



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

July 7, 2017

### Ordinance

**Proposed No.** 2017-0232.4

**Sponsors** McDermott and Kohl-Welles

1 AN ORDINANCE providing for the submission to the  
2 qualified electors of King County at a special election to be  
3 held in King County on November 7, 2017, a proposition  
4 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the levy  
5 limitations contained in chapter 84.55 RCW for a  
6 consecutive six-year period at a rate of not more than ten  
7 cents per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation in the  
8 first year, and limiting annual levy increases to three  
9 percent in the five succeeding years, all for the purpose of  
10 supporting veterans and military servicemembers and their  
11 respective families; seniors and their caregivers; and  
12 vulnerable populations in King County by funding capital  
13 facilities and regional health and human services to  
14 promote housing stability, healthy living, financial stability,  
15 social engagement and health and human services system  
16 improvements and system access; providing for limited  
17 mitigation of prorationing of metropolitan park districts  
18 and fire districts levies to the extent the prorationing was  
19 caused by this levy; directing proposal of a transition plan

20 and an implementation plan for the veterans, seniors and  
21 human services levy; and directing proposal of an  
22 ordinance to create an oversight board or boards,  
23 contingent upon voter approval of the levy.

24 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

- 25 1. In 2005, the metropolitan King County council passed Ordinance  
26 15279, placing a six-year veterans and human services levy on the ballot  
27 for a special election. King County residents voted for the veterans and  
28 human services levy with a nearly fifty-eight percent approval to fund  
29 services for veterans and their families, military personnel and their  
30 families and other individuals and families in need across King County.  
31 In 2011, the metropolitan King County council passed Ordinance 17072,  
32 placing a renewal of the veterans and human services levy on the ballot for  
33 a special election. King County residents voted for the renewal with a  
34 nearly sixty-nine percent approval rate.
- 35 2. Since the veterans and human services levy's 2011 renewal, the current  
36 veterans and human services levy has served more than one hundred and  
37 eighty-three thousand clients, more than thirty thousand of whom have  
38 been veterans, military personnel or their families.
- 39 3. The current veterans and human service levy's accomplishments in  
40 pursuit of its goal to reduce homelessness include: awarding proceeds to  
41 go towards building eight hundred fifty-seven units of affordable housing;  
42 gaining or maintaining housing for more than three thousand two hundred

43 persons; reaching more than seven thousand one hundred clients through  
44 outreach and mobile services and then connecting them to housing,  
45 medical or behavioral health services; and convening a network of  
46 partners to house more than eight hundred fifty homeless veterans during a  
47 focused housing initiative in 2015.

48 4. The current veterans and human services levy's accomplishments in  
49 pursuit of its goal to reduce emergency medical and criminal justice  
50 system involvement include engaging more than three thousand eight  
51 hundred incarcerated or formerly incarcerated veterans, parents, or persons  
52 at high risk of recidivism with reentry case planning, supportive services  
53 or connections to housing or health care. A levy funded database and  
54 housing placement program for high utilizers of public services calculated  
55 that since 2012, supportive housing placements achieved estimated cost  
56 offsets of seven million dollars that otherwise would have been incurred to  
57 incarcerate or hospitalize the high utilizers who received housing.

58 5. The current veterans and human services levy's accomplishments in its  
59 goal to increase self-sufficiency for veterans, military personnel, their  
60 families and other individuals and families in need include the King  
61 County veterans program serving more than twelve thousand veterans and  
62 family members; screening more than twelve thousand seven hundred  
63 mothers for behavioral health conditions at integrated community health  
64 centers; providing civil legal case assessments for more than one thousand  
65 one hundred veterans, more than three hundred of which resulted in

66 successful resolution and more than five hundred of which resulted in  
67 referrals to outside counsel and provision of more than fifteen thousand  
68 four hundred hours of posttraumatic stress disorder counseling to more  
69 than one thousand two hundred veterans or their spouses and children.

70 6. The current veterans and human services levy will expire at the end of  
71 2017. In light of this levy's accomplishments for King County's residents  
72 and acknowledging the veterans and human services levy's importance to  
73 maintaining basic health and human services for veterans and vulnerable  
74 populations, the current levy's regional health and human services for  
75 King County's veterans and vulnerable populations merit continuation.

76 7. The veterans and human services levy has provided an increasingly  
77 large share of King County's funding for essential basic human services as  
78 the general fund's structural deficit reduces the portion of the general fund  
79 available to support human services.

80 8. Recognizing the changing landscape of regional veterans and human  
81 services needs and funding since the 2011 renewal of the veterans and  
82 human services levy, the metropolitan King County council directed the  
83 executive to produce two reports to inform deliberations about renewal of  
84 the current veterans and human services levy. Executive staff combined  
85 the findings of staff research and community input from thirty-four in-  
86 person engagement meetings and two online surveys, totaling seven  
87 hundred and forty-two responses in seven languages, to compose and  
88 present the reports. The metropolitan King County council approved the

89 first report in Motion 14822 and accepted and approved the second report  
90 in Motion 14823. The reports provided information, analysis and  
91 recommendations to inform deliberations about a potentially renewed or  
92 replaced veterans and human services levy.

93 9. In addition to confirming the ongoing need to support the veterans and  
94 vulnerable populations eligible to receive support within the current  
95 veterans and human services levy, the report approved by the council in  
96 Motion 14822 provides evidence that some populations and issues not  
97 supported within the current veterans and human services levy now merit  
98 consideration for support from the replacement levy proposed in this  
99 ordinance. Those populations and issues include supporting seniors and  
100 their caregivers and healthy aging; supporting survivors of traumatic  
101 experiences that include sexual assault, domestic violence, human  
102 trafficking, including labor trafficking and sex trafficking, and commercial  
103 sexual exploitation as well as services to prevent those types of trauma;  
104 support for refugees and immigrants; support for low-income residents of  
105 rural communities and improved health and human services delivery in  
106 rural communities; support for civil legal services for persons with low  
107 income; and support for persons with disabilities and their caregivers.

108 10. From 2010 to 2015, the number of King County veterans living below  
109 the federal poverty level increased by forty-three percent to a total of eight  
110 thousand two hundred ninety-nine, even as the overall population of  
111 veterans in King County has fallen to an estimated 2015 level of one

112 hundred twelve thousand eight hundred veterans.

113 11. Nationally, an average of twenty veterans commit suicide every day.

114 On average, only six of the twenty veterans committing suicide every day

115 are enrolled in U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs services. The

116 remaining majority are not receiving federal veterans services.

117 12. As of January 2017, an estimated two thousand one hundred two

118 veterans were homeless in King County. Despite a strong partnership with

119 the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the Washington Department of

120 Veterans Affairs and a network of local housing and service providers

121 who together house an average of forty homeless veterans in King County

122 per month, the number of homeless veterans increases by a net average

123 monthly inflow of sixty-six newly homeless veterans. If sustained for a

124 year, this monthly rate of growth would generate seven hundred and

125 twenty newly homeless veterans per year.

126 13. Eight percent of King County residents live in rural communities.

127 King County's rural residents consistently report difficulty in accessing the

128 network of federal, state, county and philanthropically funded health and

129 human services. Travelling to urban centers to seek services is difficult or

130 impractical for many persons from rural communities who require health

131 and human services.

132 14. At least fourteen thousand persons experience domestic violence each

133 year in King County. Survivors of domestic violence experience

134 disproportionately high rates of homelessness and experience an average

135 of more than nineteen civil legal problems, more than twice the average  
136 experienced by the general low-income population.

137 15. Approximately three to five hundred youth are sexually exploited  
138 within King County each year. Commercial sexual exploitation of  
139 children remains a poorly understood yet urgent challenge for King  
140 County residents to confront.

141 16. More than one hundred thousand persons with physical, intellectual or  
142 developmental disabilities live in Washington. More than seventy percent  
143 of persons with a disability live with a family caregiver, and twenty-three  
144 percent of those family caregivers are aged sixty or older with an  
145 additional thirty-five percent aged forty-one or older.

146 17. Eighteen percent of King County residents are aged sixty or older, a  
147 number that will increase to twenty-five percent of the county population  
148 by 2040. As seniors make up an increasing percentage of King County's  
149 population, funding for senior services is not keeping pace. Funding  
150 through the federal Older Americans Act, as well as state and county  
151 funding for seniors, is falling. Philanthropic funding for seniors is also  
152 waning. The result is a trend toward reduced senior funding just as King  
153 County's population of seniors is increasing.

154 18. Seventy-eight percent of persons sixty or older have one or more  
155 chronic health conditions. Thirty-five percent are women living alone.  
156 Nine percent are living in poverty. Racial, ethnic and place-based  
157 disproportionalities unevenly distribute these conditions and risk factors

158 across King County.

159 19. Elder abuse is a growing challenge. The King County prosecuting  
160 attorney's office reported more than seven thousand allegations of abuse  
161 and neglect of seniors in King County in 2015.

162 20. The responsibility to care for vulnerable seniors impacts all  
163 generations. One-third of today's King County residents who are sixty-  
164 five or older will need some form of long-term care service or support in  
165 the future. That work will in many cases require assistance from unpaid  
166 caregivers, including spouses, adult children and acquaintances.

167 21. Seniors, many of whose incomes are fixed, find it increasingly  
168 difficult to afford to live in the King County communities they helped  
169 nurture and build as housing costs increase dramatically.

170 22. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer seniors in King County  
171 are at extreme risk of the health-harming effects of social isolation and  
172 poverty, with nearly one quarter of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and  
173 queer seniors in King County living below two hundred percent of the  
174 federal poverty level, forty-five percent living alone and sixty-eight  
175 percent reporting having experienced three or more incidents of  
176 victimization or discrimination.

177 23. Adults aged sixty-five and older comprised eighty percent of the more  
178 than two thousand people who were hospitalized for falls in King County  
179 between 2008 and 2012. The rate of death of seniors hospitalized for falls  
180 is more than seven times the county average. In 2015, more than fifteen



181 percent of King County emergency medical services' call responses were  
182 for seniors who had fallen.

183 24. Actual and perceived social isolation are both associated with  
184 increased risk for premature death. The influence of social isolation on  
185 the risk of death is comparable with risk factors for mortality such as  
186 smoking. Social isolation's influence on risk of premature death exceeds  
187 that of physical inactivity and obesity. Adults seventy-five and older who  
188 are lonely, socially isolated and inactive have a mortality rate of fifty-three  
189 percent compared to a mortality rate of thirty percent among their age  
190 peers who are not lonely, inactive, or socially isolated.

191 25. Since its inception in 2006 and through its renewal in 2011, the  
192 veterans and human services levy has served hundreds of thousands of  
193 veterans, military personnel, their families and other individuals and  
194 families in need. In addition to the veterans and human services levy's  
195 achievements, changed conditions and newly emerging needs present  
196 additional opportunities to set the conditions for persons in King County  
197 to fulfill their potential. Given the levy's track record of success and the  
198 additional need within the community, it is appropriate to ask the voters to  
199 replace the current veterans and human services levy with the veterans,  
200 seniors and human services levy provided for in this ordinance.

201 26. In 2010, the county adopted Ordinance 16857, establishing the King  
202 County Strategic Plan. In 2015, the county council passed Motion 14317  
203 updating and revising King County's vision, mission, guiding principles

204 and goals. Included within the county's goals are improving the health and  
205 well-being of all people in King County, increasing access to quality  
206 housing that is affordable to all, implementing alternatives to divert people  
207 from the criminal justice system and ensuring that county government  
208 operates efficiently and effectively and is accountable to the public. The  
209 county's guiding principles command that pursuit of the county goals  
210 should address the root causes of inequities to provide equal access for all;  
211 engage with partners, stakeholders and public and private organizations to  
212 achieve goals; align funding, policy and operational goals of King County  
213 government; and provide effective, efficient local governance and services  
214 to unincorporated areas.

215 27. In 2016, the council adopted implementation plans for the best starts  
216 for kids levy and the mental illness and drug dependency sales tax  
217 renewal. Both plans expressed the council's and the executive's intent to  
218 design, implement and evaluate strategies that are outcomes-oriented. It is  
219 the county's intent that the veterans, seniors and human services levy  
220 provided for in this ordinance, if approved by voters, shall have an  
221 outcomes orientation that appropriately aligns with the plans for the best  
222 starts for kids levy and the mental illness and drug dependency sales tax.

223 28. King County actively engages in equity and social justice efforts to  
224 eliminate racially and ethnically disparate health and human services  
225 outcomes in King County, and this priority shall guide the council and the  
226 executive in the process of designing, administering, and evaluating the

227 policies and programs related to the veterans, seniors and human services  
228 levy, if approved by voters.

229 29. It is the intent of the county that over the course of the six-year levy  
230 the majority of levy proceeds expended to build capital facilities under  
231 authority of this ordinance shall be for very low-income households of  
232 which the total income is no higher than thirty percent of the median  
233 income level for the county as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing  
234 and Urban Development or its successor agency. Specific very low-  
235 income threshold levels vary according to household size.

236 30. It is the intent of the county that the transition plan required in section  
237 7.A. of this ordinance provide a mechanism to continue, without  
238 interruption, currently funded regional health and human services to  
239 veterans and military servicemembers and their respective families, and  
240 other persons in King County; to provide substantial investments in  
241 housing stability early in the levy term; and to engage in planning  
242 activities until the new implementation plan is approved in accordance  
243 with section 7.B. of this ordinance.

244 31. It is the intent of the county that the implementation plan required by  
245 section 7.B. of this ordinance limit administrative expenses to five percent  
246 of levy proceeds, the same limitation present in the existing veterans and  
247 human services levy.

248 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

249 **SECTION 1. Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this

250 ordinance unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

251           A. "Caregiver" means a person who, without pay, cares for or supervises another  
252 person who requires such care or supervision due to disability, chronic illness or, in the  
253 case of a senior, age-related decline. Government-provided benefits or financial  
254 assistance provided directly to a person for being a caregiver are not considered pay  
255 within this definition.

256           B. "Levy" means the levy of regular property taxes for the specific purposes and  
257 term provided in this ordinance and authorized by the electorate in accordance with state  
258 law.

259           C. "Levy proceeds" means the principal amount of moneys raised by the levy and  
260 any interest earnings on the moneys.

261           D. "Limit factor" for purposes of calculating the levy limitations in RCW  
262 84.55.010, means one hundred three percent.

263           E. "Military servicemember" means a person who is serving as either an active  
264 duty or a reservist member of the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force or Coast Guard,  
265 or in the National Guard.

266           F. "Regional health and human services" means a wide range of those services,  
267 programs, operations and capital facilities that promote outcomes relating to healthy  
268 living, housing stability, financial stability, social engagement, service system  
269 improvement and service system access to meet basic human needs and promote healthy  
270 living and communities including, but not limited to:

271           1. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that promote  
272 housing stability or that contribute to making homelessness rare, brief and one-time by

273 creating housing, preserving or modifying existing housing or supporting persons in  
274 gaining or maintaining housing, including an assistance program to support persons who  
275 qualify for a property tax exemption under RCW 84.36.381;

276           2. Those health care and health promotion services, programs and operations  
277 that encourage healthy lifestyles and wellness, promote healthy aging, support recovery,  
278 improve physical and behavioral health for individuals and families, promote suicide  
279 prevention efforts, reduce unintentional injury and support survivors of domestic  
280 violence;

281           3. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that promote social  
282 engagement and community building such as senior centers for individuals and groups in  
283 culturally, geographically, economically or linguistically isolated communities and for  
284 others such as seniors experiencing or at risk of social isolation and its health-harming  
285 effects;

286           4. Those services and programs that promote financial stability or financial  
287 mobility, including access to, preparation for and assistance in gaining or maintaining  
288 employment, income, education and financial literacy, including an assistance program to  
289 support persons who qualify for a property tax exemption under RCW 84.36.381;

290           5. Those services and programs that promote equitable and affordable access to  
291 child care in King County, including but not limited to services and programs that  
292 promote equitable and affordable access to child care for families of veterans and military  
293 servicemembers;

294           6. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that promote and  
295 support diversion away from the criminal justice system, and services and programs that

296 promote and support criminal justice system-linked services or other services that assist  
297 individuals, including children, youth and young adults, and their families, in preventing,  
298 mitigating or recovering from the effects of their involvement with the criminal justice  
299 system, including services that promote restorative justice or reentry to society after  
300 incarceration or detention, such as services aimed at supporting justice system-involved  
301 individuals to attain or retain housing;

302           7. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that improve or  
303 expand the delivery of health and human services, improve health and human services  
304 system access and navigability, reduce or prevent the disparate or traumatic effects of  
305 systems upon vulnerable populations, build the capacity and support the operations of  
306 health and human services providers to serve their clients and communities, including  
307 strategies to promote retention, recruitment and pay of high quality service providers and  
308 build the capacity of communities to partner with King County;

309           8. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that improve or  
310 expand the delivery of civil legal aid to vulnerable populations;

311           9. Those services and programs that promote, encourage and support  
312 employment opportunities for veterans and military servicemembers, including  
313 employment opportunities in King County government such as the veterans internship  
314 program, a version of which has also been known as the Vets 4 HIRE program,  
315 established by Ordinance 17450;

316           10. Those services and programs for incarcerated veterans and military  
317 servicemembers, including assessment and referral for substance abuse treatment, mental  
318 health counseling, transitional housing assistance and job referral and placement services

319 such as those provided through the incarcerated veterans pilot program established under  
320 Motion 14632 and Motion 14766;

321 11. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that further a goal  
322 of allowing seniors to age in place and enjoy a high quality of life in their own homes;

323 12. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that improve and  
324 expand services for youth in crisis; and

325 13. Those services, programs, operations and capital facilities that provide  
326 education and work force development and training for vulnerable populations.

327 G. "Senior" means a person who is at least fifty-five years old.

328 H. "Technical assistance and capacity building" means assisting small  
329 organizations, partnerships and groups to enable such entities to provide regional health  
330 and human services and capital facilities funded by the levy's proceeds. Assistance may  
331 include, but is not limited to, providing or funding legal, accounting, human resources  
332 and leadership development services and support.

333 I. "Veteran" means a person who has served as either an active duty or a reservist  
334 member of the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force or Coast Guard, or in the National  
335 Guard.

336 J. "Vulnerable population" means persons or communities that are susceptible to  
337 reduced health, housing, financial or social stability outcomes because of current  
338 experience of or historical exposure to trauma, violence, poverty, isolation, bias, racism,  
339 stigma, discrimination, disability or chronic illness. Examples of vulnerable populations  
340 include, but are not limited to survivors of domestic violence; survivors of sexual assault;  
341 survivors of human trafficking, including labor trafficking and sex trafficking; survivors

342 of commercial sexual exploitation; persons who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
343 transgender, queer or intersex; persons with a disability; African Americans and other  
344 persons of color who have been disproportionately impacted by policies and practices  
345 resulting in housing instability or housing insecurity; family caregivers for persons with a  
346 disability; immigrants and refugees; low-income residents of rural communities; persons  
347 living in poverty; persons at risk of or experiencing homelessness; youth involved in the  
348 child welfare system, including youth in the foster care system, and young adult alumni  
349 of the child welfare system; minors who have been separated from both parents and other  
350 relatives and are not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for  
351 doing so; persons reentering society from criminal justice system involvement; and  
352 persons at risk of criminal justice system involvement due to disproportionate practices of  
353 enforcement, mental illness or substance use disorders.

354        SECTION 2. Levy submittal to the voters. To provide necessary moneys for  
355 the provision of regional health and human services to King County's veterans and  
356 military servicemembers and their respective families, seniors and their caregivers and  
357 vulnerable populations, and for limiting the impact of this levy on metropolitan park  
358 districts and fire districts due to prorationing mandated under RCW 84.52.010, the county  
359 council shall submit to the qualified electors of the county a proposition to replace an  
360 expiring levy and authorize a regular property tax levy in excess of the levy limitation  
361 contained in chapter 84.55 RCW for six consecutive years, at a rate not to exceed ten  
362 cents per one thousand dollars of assessed value in the first year and collections  
363 commencing in 2018, with the 2018 levy amount serving as the base for annual increases  
364 limited by the limit factor.



365            **SECTION 3. Deposit of levy proceeds.** The levy proceeds shall be deposited in  
366 a special revenue fund, which fund shall be created by ordinance.

367            **SECTION 4. Eligible expenditures.**

368            A. If approved by the qualified electors of the county, at least one percent of each  
369 year's levy proceeds must be used to fund technical assistance and capacity building.

370            B. From the remaining tax proceeds after the amount required in subsection A. of  
371 this section, except for three hundred thousand dollars of each year's levy proceeds  
372 reserved for the purposes set forth in subsection C. of this section, all levy proceeds shall  
373 be divided into three equal parts and used for the following purposes:

374            1. One third of those proceeds shall be used to plan, provide, administer and  
375 evaluate a wide range of regional health and human services and capital facilities for  
376 veterans and military servicemembers and their respective families. In this levy's first  
377 year, at least fifty percent of the proceeds described in this subsection shall be used to  
378 fund those capital facilities and regional health and human services that promote housing  
379 stability for veterans and military servicemembers and their respective families. In  
380 subsequent years, at least twenty-five percent of the proceeds described in this subsection  
381 shall be used to fund those capital facilities and regional health and human services that  
382 promote housing stability for veterans and military servicemembers and their respective  
383 families;

384            2. One third of those proceeds shall be used to plan, provide, administer and  
385 evaluate a wide range of regional health and human services and capital facilities for  
386 seniors and their caregivers and to promote healthy aging in King County. At least fifty  
387 percent of the proceeds described in this subsection shall be used to fund capital facilities

388 and regional health and human services for seniors who are also veterans or military  
389 servicemembers and their respective caregivers and families. In this levy's first year, at  
390 least fifty percent of the proceeds described in this subsection shall be used to fund those  
391 capital facilities and regional health and human services that promote housing stability  
392 for seniors. In subsequent years, at least twenty-five percent of the proceeds described in  
393 this subsection shall be used to fund those capital facilities and regional health and human  
394 services that promote housing stability for seniors; and

395           3. One third of those proceeds shall be used to plan, provide, administer and  
396 evaluate a wide range of regional health and human services and capital facilities for  
397 vulnerable populations. In this levy's first year, at least fifty percent of the proceeds  
398 described in this subsection shall be used to fund those capital facilities and regional  
399 health and human services that promote housing stability for vulnerable populations. In  
400 subsequent years, at least twenty-five percent of the proceeds described in this subsection  
401 shall be used to fund those capital facilities and regional health and human services that  
402 promote housing stability for vulnerable populations.

403           C.1. Of the levy proceeds annually reserved in subsection A. of this section, the  
404 council may by ordinance authorize the expenditure of those levy proceeds to reduce the  
405 levy's impact on metropolitan park districts and fire districts to the extent their levies may  
406 be prorated as mandated by RCW 84.52.010 and to the extent the prorationing was  
407 caused by this levy. Metropolitan park districts and fire districts shall use any moneys  
408 received under authority of this subsection C. to fund, within their districts, regional  
409 health and human services for veterans and military servicemembers and their respective  
410 families, seniors and their caregivers and vulnerable populations.

411           2. Unless the council by ordinance otherwise directs, reserved levy proceeds not  
412 expended as authorized in subsection C.1. of this section shall be, no earlier than June 1,  
413 2023, divided in thirds and one third expended for each of the purposes set forth in  
414 subsection B.1. through 3. of this section.

415           SECTION 5. Call for special election. In accordance with RCW 29A.04.321,  
416 the King County council hereby calls for a special election to be held in conjunction with  
417 the general election on November 7, 2017, to consider a proposition authorizing a regular  
418 property tax levy for the purposes described in this ordinance. The King County director  
419 of elections shall cause notice to be given of this ordinance in accordance with the state  
420 constitution and general law and to submit to the qualified electors of the county, at the  
421 said special county election, the proposition hereinafter set forth. The clerk of the council  
422 shall certify that proposition to the director of elections in substantially the following  
423 form, with such additions, deletions or modifications as may be required for the  
424 proposition listed below by the prosecuting attorney:

425           PROPOSITION\_\_\_; The King County Council has passed Ordinance  
426 \_\_\_\_\_ concerning funding for veterans, seniors and vulnerable  
427 populations. If approved, this proposition would replace an expiring levy  
428 and fund capital facilities and regional health and human services for  
429 veterans and military servicemembers and their respective families,  
430 seniors and their caregivers, and vulnerable populations, including  
431 domestic violence survivors and persons with disabilities. It would  
432 authorize King County to levy an additional property tax for six years  
433 beginning in 2018 at a rate of \$0.10 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, the

434 2018 levy amount being the base for subsequent annual increases of up to  
435 3%.

436 Should this proposition be:

437 Approved? \_\_\_\_\_

438 Rejected? \_\_\_\_\_

439 **SECTION 6. Governance.**

440 A. No later than August 23, 2017, the executive shall develop and transmit a plan  
441 for council review and approval by ordinance to create and prescribe the composition and  
442 duties of a board or boards to provide oversight of the expenditure of the proceeds  
443 described in section 4.A. and B. of this ordinance. The creation of the board or boards  
444 shall be contingent upon voter approval of the ballot proposition described in section 5 of  
445 this ordinance.

446 B. The board or boards shall be charged to oversee the distribution of levy  
447 proceeds consistent with section 4.A. and B. of this ordinance and to report annually to  
448 the executive and council on the fiscal and performance management of the levy. The  
449 plan may describe additional matters on which the board or boards are empowered to  
450 provide advice to the executive and county council.

451 C. The proposed ordinance required by this section may be combined with the  
452 proposed ordinance required by section 7.A. of this ordinance.

453 **SECTION 7. Implementation planning.**

454 A. No later than August 23, 2017, the executive shall transmit for council review  
455 and approval by ordinance a proposed transition plan for the veterans, seniors and human  
456 services levy. Contingent upon voter approval of the ballot proposition described in

457 section 5 of this ordinance, a transition plan, for spending of levy proceeds in 2018 or  
458 later years as authorized under this ordinance, should address the following elements:

459           1. A recommended course of action that would minimize service discontinuity  
460 for veterans and military servicemembers and their respective families and other  
461 individuals and families in need during the transition between the veterans and human  
462 services levy and the veterans, seniors and human services levy;

463           2. Any proposed new staffing and planning activities required to plan for and  
464 administer the veterans, seniors and human services levy during the 2018 transition  
465 period, and prior to the adoption of the implementation plan required in subsection 7.B.  
466 of this ordinance; and

467           3. A plan for the portion of veterans, seniors and human services first-year  
468 proceeds required in section 4.B.1. through 3. of this ordinance to fund those capital  
469 facilities and regional and human services that promote housing stability for veterans,  
470 seniors and vulnerable populations. The executive shall develop and include a definition  
471 of housing stability that shall address but not be limited to: the appropriate percentage  
472 that housing costs should represent of a person's income as compared to costs of other  
473 necessities, such as food, clothing, transportation and medical care; risk factors for  
474 housing instability or housing insecurity; and housing safety and quality.

475           B. Contingent upon voter approval of the ballot proposition described in section 5  
476 of this ordinance and no later than March 16, 2018, the executive shall transmit an  
477 implementation plan for the veterans, seniors and human services levy for council review  
478 and adoption by ordinance. The implementation plan shall describe the expenditure of  
479 levy proceeds to achieve outcomes related to healthy living, housing stability, financial

480 stability, social engagement, service system improvement and service system access for  
481 veterans and military servicemembers and their respective families, seniors and their  
482 caregivers and vulnerable populations, consistent with the eligible expenditures described  
483 in section 4 of this ordinance. This plan shall include a definition of housing stability for  
484 the purposes of expenditures of levy proceeds that shall address but not be limited to: the  
485 appropriate percentage that housing costs should represent of a person's income as  
486 compared to costs of other necessities, such as food, clothing, transportation and medical  
487 care; risk factors for housing instability or housing insecurity; and housing safety and  
488 quality. The definition may be refined from the definition included in the transition plan  
489 required in subsection A. of this section. The plan shall include identification of services,  
490 programs, operations and capital facilities that build the capacity and support the  
491 operations of health and human services providers to serve their clients and communities,  
492 including strategies to promote retention, recruitment and pay of high quality service  
493 providers. The plan shall also identify and describe: accountability measures, including  
494 measurable outcomes or results expected for each of the three populations, which are  
495 veterans, seniors and vulnerable populations, across each of the five outcome areas,  
496 which are healthy living, housing stability, financial stability, social engagement, service  
497 system improvement and service system access, due to the expenditure of levy funds; a  
498 regular performance monitoring program that will assess and report on how well the  
499 veterans, seniors and human services levy is achieving those outcomes; and how this  
500 veterans, seniors and human services levy program-specific performance monitoring and  
501 reporting will be coordinated with performance monitoring and reporting on other  
502 dedicated human service funds, such as the best starts for kids fund and the mental illness

503 and drug dependency fund. The plan should describe how performance monitoring and  
504 reporting will focus on results and not simply on numbers served.

505 C. No levy proceeds may be expended until the council adopts by ordinance the  
506 transition plan referenced in subsections 7.A.1. through 3. of this ordinance. Until the  
507 council approves by ordinance the implementation plan referenced in subsection 7.B. of  
508 this ordinance, the transition plan, approved under subsection 7.A. of this ordinance, shall  
509 govern the expenditure of levy proceeds. After adoption of the implementation plan, it  
510 shall govern the expenditure of levy proceeds and the transition plan shall no longer have  
511 force or effect.

512 SECTION 8. It is the intent of the council that the additional regular property  
513 taxes authorized by this ordinance shall be included in any real property tax exemption  
514 authorized by RCW 84.36.381, including any amendment that is adopted by the state  
515 legislature during the term of this levy.

516 SECTION 9. Ratification. Certification of the proposition by the clerk of the  
517 county council to the director of elections in accordance with law before the general  
518 election on November 7, 2017, and any other act consistent with the authority and before  
519 the effective date of this ordinance are hereby ratified and confirmed.

520 SECTION 10. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or its application

521 to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the  
522 application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.  
523

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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J. Joseph McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:

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Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

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Dow Constantine, County Executive

**Attachments:** None