Building.docx

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
7/30/2018	2	Metropolitan King County Council	Hearing Held	
7/30/2018	2	Metropolitan King County Council	Passed	Pass
7/24/2018	1	Government Accountability and Oversight Committee	Recommended Do Pass Substitute	Pass
7/16/2018	1	Metropolitan King County Council	Introduced and Referred	

AN ORDINANCE naming the 500 Fourth Avenue block, and any building on the

block, the John Spellman Block and Memorial Building in honor of the late John

Dennis Spellman, former King County Commissioner, former King County

Executive and Governor of the State of Washington.

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

1. John Dennis Spellman served the people of King County and the state of Washington with distinction, earning the respect and admiration of constituents and colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

2. John Dennis Spellman was born in Seattle, Washington on December 29, 1926, served in the

United States Navy during World War II and was educated at Seattle University and Georgetown University Law Center, earning his baccalaureate and law degrees from those institutions.

- 3. John Dennis Spellman was elected to the King County commission in 1967.
- 4. John Dennis Spellman was elected King County's first county executive in 1969. As executive, John Dennis Spellman worked to modernize county government, consolidating previously independent departments and instituting a merit system. He oversaw the construction of the Kingdome and Seattle's expansion as a major league sports city with the addition of the Seahawks and Mariners. He was twice reelected to the office in 1973 and 1977.
- 5. John Dennis Spellman was elected governor of the state of Washington in 1980. As governor, he is best known for blocking the proposed Northern Tier Oil Pipeline under Puget Sound, proclaiming the Sound "a national treasure" and the pipeline "a very real threat." He served in that office from 1981 to 1985.
- 6. John Dennis Spellman passed away on January 16, 2018.
- 7. John Dennis Spellman was a dedicated and effective public servant who throughout his career led with honor and grace. He will be remembered for these qualities and for his advocacy for his county, his state and the things we hold dear.
- 8. The 500 Fourth Avenue block, on which the King County Administration Building is currently located; is bounded to the west by Fourth Avenue, to the north by James Street, to the east by Fifth Avenue and to the south by Jefferson Street.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. We do hereby honor and memorialize John Dennis Spellman by naming the 500 Fourth Avenue block, which is bounded to the west by Fourth Avenue, to

the north by James Street, to the east by Fifth Avenue and to the south by Jefferson Street, and any building on

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the block, the John Spellman Block and Memorial Building.