

Meeting Transcripts: KingCountyCC

Summary Information

Organization: KingCountyCC

Number of Meetings: 21

Date Range: 2016-07-06 to 2021-11-03

Included Meetings:

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Consolidated Transcript (All Meetings)

And so we'll take item six, six and seven together through Jim separately. I would suggest together. Okay. That's what I'm thinking too. Okay, good. So six and seven together. So that is proposed ordinance 2016 0311 and 03181 being an ordinance and one being a motion. So, Mr. Wagner, will you take them away? Thank you, Madam Chair. Nick Wagner, council staff. The staff report on these two pieces of legislation begins on page 57 of your materials, both proposed ordinance 2016 0311 and proposed motion 2016 0318 would help make the wording of the King County Charter and the King County Code gender neutral. And by gender neutral I mean wording. That does not imply that certain roles are suited exclusively or primarily to a particular gender. For example, the term fireman could be interpreted as implying that firefighters are normally men, whereas the term firefighter is free of that implication. The goal of making language gender neutral is not new, as shown by the excerpt from the 2003 edition of the Chicago Manual of Style that is quoted at the top of page 58 of your materials. Three years earlier, this Council had adopted what is now Section 1.03.120. A of the King County Code, which is quoted in the middle of page 58 and which requires the use of gender neutral, gender neutral language in the code that excuse me, that provision, however, is prospective only it does not affect the gender specific language that is already in the code or in the charter unless that language happens to be amended for other reasons. As a result, the transition to gender or gender neutral language in the code and the charter has been slow, as noted in proposed motion 2016 0318 the proposed ordinance and motion that is before you would address that problem, the ordinance would place on the November ballot a charter amendment making the charter language gender neutral. The ordinance, which is attachment one that pages 61 to 76 of your materials, is 16 pages long. There is also a technical amendment, Amendment One, which is attachment to a page 77 of your materials. Since the county code is much longer than the charter, making it gender neutral is a larger project in its original form. Proposed Motion 26. 0318. Would direct the Council Clerk to develop a plan and timeline for the project. There is a proposed amendment, Amendment One, which is the attachment for page 83. However, that amendment has been superseded by Amendment two, which has been distributed to this morning, I believe, and which directs the Clerk of the Council to develop options for the Council to consider and provides guidance for developing those options. And my understanding is that the sponsor that Amendment two is considered a friendly amendment by the original sponsor of proposed Motion 2016 0318. In particular, Amendment two specifies that one of the options must be performing the work within existing staff resources. There's also a title amendment T one, which also was distributed this morning, whi

ch would conform the title to the motion as amended by Amendment two. And that concludes my staff report. Unless there are any questions. I don't have any questions, but I know we have an expert on board on this topic. So is there anybody like to make any comments on this? Councilmember Ko Well, since you're the expert, you want to comment? Thank you, Madam Chair. I don't know that I'm an expert on this, but I do. I am experienced. Well, hopefully your experience makes you next expert. Sometimes that goes hand in hand. Not always. However, I'd like to give a little bit of background here in a couple of ways. First of all, I think it was in mid-January when other the other new council member, Claudia Balducci and I and our staff were receiving an orientation right here in our chambers on our charter and codes and many other things. And both Councilmember Bill Dutchie and I and our staff, both our staff, all of our staff had noticed when we were looking over materials that the charter had contains gender specific language. And what really caught my eye, and I believe the others, was that council members are referred to as councilmen or councilman throughout the charter. So we were very interested and we talked about it later and I talked to the various people here and we kind of put on our radar that this would be something that would be worthy of change. But we were just getting used to becoming council members too, so it all got delayed a bit. But I would like to back up to the year 2007 and in this year I had an experience that I had in which I had no idea what was going to be happening. As it all played out for many, many years that I had been approached by one of the city and Seattle Councilmember with a female firefighter who worked at that time, had worked for ten years as a Seattle firefighter, but she was referred to as the fire man in everything. And she thought after ten years of serving her

community in a very, very high risk capacity, that she should not have to be called the council fireman any longer. And so they requested that I introduce legislation in the state Senate. And as we started looking into this and found that at the federal level, occupational and professional terms had been changed in the federal codes quite some time before that. And we looked into it and ended up I introduced legislation and you have a copy on a peer if you want to take a look. 2007. Which was an Gore's Senate bill eventually 5063. The bill report enacted is very short. Might take a look at it, but it specifically says that the code revised are in consultation with the statute. Law Committee must develop and implement a plan to correct gender specific references. Then the code making annual recommendations to the Legislature with completion by June 30th, 2015. So that started the whole process. We actually finished two years earlier. Each bill. During every legislative session during that time was like this that I and it was the 1983 that state they r

equired that all statutes be written in gender neutral terms, just as was the case as Nick presented. And I think you said, Nick, that was 2000. That's right. Prospectively, but not retroactively. So a number of us thought that this would be something worthwhile to have completed, both in the charter, which involves a charter amendment. So we'd go before the voters next November. And in our code, having experienced this for so long, I do have one thing that I think is really important to bring out , and that is that in no way does any change require that our residents and our citizens speak in non gender specific language. They can still call people fire men if they want. There's nothing to do with what our citizens, our residents do. It's more what is reflected in our codes and this sense retroactively from before, nothing. Secondly, nothing would change the meaning of the codes, the substance. It's strictly the use of terms that are gender specific, changing to gender neutral. I have to say, Nick, I think you did a great job of making the changes in the charter for the proposed ordinance and ballot measure. Really good job on that. Thank you. It was a group effort, I should mention. And secondly, I if it's all right, I would like to have a code revise or I come by to ask him something specifically. Bruce Ritson if that's all right, Madam Chair. Certainly. Thank you, Bruce. When when you and and Nora. So Clare and Nick talked about this initially you contacted Kyle Bass and the legislative code advisor who worked with me all these years and got information from him. And I'm interested in the just you're giving a brief summary of what came out of those conversations for our work ahead if we do adopt it. Hi, I'm Bruce Ritson, the code advisor. Yes, I spoke a bit with Kyle Thiessen and some of his staff, specifically the attorneys who worked on the project. I think one of the things that we came up that would be different from us is that they have an interim time when they can work on projects that it's kind of a downtime for the legislature in the summer. And they dedicated about ten people to this project, two attorneys, but other staff members to the project. And they came, they had limitations. They had to work with specifically size limitations. So they worked up to about a 500 page per year limit. But even within that limit, they were able to complete the project two years earlier. As you mentioned. I think the one thing that comes to mind is that some of the things seem easier than they might be. Just on the surface of it, there were some things where they ran into words that either had some kind of limitations on changing them. For instance, something might have a federal term that is close to that that also been applied to them. And so they had to work out some things with different interest groups and experts. That was more than they were anticipating. I think the other thing to keep in mind is that they kept it extremely limited to just

changing gender neutral terms. So it wasn't any other kind of clean up going on there with the language. So that that's the kind of thing I ran into. They were very helpful. They gave me their word list of what they used and other reference materials that they used and found helpful. The other thing that they pointed out is that in retrospect, they thought that maybe some other approaches may have been taken. For instance, instead of changing things like him, him to him or her, to actually cite the actor rather than introducing the him or her issue. So hopefully we'll be able. Get even a more improved product from that effort. The other thing is there's still some times when something sneaks up on them that they hadn't realized for whatever reason. Very occasionally. But that happens as well. Thank you very much, Bruce. And with that, I recommend both of these to you. And I think that it's important to note we do very serious work here at the council and we represent our constituents. This may seem as though it's not as important substantively compared to other work that we do, but I do believe that it is important and it's very symbolic, too, in terms of eliminating biases that we have in our code and in our codes and in our charter that I think can be

handled. And I think it's the 21st century. I mean, this is something we should do. Well, thank you. So I have one question. Council members, this is your history with this. I might ask you to put it, for instance, here, that we use the Chicago Manual of Style. Have we as a council ever approved that or do we know? Madam Chair, that is simply a reference work that I cited as an example of a recognized authority that supports the use of gender, gender neutral language. Okay. Because I know that we use a style that everybody uses and the state level and there's some parts of that style like making King County the capital. I mean, little C's on county and and some kinds of rivers with little others that. As you said not too long ago, forget everything you learn in English, which is tough since I'm a former English teacher. So that bothers me. Why? Why are we doing that? Because I don't think that's what's being taught in college or in elementary schools. So it's it's jarring to read it when it's written like that. It is based on the approach that was taken by the state of minimal minimizing things like capitalization. It is a rather standard approach to take to writing, though. Mean it's not unusual. And in fact, some of many of the style manuals follow a similar kind of style. But we do have some specific rules that we selected. But it's you have to select one way or another. And we have gone in certain directions for making the choices. But it's also the approach is very much like the state took, and it's very similar to other states and other municipalities and how they approach it as well. Yeah. At some point I think we need to make a decision here. And I understand why there were typesetting da

ys where you had to get the little other tool and, you know, whatever. But since it's all computerized, I don't see any problem with capitalizing words. And I'd be interested in knowing, does the University of Washington teach, you know, capitalize anything anymore? You know, when the universities are teaching, you don't capitalize anything that I'd be more comfortable saying. I swallow it. But until then, I really don't like it. So I just won't put that on the record that I think we at some point need to be looking to see how we want our charter to look. So people think that we're at least literate and so we don't drive old English teachers crazy, including me. Okay, so enough on that. The amendment that is here is for the other one. So let's take them separate for the book as well as an amendment. So Councilmember, were you put 2011 and 1216 03111 before us. Are you referring to me? Yes. Yes, I was. Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair. I moved proposed ordinance 2016 0311. Thank you very much. And I believe we do have one technical amendment. Yes, there's a technical amendment. Amendment one on page 77 of your materials. Okay. It simply supplies a word that was inadvertently omitted. Okay. That's a really tough one. Councilmember, you put the amendment number one before us under the adoption of the amendment. All right. I think there's there's a reason for that one, for sure. So all those in favor of adding the word properly, please say I, I as opposed nay. All right. So now we go to the underlying motion as a motion or ordinance. This is an it's a motion underlying ordinance. This is a motion proposed motion. 2016 0318. No, I'm looking at 311131. Oh, I'm sorry. Excuse. So that's an ordinance, isn't it? Yeah. Yeah. Okay. So the underlying ordinance as amended, is before us. This is the charter amendment. Are those in favor, please? Sorry. Going to take comments or debate on this. Oh, so I didn't see anybody than I thought I would comment that and the second one. But it's long as I'm speaking, I can say very, very briefly that it was one of those interesting moments at the beginning, you know, of the first week here as a council member to be reading documents that referred to me as councilman. I want to I think there's probably but not not a not a coincidence that in the year when you have two new council members, both of us women, that this comes up. But if this trend continues, I want to assure my diminishing number of male council members that we're not proposing to change the council woman. We just want to make it, say, council member so you can all be included as well. Thank you. You're more gentle nature. Yeah. Okay. Well, I'm glad to hear that. All right. Well, I'm glad to have two more council members who happen to be women on board. So with that, yes. Council member. Betty, I first of all, I would have no problem being called council woman. We're in a new era here. But I just wanted to take a moment to thank, actually, both council member

s, Cole, Wells and Vale duty for taking up this issue. And just straight back or just harking back to a little bit of history, it's appropriate that Council member Cole Wells is the prime sponsor of this charter amendment. She represents District four on the Council and District four elected the first woman to the new King County Council, Bernice Stern. That was in 1968, after the voters approved the Charter amendment, creating this Council on changing from a three member commissioner

form of government. Renee Stern's campaign theme was, quote, We need a woman on the new nine man, King County Council. So today, that anachronism and hope is being fixed. And and that's, I think, all for the good. And I think it's very appropriate that the councilmember from District four has taken the lead on it, given the history here. Thank you for that bit of history. And I'm sure Bernice is looking down with a smile. Councilmember Robinson. Thank you, Madam Chair, and thank you, Councilmember Dombroski, for that little bit of history lesson for us. I'd also like to thank Councilmember Lambert because she was very involved with this effort as well and very supportive and has made really good suggestions as well as on the motion that will come up right after this. And I really appreciate all the support. We have six sponsors on this proposed ordinance, which I very much appreciate. Thank you. Thank you. All right. So now we are ready for the clerk to call the vote. Thank you, Madam Chair. Councilmember Belge. Councilmember, dumbass. Councilmember Done. All right. Councilmember Garcia by Councilmember Carlos I Councilmember McDermott, Councilmember Up The Grove Councilmember by Mike Bauer. Madam Chair, I am chair with seven Eisner notes and council members McDermott and Broderick are excused. Excellent. So on this, the next question will be next week. Do we need something that will say who? Right. The pros and the cons statements for this? Yes. Assuming the council takes final action in support of the amendment, that would be the next step. Okay, that's what I thought. So if you could start preparing that and I'm assuming Councilmember Caldwell's that you would want to be one of the names. So anybody else interested in, you know, being a pro on this, let us know. And so we'll be ready to do that or didn't see any calls here, but anybody who's interested can do that. All right. So now we're at the motion sheet, thousand 60318 and this is going into the code and we've been briefed and we've been briefed on the amendment. And so amendment number one has been pulled because it was improved in amendment number two. So I want to say something to you. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Gossett. Madam Chair, we forgot to ask you whether you wanted to expedite this and whether you want it on consent. Well, I don't think so, because I think everybody want to speak to it. So expediting, okay. Expedite, but not on consent. Thank you for asking that. Okay, so let's put this before us. Council

Member Caldwell's, will you put 20 60318 before us? Thank you, Madam Chair. Yes, I proposed motion 2016 0318 before us. Thank you. And Councilmember Bell, did you would you move your amendment? Amendment two. Thank you. Would you like to speak to it at all? I would think. Okay. And thank you for joining me on this amendment. The motion, it's also asks for a a report or workplan from our county clerk that explains how we're going to go through this process of amending the entirety of the King County Code, which has been reported that if it was printed out, which it isn't any longer, about 6000 pages. So it's a it's a body of work. And what the amendment would do is ask that the clerk, when she provides us the draft workplan for approval, include options. I wanted us to be mindful of the fact that we're going into a year when we're going to have county functions really pressed for for funding in our budget. We have a budget shortfall coming up. And so as we go forward with this work, I just wanted to be thoughtful about the fact that we should do it in a way that is the least impactful to staff workload, both in the council side of the government and in the executive branch and in the other place. We might need to look for help, but also mindful of the costs so that we minimize the cost. It's an important thing to do, but it can be done over time and that I think we should do that in a way that both gets it done and is thoughtful and mindful of our budget constraints as a county so that the purpose of the amendment as offered and I can answer any questions if anybody has any . Thank you. I thank you for that amendment. And I and I agree with everything you said it's important to do, but we need to keep it in balance with everything else that's important to do in the county. So all those in favor of Councilmember Caldwell's. Thank you, Madam Chair. And I do support this amendment and I appreciate councilman respected she and Lambert bringing it forward. Everything in here, I believe, was implied, but I think it's really helpful to have it specified. So thank you. Thank you for a collaboration on all of this. And so all those in favor of amendment number two, please say those opposed nay, the amendment is approved and now we have the underlying major motion. Yes, there's a title amendment because of the passage of amendment. Okay, I may move amendment one. Do we have that someplace? It's in the packet that was handed out with amendment to it. It just changes the title to say Develop Options for how to apply gender neutral references. Okay. Great. Okay. Great. Thank you. Okay. Although I am in favor of the title amendment, please say I. I as opposed name the title amendment and thank you for catching that. All right. Thank you. All right. Now we urge the underlying motion. And so any

final comment? Okay. Others could please consider that. Thank you, madam chair. Councilmember Chai councilmember number five councilmember Dan all Councilmember Jo

hanson. AAM councilmember for well I Councilmember McDermott councilmember of the world I don't remember fun writer. Madam chair I know those councilmembers McDermott and Don are excused. Excellent. So that is let's do the same thing with expedite so the be at the same time but not I'm concerned. Okay. I don't see any other business. Is there any other business to come before the body at this time? With that, the meeting is adjourned. Thank you. Don't forget to. Item five, proposed ordinance 2016 0392. This is an ordinance relating to the transportation concurrency. And our our Transportation Department has done an amazing job of rewriting this, and they deserve a medal and a halo. So, Mr. Carlson, would you begin the briefing on 2006 0392? Thank you, Madam Chair. As you say, this proposed ordinance relates to the county's transportation concurrency program for the unincorporated area. It modifies the King County Code language on transportation concurrency, and it also approves a new concurrency travel shared boundary map and a new concurrency test results map. And for those who have not thought about concurrency in the past couple of years, that's a little bit complicated. So let me just give a brief outline. The and and I will say that Jay Osborne from Rhodes is here as well. And we have two members of the Transportation Concurrency Expert Review Panel. And Jay and I were planning to do the initial outline. First, there is concurrency language in the King County Comprehensive Plan, chiefly in the transportation chapter, and that sets requirements for the concurrency program. It also establishes the level of service standards for various land use areas. So for example, the rural area has a level of service for its roads, which traffic has to be more free flowing than in the urban areas. And the comp plan also requires that we do concurrency through the use of travel sheds and testing of traffic flow on arterials. I'm going to ask the committee assistant to call up our maps. That was the last handout so we can start. Under current law, we have 25 travel codes and you see the boundaries there are on the map. And in compliance with the comprehensive plan requirements, each of these travel sheds is an area where the traffic in that area uses the arterials and we test the travel speeds on the arterials. The code says every two years and then. The data is analyzed to generate a map showing travel sheds that are close to development because they fail concurrency. The way you fail concurrency is that. 15% or more of your miles on those arterials do not meet the relevant lower standard. So switch to the next. I guess I can switch to the next without. Or not. How do we get. How do we get to the next slide? Next one. Sorry. So we now have the Christchurch travel sheds are closed, there are five of the 25 and in each of those the roads and a little bit too much congestion during the afternoon peak. So the exceeded the standards and. The current proposed chan

ge in 392 makes a number of changes. It notably changes the travel shed boundaries. And if we go back to the last map, we see the new boundaries. It. Features of this map are new boundaries that reflect changes in the unincorporated area. It separates out the urban portions of the travel shields and makes them separate. And the urban unincorporated travel shelters are littered throughout. The new rural travel sheds are numbered, they are larger, and they reflect annexations. And they continue to have a logical configuration of roads that people under travel should use those arterials, and the arterial test is performed. It's not in the ordinance, but a new set of data from a local firm is used to identify the travel speeds on the arterials. And it's a much more thorough process of evaluating travel time than the old practice in which road staff actually got out and drove the roads and they had gizmos attached to their vehicles to monitor the travel times. So we have a much better picture of the actual travel times. Another change that is contained in this ordinance is under the current system, certain state routes are used in concurrency and the comp plan policy says that that may be done. It is at the discretion of the policymakers to use those routes. The the new proposal chooses not to use those state routes in the concurrency test and to stick with the county owned arterial routes. At this point, recognizing that this is a very complicated project, I'd like to suggest that Jay may come up. And if you have questions about what I've said, I've I've studied this a little too deeply, so explaining it is difficult for me. So with that, we do have a councilmember. Councilmember Dombroski has a question. Female Chair And Paul, thank you very much for your work on what seems like a little bit more of a new or a different approach to concurrency. On the last issue that you raised with the current plan, at least if I understand you correctly, permits us to include in the travel time analysis the use of state roads , which are an integral part of the world

transportation system, for sure. What is the rationale for not using them? It seems like the average driver wouldn't necessarily distinguish between a state highway or state road and a county road when taking a trip. Okay, first it is certain state roads. It is not the statewide significant ones like the freeways. Right. The certain state roads that have characteristics similar to county arterials have a level of service standard that's set by. Is it the state or the Puget Sound Regional Council that, you know, the PUC sets them and so they're they are out of our control. And so the decision here was to focus on the roads that are within the county's jurisdiction and control. And in fact, the the data was gathered for the state routes that would have been used. And there is one shared that would have switched should two, but there wouldn't have actually been a difference in any other travel. Should sw

itched from. What from open to to closed within this analysis. So in that case using the state roads because of their level of service standard will close, the travel said, meaning that development would be restricted. Now just saying no. So Jay Osborne, deputy director at roads. So the state highways in question two or two, two or three of our 900. This level of service for those is D in the rural area, but the counties level of service for roads in the rural area is B So when we test the state routes against the counties level of B, they do not pass, but they meet the state level of D and our passing the concurrency test for the state's purposes. So one of the complications in what we've been doing is to test state routes at our standard and not the states, whereas they don't meet our standard of B, they are meeting the state standard and therefore passing concurrency, which has been one of the mixes and testing state routes in the rural area. So what is the implication of this policy choice to somebody who has property and wants to do a plot to build homes. In the rural area? At the moment, using the test that we proposed, it would pass and they would have the ability to do that. And for example I've been travel said to. Councilmember Lambert's district mostly there. If you. He used the state standards and roads. He'd have like two or two up there. Kathy is that right? Mm hmm. And it might close the travel show, right? If we use the county stamp. Staff applied the county to the state. Yes, exactly. Okay. Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you for your patience as I kind of worked through that. Yes. Councilmember, you're going to speak in detail. So but let me just put my question on the table so you can think about it. So this councilmember is used to judging concurrency at intersections. So this is sort of new to me. So it would be really helpful if you could kind of lay out how it's calculated and how you did it. But if we could just sort of reinforce that also what causes failures is some kind of average of all the roads are because if any one road is failing, that doesn't mean the whole travel shed is failing . And then just the bottom line here is if that particular change you were just discussing is made, I think the net real world impact is we're going to allow more congestion and continue to allow development. Okay. So which is I mean, which is it's about a reasonable reaction to a real world situation. But essentially, we're going to allow we're going to lower our standards for how free flowing the traffic has to be in order for development of energy to be allowed. Yeah. So there are many ways to test concurrency. So the counties methodology, we used to do actual travel time, which meant that we had staff in cars with stopwatches in the nineties driving a length of all of novelty road with a stopwatch to see how long it would take. Going back and forth between three and 6 p.m. three times in the spring when school was not was in session an

d not at spring break. And we would have people standing on overpasses with the stopwatch. So that's the difference. And we do the whole length of the roads. And so it's the arterial roads in that shed are all tested. And the rule is 85% of them have to meet your standard for the shed to pass concurrency. When you add state routes in because they exist in those areas and you test them at the counties level because state routes are designed to take a greater level of traffic than some of the arterial roads that we have, they don't meet the level of service. B We had a group of grad students from the U. Dub who did their MBA thesis on concurrency and found that the counties level of service B is one of the highest in the country. That set as a very aspirational level of service. So the state choosing to put D on those routes and then passing is a different standard and testing those creates complications. So to answer your question, if we added the state route testing in which we did do, and to back up for a moment about what we're doing with data, there is a firm that we were able to buy data for 24, seven for a month on those roads and then pull out the testing for every day Monday through Friday. Actually, I think we use Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday data for those afternoons. So rather than someone driving three or six times, we had all of those data points

to test out how the traffic was running with this index data. Yes. So based on cell phones. Yes. And pulling that together, which was actually more cost effective than paying staff to be out in cars on the road, testing all those areas that and we don't have that many staff to left to drive on those roads in our planning group. So one of the things that in the rural area I think is key is that letting the zoning code deal with development and how much development is actually left in the rural area is very small for the impacts on the county road system and how much development is going to put cars on the road in those open sheds. And the impact there in. Terms of climate should be thought. And this is a bigger than just the county in dealing with unincorporated areas. I would dearly love it if we could come up with some kind of a regionally consistent way of doing concurrency. And I could see it being done differently in rural areas and urban areas. But the way the city of Seattle does it, to the extent they do it at all, the way that cities like Bellevue do it and the way you all do it are all completely different. And so it's very hard for us to have a common vocabulary for the public around how well or badly the roads are doing . And then we end up essentially being driven in transportation policy by individual anecdotes of my experience behind the wheel. And I think that that's important how people are feeling about their commutes. But it would be much, much better if we had a systematic and clear way of talking about what's going on with the whole system. That's my soapbox on these thin

gs. I also dearly wish that we had a way of including throughput as part of our calculations, because it's not just how fast the individual vehicles are moving that's important. It's how many people were able to move through, you know, these points from point A to point B, if you have a really a an arterial that's really well served by transit, even if it's going slower, it could be moving lots more people than one that is really not well-served by transit. So anyway, thank you for listening. Maybe next time we can work with our colleagues on trying to bring some of this stuff together, but I appreciate the work you've done here. I think it makes good sense given the realities of what we're dealing with, especially splitting out the urban from the rural makes good sense. Thank you. So, Councilmember, if you had been here years ago when we had our old currency plan that had, what, 300 and how many, 360 boxes? It was a nightmare. And we hired a national firm to come in to to give us some feedback. And there was the worst plan they'd ever seen in the country. This man said he had like 30 years experience and he'd never seen anything like it. So he pretty much ditched that afterwards. And so this is the new improved, the new improved, the new improved. And we don't have any jurisdiction, as you said, over Bellevue now that you're not mayor anymore. So we really can't unless it goes through, you know, your transportation committee. He has RC to, you know, to make those changes. But I think the thing that's really important is that people are driving from the rural area into the unincorporated incorporated areas and there's one level of service out here and then there's another level of service in here. The drivers driving, they know they're going to be in commute traffic. And so to have one level of service that is asked for, okay, that is aspirational so that, you know, it's an artificial barrier. And I don't know if it's. Thank you for handling that out there. I don't know. Is it still true that on the urban growth boundary line that the the part of the road from the Senate line to the rural area has one level of service and from the center line to the urban line is another level service, or do we fix that? A couple of years ago, I can't remember if we did or not. We did fixed fixed it. Okay. So that used to be a problem that the same road could have two levels of service on it. So we did fix that. So that's good. So I think that this makes it easier. It's more consistent with other roads in the county. And the other point I think is really important is that there isn't much development left in this county other than what's already been delineated under the Growth Management Act. So we know what that's going to be. So I think this, as Jay said, is an ability to deal with the roads that we have control over. And if I may make one final thing, thank you. And then I promise that will be be. And when I look at this map and I see the circles inside the t

ravel sheds, those are the urban islands in the unincorporated areas. I think there's been a lot of talk and consternation about the growth targets in those areas. And I have to say that this map demonstrates part of the reason why there's a debate and why it isn't just a one sided. We need to grow. We're growing. Let us grow. The other side of that coin is the more we allow or encourage or support large amounts of growth out in those urban areas, the more you're going to see these travel shed suffer because they have to serve and and support growth between there and end. We are still requiring a more free flowing state of traffic for there to be ongoing development than we are in

the inner suburbs of the urban areas. So it's a this sort of demonstrates one of the complexities of that whole debate. And, you know, it gets into a lot of the debates with we're talking about affordable housing when we're talking about, you know, certain kinds of lifestyles in the rural area where the cities, which is where people are supposed to be, you know, growing out there. And it's a housing choice that for some parts of the county, there are very different housing choices in different parts of the county. So it is a complicated issue indeed. Okay. Did you want to continue? Well, I was going to say on page 46 of your packet is the actual list of the root segments that failed in this analysis. And those are miniatures which travel should they're in, as you said, the total mileage within the travel shed. If 85% or more passes, that's the test. If less than 85% of the mileage fails, then the travel should is failing and only one travel should fails in this new process. The the other point that Jay alluded to in terms of development in the rural areas, even if the travel should fail, there are there is provision for minor and certain public and certain educational developments to proceed. And our concurrency system has always allowed that the form in which that has been authorized has changed. And so a section of the code that is amended in this proposed ordinance for. Ten 7285. Lists those minor developments and schools and other uses that can still go forward if a travel should fails. And that's particularly important, for example, because one of the old issues that we heard a lot about was a family that had owned a parcel that wanted to subdivide so the children could build a house. And that's something that the county has modified the program to accommodate that kind of use as long as it complies with the zoning. And, you know, again, concurrency is the first step in developing something. You have to be consistent with your zoning as well. So I think we should show the last map which shows the results. That's the point. Yeah. This is so this is the test results map. And the red arrow there shows the one close development the close showed, which is mostly agricultural production district and is it does not have a lot of areas that could be developed anyway . Oh,

that's interesting. It is APD and the parcels, there are probably minimum ten acres, so you're not going to be getting a whole lot of traffic out there. So how did that end up getting closed? It's okay. On page 46, that's seven and there are two. It's a small shed with a small mileage and there are two road segments, each a half mile long that fail. And that puts it over the top. It's. It's an odd area because of the agricultural uses. So to 72nd to 77, that's the main drag across the valley goes through the APD, which is four lanes going through there at an urban level and it is being tested at a level of service fee because the ag area is rural. So it's the urban road going through there, being tested at the rural level, which is why it fails. So if it's an urban road, why are we testing it, the rural area, just because it's in the APD? All right. Okay. So what? Oh, council member and about. Sorry. Thanks. I think when we looked at the concurrency issues a year or so ago, we kind of parked them because there were some open issues and the testing had gone and done this work. And one of the issues at the time and this kind of falls on concern about duties, regional consistency, if you will, but on a more narrow basis. And that was I was interested in travel sheds that cross the urban rural line. And at the time we had something like up the East Renton Plateau and and there was then a question about whose standard should you apply? Right. And it seemed to me it made sense to at least take a look at the adjacent city standard and the urban side of the line along the line of thinking that we should account for, you know, the city's planning policies and zoning traffic standards, that kind of thing. So my one takeaway that I'm getting from this, I'd like to make sure everything is it's a move to not cross the urban rural line in travel sheds. We've now got travel sheds on the rail centerline line where we can have one set of standards and then on the urban center line where a different step might have apply some nods there. That's that looks good to me. And the related question then is within the urban side of the line, will we do we in this proposal or will we in the future start taking a look at the city, you know, the city that has the paid for their standards and incorporating that into our into our level of service standards. So in the history of concurrency, we've had agreements with various cities to do that and to do that development. When the economy suffered in 2008, there were four cities that withdrew from those agreements looking to be able to develop their areas and what they needed to deal with, because there's also an impact to the mitigation payment system and how much money that you were getting for development. It proved to be somewhat complicated as they went forward. And we have had conversations with some cities about those standards and those areas continue to annex Kahani and some Amish being an example and is acquire Fall Cit

y Road, some issues that they were interested in developing. But currently we don't have any agreements to model concurrency in those areas, in part because the remaining urban areas are quite small now and have been chipped away at. So I think it's important to know that we as a county in the state have the smallest amount of unincorporated area of any of the county. We have 12 and a half percent of the county that's unincorporated. Snohomish County has 28% and everybody else is in the forties and above. So we have done what the Growth Management Act said and again Incorporated. So I'm talking about 12%. Yeah, I'm talking in rural. Urban or rural. Unincorporated. And I'm just looking at the map here. I don't think I don't think 12% of the county is. An anchor, but. I think at least landmass, it's quite a bit bigger, maybe population, it's probably about 300,000 out of two. It's about 250 something. So anyway, that and I don't remember exactly how they calculated that 12 and a half percent, but we are far lower than everybody else. And so the land has already been allocated to whatever it is, one acre, five acres, ten acres, 20 acre parcels. So I think that as we go forward and we look at that, we have an aspirational level of B and then the people get off the B road and they get into a city and it may have a D or an F rating. The dichotomy of being and on this part and going this half mile at a B and then this half mile at at F or this half mile, the D, I think that as as we look at this, we need to be more realistic about how high that level is and making sure that, you know, people who own land or would like to have their properties, the device, the children could live on the property and take care of them. That. We make allocations for that. So. Okay. So what is the the will of the body? We need to have a 30 day period for putting this out for when they call it public testimony. 30 day advertising period. So would you like to vote this out of committee with or without recommendation? What would you like to do? Well, there's an amendment that has that been described as looking like mostly technical cleanup. Or is there some policy changes there? Well, yes and no. Yes. Yes. Okay. Yeah. You have before you Amendment one a which is very slightly different from the amendment in your packet. It I would say that, yes, it makes mostly technical changes. There were a couple of spelling errors. There is a new sentence added to section eight. The first. And this is. How does that. No, no, we're not at all yet. How did it get up to be, anyway? It went in front of me. Yeah. The section four of the ordinance there is the online nine amendment when it says except except as provided in KCC 1470 285. That's I would call that a technical clarification that a minor use is covered by 285, which is which has always been the case. So it's not changing any practice when ten is a typographical change. Then starting on the line 13 Section 1470 285 L This is the

last item on the list of those minor developments that are allowed in feeling travel sheds. And this is there's some rewording for clarity. And then down on line 18, it says the property has not been subdivided in the last ten years. This relates to a short subdivision in a rural travel shed where the owner wants to subdivide. And this is the classic family method of requests. And under current law, if the applicant has owned the property for five or more years and the property has not been subdivided in the last ten years, then that's allowed if it meets the zoning requirements and there is no need to purchase transferrable development rights as part of that deal. This is this is how it has been. The executive transmitted proposal was going to change the no subdivision in ten years requirement to no subdivision in five years. And in reviewing this, we found that there is a rural policy are 3 to 3 in the just approved plan that says ten years is the requirement. So we're we are maintaining the existing language for ten years and not moving forward with the change that the executive has proposed. And it is simply because comprehensive policy language is mandatory on that point. Can I ask the question? Is the executive okay with the revised amendment? Yes. Okay. So I would have preferred the old, but the new was what we just passed out. So I will tell you that when the plan comes up again in four years, that I would like to reconsider this. But but anyway, that's the way it is at this point. Councilmember Balducci. No, my questions were answered. Thank you. Okay. Councilmember Dunn. Thank you, Madam Chair. Just a concurrences, an issue I've worked on for a long, long time. What? What? You know, it's fairly not well understood by most elected officials. I fear you're changing the slightly modifying and expanding the travel sheds, but you're not changing the methodology methodology for the actual concurrency standards in this. Right. Is that correct? The the methodology the in the in the service. Level, E for example, those. Sorts of things. You know, the the comprehensive plan establishes the level of service standards for urban as E, rural as B and then there are the rural town centers are D and rural no are E and rural neighborhood centers are D. You did not change those level of service standards in this latest update of the comp plan. So they still remain in place. Okay. And and we used to use a red, yellow

and green map for concurrence. You remember that? And that's gone. Is that no longer what we're using? We're going to modify to this this mapping. That that was when when we had those hundreds of individual zones. And at one point it was written red and green only that it was red, yellow and green. When we moved to the Travel Shed concept a few years ago, 2008, I think it was the colors were abandoned. Okay. You know, I generally, maybe more than most up here, I tend to believe we need to. Be building homes. Condos, low income housing, what h

ave you, because we need to put places for young families to live and for everyone to live. And so I'm with what you might call pro-development, but we've got a situation that's developing in earmuffs. Right? I know pro-development. I know it's bad. I didn't win. So. Yeah. And and so the question I have, I'm looking at south of Issaquah, you know, the is for Hobart Road, a road that is so bad that I pretend it doesn't exist because you will get lost in the vortex of traffic forever and they are deeply unhappy citizens there. People can't get in and out. Emergency services can't get in and out. Ambulances, fire trucks. It's it's awful, largely because this county refuses to increase capacity on the road. That's another issue. But I'm not seeing something here that's precluded development in that travel shed. What's the status of the Esquire open road travel should I think I saw was number 12. Well, no, you're on spot here. So if you want to pass it on to some of your colleagues. Well, the the crude travel schedules for the new travel shed would also be open and. There is a segment of Issaquah Hobart Road that feels it's between the Issaquah City Limits and Southeast 127th Street. So. So there wouldn't be development wouldn't be permitted to make a long story short in that section. No, it's it's the total results for the travel should in within within travel should for you do not hit the 15% or more mileage feeling standards. Okay, that's it. So I'm almost done. Madam Chair, I appreciate that. Okay. So I've never believed that currency ought to be the way to control our land use planning and development. I think that's the wrong way to do it. I think we ought to be doing it through zoning, through other permitting related issues. But we've got a. Real problem with this for Hobart Road. Part of it is a willingness to increase capacity. A bigger part of it probably is the fact we have the money to increase capacity. Maybe it's a little bit of both, but I just want to point out that. If you put large developments, even if they're an RFI of zoning out there, you are just going to add to a problem that is already disastrous. It's more of a statement than a question. And so. Makes me wonder whether these broader travel sheds are really the right way to go. As a matter of policy, I'm not going to object against it, but I'd like to drill down on it further in the future. So since I've been here, we've had several different renditions of what the concurrency looks like, and it's gone from absolutely obnoxious to be figured out. You need like a Ph.D., which is what the expert came in and said to something more simplified. The amount of growth going on out there is very small compared to what it used to be. So I want to clarify. I've gotten some clarification. 12% of the population in this county is in the unincorporated area. So it is by population 12% of the population. Half of that is in areas that can be annexed. And so 6% is in the rural unincorporate

d. So there's not a lot out there. So we have some people with us that need to comment too and had some really important things to do that have studied this. So do you want to make some comments also? So just as a quick introduction, okay. In this, the council a number of years ago appointed a Transportation Concurrency Expert Review panel to review the work and provide a comment letter on every thing that was submitted to the council as we went. And it's represented from folks from the development community, the environmental community. We have a citizen of the unincorporated area and we have a representative of the Non-Motorized users and bus and transit as well on that. In this legislation, the Transportation Concurrency Expert Review Panel has decided that their time has come to an end and that the methodology and the amount of development and what we're doing with concurrency is something that they support. And the 1:00 scholar who's to my right, who is the chair of the Transportation Concurrency Expert Review Panel, it's going to give you a few remarks. Good morning, council members and thank you very much for your time. I would also like to let you know that one of our very long standing members and Martin is here in the back and I think her attendance, in addition to mine, I hope, conveys a reflection that this panel had quite a committed and long standing involvement with staff as both historically in terms of the older approaches to concurrency as well as the approach that we're putting forth to you now in these materials. Probably the most significant aspect of the panel that I, I was influenced by was both the collaboration among extremely diverse interests, as well as what we're giving to you today, which is essentially a unanimous recommendation, despite the broad diversity of interests on

the panel. This panel has worked together for many years. I am the most recent addition to the panel, although I, through my former colleague Bob Jones, knew a lot about what was going on in the background and am extremely honored to have taken over chairmanship of the panel a couple of years ago. And we're pretty proud of well, I should say we're extremely proud of the work that our very well-educated staff has done on this, as well as the master's program materials that were presented to us in the past year. One of the things that I think is pretty interesting is that staff has been pretty selfless in this process. They were very interested in the good of the county and the good of the system above all. And in looking at that data, I think that is really reflective of some very thoughtful work that's been given to you. So and I would say that all of us on the panel again felt that we were extremely well served, not just by our consensus, but by a very well-educated group of individuals who could really so succinctly convey information to us to allow us to have a pretty candid and often very spirited dialog, as you might imagine, cons

idering the members on the panel. But ultimately, we feel good about very good about what we've presented. We're sad about dissolving because it's one of those few fora where we actually get to get together and talk candidly without having to put other people's interests on the line, but really have good quality conversations. But it makes a lot of sense at this point to dissolve. And so we're very honored to have served the county. We thank you very much for the opportunity, and I hope that we can continue to be of service in our individual capacities. First of all, I'd like to thank you, as it's been said a number of times, if here this is a very complicated formula, it's very impactful. And so having somebody willing to sit down and look at all this and and bring a unanimous decision back is very much appreciated. And we thank you for your service. So essentially what I'm hearing you say is that you believe some tell me this is right, that you believe that with the lack of growth happening right now, that there's no need for you to continue on as a committee to evaluate this. The panel believes that both because of the way that the travel sheds have been reformatted and the annexation processes that are going on, as well as the ability to use a lot of that more mechanized methodology through INRIX, that there just isn't a need for this panel to both take their time to review these aspects that, yes, are becoming a little bit more rote in their processing. And we don't need to take staff time to be putting together materials when we don't necessarily have a deliverable we may need to bring to you. I don't know what the future holds, but for the moment, we're comfortable with the decision. Excellent. Okay. And I'd also like to thank you for being so cognizant of other assets like INRIX. And I know we use it at other committees and the data has been very, very helpful. So thank you for seeking that out to you. Okay. So now I'd like somebody to put this before US Council member. But did you manage to move approval of proposed ordinance number 2016? Dash 0392 of the do pass recommendation. Thank you, ma'am. Any questions or comments before we take the vote? Okay. Councilmember and Ambassador. I'd like to offer Amendment one. Oh, yes. Thank you very much. Yeah, I did have a question before we and we can vote on that, but just got a final. Okay. Thank you. I think this has been well explained by our staff. It isn't exact, as my name's on it. When I'm speaking to it, I would prefer that some of this wasn't changed this way. The correctional errors and the typos and stuff. That's great in the clarifications in the King County code, that's fine. It is the five and ten year issue that that does bother me. But because we just passed the comp plan that was voluminous and somehow that was the change in there, I think we need to flag that for three years and ten months from now and maybe change it back. But at this point, having all of our code be consistent

it is probably a good thing. So all those in favor of when a as presented by our staff please say I as opposed name is passed and now before us we have the amended version of 2016 0392. And Council Member Dombroski has the comment. Just to make this a follow up to Councilmember Dunn's inquiry about capacity and related funding. And when somebody does a project and they may pay some mitigation money, right? Does that money under our current provision, does it need to be spent within the travel shed where the projects occurring? So in the current provisions, it's SIPA money that they're actually spending on the roadway. And so it's for specific projects and identified for those within the travel. Within the travel said, okay, thank you, thank you, thank you. Okay, thank you. That was a good clarification question. I'm glad you asked that. Okay. Are those in favor of call for the vote from the clerk's office? Councilmember Baldacci. Councilmember Then back. Councilmember. Then I remember. Gossage. Councilmember Colwell. Councilmember McDermott. Councilmember of the group. All right. That's number one right there. Madam Chair, I

mean, I'm sure the vote is six days, zero no's and councilmembers, Gossett, McDermott and moderate. They were excused. Okay. So. Do we want this on consent or do we want to talk about it again? What would you like? Didn't I hear you say that it needs to be put out for Thursday? Public comment. Oh, that's right. That's right. Says that's not enough for sure. Okay, that's good. Thanks for pointing that out. Okay. And it does take a 30 day advertising period which can start. So this will not be on the regular schedule because we have to wait for the after the 30 days, which will be the end of February. So if there is no other business to come before this committee, the meeting is adjourned. Thank you, everybody. this on the ballot this year. Thank you again very, very much. And we're going to move on now to our second item for discussion on possible action today. Proposed ordinance number 2017 0139 relating to the Office of Law Enforcement Oversight. And we will have our chief policy officer, John Risha, here to speak to us about this topic. The sponsors are Mr. Gossett. Mr. Dombrowski. And so, John, when you're done introducing, I'm going to call on Councilmember Gossett. Thank you. Maybe we could just take a breath for 1/2 while the chamber clears. Okay. Yeah, I think we can hear you now. Please go ahead. Thank you, Madam Chair. John Risha stopped King County Council today before you is proposed ordinance 2017 dash 201393. Target into the mike. Absolutely proposed ordinance 2017 dash 0139. This ordinance would amend King County Code Section 2.75, which is the underlying authorization for the Office of Law Enforcement Oversight in King County Code, as well as amend Section 3.16.060, which is the Department of Public Safety. Following initial comments, I'll be happy to go through some of the key points of the legislation, or I ca

n go directly there. I wanted to make some comment first. Go ahead, Councilmember Garcia. Thank you, Madam Chair. And I wanted to indicate to you, Madam Chair, you were correct that the darling of the with the issues surrounding the Office of Law Enforcement Oversight. Councilmember Garcia, can you possibly speak into your microphone a little closer? We're having a hard time hearing you. Okay, that's better. Thank you. That's better. As much. Thank you. And Governor, government about due to the earlier remarks about the importance of the issues that currently surround the Office of Law Enforcement Oversight, I believe that the sheriff's department is one of the larger and more complex issues that we are addressing at this time. Just like, you know, the call for more contra access for all is important. And I don't think anyone is trying to say that one is more important than the other. But what I want to say is that the answer is in this matter, that the King County Council has been working on establishment of a civilian oversight of the sheriff's office for more than ten years now, Madam Chair. And at the end of 2015, we we put an amendment we recommended an amendment to our charter that would amend it be civilian oversight and provide the opportunity for King County government offered of law enforcement oversight to be able to be a little more affected by some actively investigating. Some rather controversial complaints that are brought here are by one of our sheriff's deputies. Then a few months later, I believe that last year we had our new director of the Office of Law Enforcement Oversight, Bret Jacobs. And we're very excited about her experience and her ability and her insight and her ability to lead this effort. And she has been working to recommend, along with John and our achievements there, how best to implement the will of the people as it relates to the charter change and how our code needs to change in order to facilitate the voters desire. This legislation now before Madam Chair, is a result of that work and include the following one oversight of the sheriff's complaint handling process from a person talking to her office or the sheriff's office through the final determinations of that process. A We're looking at almost everything. The authority to conduct an investigation. Okay. And among other things, the authority to review and make recommendations regarding their sheriff operations, training policies and procedures. I personally think this is going to be even a more valued part of the work that is offered there. And really, that's fair. And they can assist the sheriff. And right now, if we pass this legislation and there's still important bargaining to be done with our partners in labor, specifically the King County Sheriff's Deputies Association, our guild, as well as three or four other girls that represent different sector of the employee that work for the sheriff's department. But it's equally important for us that the count

y council be clear about our desire to have a more effective civilian oversight of this. And that's really been admirable here in Martin Luther King Junior County. Thank you very much, Madam Chair, and colleagues. Thank you. So I could use a little guidance here. We are getting ready to move this out of committee today, I understand is the desire. So is there more discussion or

Councilmember Garza, would you like to put this before us? Well, John John and I John to get John every he. Can hear you. Was there anything else specifically that he wanted to say and. In relationship to my oversight and talking point. I can add a little bit of additional clarity, but very a few brief comments on the specificity of the legislation if the Chair desires. If it's helpful to Councilmember Gossett and the committee. Okay. Well, then I'll be very quick, Madam Chair, and you can find this on page 15 of your packet, some of the key pieces that are within this legislation. I think some of the key areas start in section four of the legislation where sections subsections A through C really hone in on that complaint handling process and the ability to receive complaints, investigate complaints and review and certify those the process that goes through with them. That section also contains a number of the key elements relative to policies, procedures, operations and training. Section six looks to the Sheriff's Office or the Department of Public Safety side of that equation of access to it. I'm sorry. Excuse me. That's the only access to information. Section nine is the core element of that in the sheriff's office. So both officers have access to information and they one has a duty to receive one has a duty to provide. And then very key at the very end of the legislation, since there is bargaining with 11 bargaining units within the sheriff's office, there is special specific language added about provisions of this ordinance that require mandatory bargaining would not be effective until the the county completes that bargaining. And then further, if there's a conflict, then a bargaining agreement would apply. I am happy to answer any questions. I'm being relatively quick on this just in the interest of time and trying to address your specific questions as needed. Thank you, Mr. Issa. I want to open up now for discussion and questions from the council members, and then we'll see if we're ready to take a motion at that point. Councilmember Lambert. Thank you. Martin Short There's a section for 2.7504 OBE. Does that mean that if there is, that the OLEO has the ability to look at all of the complaints coming in and decide whether they need to go to IU or to Oleo and make that determination? That is correct. Excellent. Perfect. Thank you. I think that's great. Any other questions? Councilmember Garza, would you like to make the motion? But I would need help from you. Councilmember. Councilmember Gossett, would you move approval of proposed ordinance number 2017? Dash 013

9 with a do pass recommendation 190139. Okay, I'm glad. Thank you, Madam Chair. I'd like to move adoption 2017 0139 ordinance at this time. Thank you. The ordinance is before us. Yes, there's. No, no, no, no. The board. Okay. And we do have an amendment. Councilmember Lambert. Thank you, Madam Chair. This amendment, number one, and it's the one we talked about that would say that the any report will also be approved by us as the body. And so that's all it changes. Added a motion approving. Okay. We have an amendment before us. Any discussion or questions about the amendment? Councilmember McDermott. Thing. Thank you, Madam Chair. Do we want to approve or accept this report in your intent? Councilmember Lambert. Except. Okay, I'd be happy to change that word. To accept. Okay. We have a friendly amendment to change. Approved. To accept. Councilmember Garcia to do. We don't cover. I. Oh, I'm sorry. Go ahead. Councilmember Garcia, go ahead. Okay. Because I can't be my colleague. I think that the protection that Councilmember Lambert just put forth and I've got one, because it gives us another opportunity to review and look at what our progress we have made in this important area. Please comment upon it before it moves on for another year. Okay, very good. Just clarification on the word accepting. Accepting. All right. With that, the amendment as a as a friendly amended is before us. All those in favor please signify by saying i, i any opposed? Okay. Is there a title amendment? Not that I say no. That brings us to the main motion. Any final comments or questions? Councilmember McDermott. Mr. Fisher or Ms.. Jacobs, can you speak to the effect effective date of the ordinance before us? When the provisions within the ordinance become effective. So the provision so the ordinance itself would be effective through a normal course, which is ten days after executive signature. However, since there is bargaining that will take place with various guilds in and labor unions over the course of the next, I'm going to assume probably a two year cycle for each of those bargaining units. It would not become effective until after completion of bargaining. So on that rolling cycle, it would affect each one differently. And so each one would then become a it would then affect them as a following bargaining. And then presumably also only to the degree that the contract that was collectively bargain design measures with in compliance with matches, the ordinance put it up today. Otherwise we might see ourselves with the revised ordinance in front of us. Absolutely. That would be a choice for the Council. But it is very possible

that the completion of bargaining you may need to or desire to go back and revisit the ordinance and perhaps amend it to reflect the will of the various bargaining units and your own decisions in approving those bargaining agreements. You say will and perhaps it will be the could be the will of the council, and perhaps we could do that. What would

be the consequences if we the council chose not to. Under Section ten, be at the very end of the ordinance? It says that if a bargaining agreement has language which is different than that which is in a bargaining agreement, the bargaining agreement governs. And so the bargaining agreement will always overrule the code under this, which is a it's not a defined it's it is a relatively standard concept which your bargaining agreement is going to be the governing document, but this sets your policy in place within code. Thank you. Catherine. Councilmember Gardner. Madam Chair. Thank you. I'm really pleased that the progress that we've been able to make. But I wanted to share with and remind members that I had the opportunity, particularly last year, to work closely with some of the larger unions or associations that represent the share of power, that basically the captain and the rank and file officers who are in their service advocate scale. And I am working with their leaders to be very productive. They put out their idea that I'm hopeful that will come from being acceptable to both parties in a relatively short period. And we also did we also plan to and John help helping with this. When do we plan to let them lead of our new effort right away or we're. Currently the language is a matter of public domain and is an available is available in your online system. So it is currently available and the amended version will be available probably within a day or so, depending upon processing time. All right. Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, Mr. Gosset. I just want to add a few comments of my own. This has been a piece of work that has been many years in the making, and particularly since 2015, after the voters of King County agreed to amend our charter to include the Office of Law Enforcement Oversight as a required office in the Legislative Branch. As you said at the beginning, Mr. ICIA. I want to acknowledge the leadership of Councilmember Gossett and others, my colleagues who were here, I was not at the time. I want to acknowledge our still relatively new director, Deborah Jacobs, for all the hard work she's put in with all of the parties involved to get us to this point. I think that the proposal has improved sequentially each time we've looked at it, because that's that's just shows that there's been listening and adapting going on to make sure that this works with everybody who's going to have to work with it and provides really significant and really significant oversight because the whole goal is to build public trust and build the relationship between our law enforcement and the public. I also just want to acknowledge Susie Swaniker and Bob Railton who are here. They also have worked with us on this and have the job of making sure that this works with our colleagues in Labor and that will have to go forward from here in negotiation. So I'm really pleased that we've gotten to this point, looking forward to taking a vote on it. And I will just as

k Councilmember Cassidy of anything to close again. You reminded me something is different. Jacob. There she. Is. I didn't hear the commentary and what she being that I will not hear from her. Me speak. Ms.. Jacobs, are you. Do you believe we should adopt this motion? I do. I'm very enthusiastic about the final product. It's been, you know, literally dozens and dozens of drafts. And because this timing has taken place, where when I'm new, it's, you know, a thing where we've been learning as we work through the systems and figure out, you know, how this can fit with the sheriff's office's existing systems. And so it's been very valuable in that way. And also, just generally, I'm grateful to every single one of the council members and their staff members who have cared about this. Issue, have shown. Support, who have respected the will of the voters. And I just really appreciate that. And numerous people have had input and influence over this document. So you all have my gratitude and I can't wait to see what happens next. All right. So thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you. Without further discussion, if I don't see any, I will call for the vote. All those in favor, please signify by saying I'm sorry. It's a roll call vote. Yes, thank you. Thank you. First time council member Dombrowski. Hi, Council member Dunn. I remember Gossett II. Councilmember Caldwell five Councilmember Lambert. Councilmember McDermott. All right. Council member of the group. Yvonne. Right. All right. Madam Chair, I am sure the vote is a nice. No, no. It signal the member up the grove excuse to. Get in passes unanimously. Congratulations. And I believe we want to expedite that, but probably not put it on consent. Expedite is not necessary. Can go to the regular course to the 410 agenda, and whether you'd like it on consent or not is your call. I would anybody like to put it not on consent speak now. When is it going to be forwarded? Kind of like. Ford. Ford

ten. You'd like to speak to it. Okay. So not on consent in the regular course. Thank you. All right. Final item on the agenda today is item six. And this is just an announcement for the for everyone to be aware of. And that is actually the next agenda item. So if you would like me to just move forward to many of its agenda. Items, I want to point out that was exactly what I was about to do. So I was ahead of everybody. But yes, please do move on to agenda. Thank you as always. Please go ahead and move on to agenda item number six. I do have just a brief opening remark before we get into the substance of it. The council members will recall that we've had a regional advisory committee on this project since the beginning, and it has consisted of owner jurisdictions. Redmond. Kirkland. Redmond, Kirkland. And. And. Then organizations that hold easements. So Puget Sound Energy and Sound Transit. And I'm missing one King County, of course. Well, we're owners. Owners, right? Yeah. So so that that body has done a lot of good work. Th

ey did all the early planning, came up with the vision. But then as time went on and other jurisdictions that didn't actually have an ownership or easement rights became engaged and saw the potential and started to build and make plans for the corridor. It became clear that we needed to have a broader group of people at the table. So we've been working for the better part of a year and a half to try to update the the adopted rules that this body adopted by ordinance to restructure the Eastside Rail Corridor Regional Advisory Committee to be more inclusive took a lot of negotiations. We're here today to talk about the results of those and hopefully to move forward and improve the menu that we've negotiated. And with that, I will hand it over to Jeff. Please go ahead. Thank you, Madam Chair. You've actually covered pages 21 through 23 of the staff report, so I could probably just move on to 24. We discuss the details of the memorandum of understanding, as you said, that the RAC has decided to reform and enlarges membership. And now and instead of just having these is owner jurisdictions and the rail being quarters, they they'd like to expand the membership to include jurisdictions through which the corridor runs through and also jurisdictions, Erin, and also a an advocacy organization that is interested in seeing the trail about through their organization. So the new expanded rack will include that seat. Will include Dobby and Renton who are non owner jurisdictions. But the the quarter runs through those cities and then Woodinville and Snohomish County. Both of those are still active freight lines, but they're also very important in the future of that corridor. And the Eastside Greenway Alliance, which is made up of RCI, Ford, Terra Cascade, Basil, got a land trust for public lands and all of the then with that and they would be joined by the current five members of the RAC, King County, Kirkland Redmond, Sound Transit and Puget Sound Energy. The other either major component of the memorandum of understanding is that governance structure and currently the RAC is chaired by the King County Council member who is represents the district in which the largest part of the corridor runs through. That's in the that was the previous motion and that is you, Madam Chair, District six. And so the Memorandum of understanding would change that and a chair could be selected from the it would from the King County delegation. So one of the three King County Council members or the King County executive, the executive wished and then vice chair of function is added and that is from the other owner jurisdictions could and an elected official from the other jurisdictions. Let me just jump in for a quick session there. It just seemed more democratic to be able to select our chair and our vice chair from among our members, as opposed to having it set out in ordinance that it shall always be a particular position and also to include the cities and other owners as potentia

I leadership of this group as opposed to as it is now. The actually there's co-chairs and one of them is the councilmember from District six and the other one is the county executive or his delegate? A delegate. So we are not to break our arms patting ourselves on the back, but the executive and the AARP and I all sort of gave up our guaranteed seats of authority on this body in order to make it more democratic, so that we sort of had the ethic of working together as a group as opposed to having one in the lead and or another. And I think that would be very healthy. So thank you. And just a couple of other items, the Racquel can we'll work on a consensus basis and MRU makes it clear that there won't be any votes in the rack. It's basically, you know, everyone in the RAC agrees or the position or action doesn't go forward. And similarly, the RAC can also add or remove members from the RAC through a consensus basis. And those are the major points of the memorandum of Understanding. Happy to answer any questions. Thank you. Any questions about this? I will add that the body, when we had our last meeting, agreed that we would try to get the NYU ratified by all the members by hour before our next RAC meeting, which is September 15th.

So we have a little bit of time. Seems like we've once again lost our quorum so we won't be doing anything with it for a minute or two. But I'd be open to questions or discussions before seeking action on the IMO you. Speculation. Council member. So just clarifying. What is that? So rather than it being the chair just district six, it could be district three or nine in addition, correct? Okay. All right. Keep taking your vitamins. Think you could get a turn? Yes. Go ahead. One more item. Last night, the city of Woodinville adopted the Fantastic. We can thank Councilmember Cook when we see her again. She's around here somewhere. Okay. So now that we have a quorum, can I ask if the council is prepared? If the committee is prepared for a motion to move this forward to the full council to do pass recommendation? Let me do that. Yes, please. Councilmember Lambert. Thank you. I'd like to move. Adoption of proposed motion 2017 0293 with the do pass recommendation. Thank you very much, Councilmember. It's been moved. Any comments or questions? There is an amendment. There is an amendment. Yes, there is amendment. There's amendment number one, one, one. And it is sponsored by you. And this makes a technical change to the motion replaces attachment A, an updated attachment A that includes the technical changes. Yeah. Typo. I see. Okay. All those in favor of amendment 1.1 please signify by saying i. I. Any opposed? All right. Any other amendments? No title amendment with that. Okay. So thank you. We're at the underlying motion, and I believe we have to have a roll call vote on this one. So, Mark, would you please call the roll? Thank you, Madam Chair. Councilmember Dombroski Councilmember. Again. Council Member Garson Price Council

Member Cornwall Council Member Lambert High Council Member McDermott. High. Council Member of the Grove. Council Member one Right there, Madam Chair. So you got that? Yes, I did. Madam Chair, the vote is six sighs, three no's, three. Excuse. Excuse me. Okay. Very good. Thank you. All right. It passes unanimously. I want to thank the staff and Jeff, who sort of picked this up after it had been quite a ways down the road and helped to carry it over the finish line. And that was not nothing. So that was very good work. Thank you. But also just acknowledge the cities of Kirkland and Redmond, Bellevue, Renton, Woodinville, as well as Puget Sound Energy, Sound Transit, the East Greenway Alignment Alliance and Snohomish County. Because we all we all had to come together on this and I think it worked out quite well and will serve us into the future. All right. Thank you. I believe you can go on consent. Yeah, thank you. All right. So that finishes up item number six and brings us to item number seven, which is an update on progress report on the 911 strategic plan. Uh, I'm not going to do a whole introduction. I will allow you to introduce yourselves, but I will say council members done. Okay. Well, sorry. We're going to move to item number six, confirming the appointment of Gregory Beans to the King County for Culture Cultural Development Authority. Please come on up and set the table. The light in front of you is the white button and that'll turn on your microphone. But first I'll call on Leah crackles OPR Council staff to give a report. Good afternoon council members and is critical Darby Council Staff. The materials for this item begin on page 15 of your packet and this is a motion that would confirm Gregory Beames to the For Culture Board for a three year term expiring December 31st, 2019. I'm going to provide some brief background on the for culture board and the appointment process, and then I'll provide an introduction for Mr. Beames and the King County Council created for Culture King County's Cultural or Cultural Public Development Authority in 2002 in order to support, advocate for and preserve the cultural resources of the region in a manner that fosters excellence, vitality and diversity for culture is funded through a portion of the lodging tax revenues collected in King County. In addition for culture administers King County's public arts program, the 1%. For Art Program. And manages the King County Public Art. Collection. For culture is governed governed by a 15 member board of directors who are nominated by the King County Executive and confirmed by the King County Council. The composition of the For Culture Board is established by the For Culture Charter. The Charter requires that the Board of directors have a demonstrated commitment to and knowledge of cultural resources and be active and experienced in community and civic issues and concerns and have the available ability to evaluate the needs of cultural constituencies in the region

as a whole, represent a range of talent, experiences, backgrounds and viewpoints, and be sought from a range of cultural, civic and business professions. Are residents of King County and reflect the geographic and cultural diversity of the county and have no more than six directors from any one municipal municipality. In addition, the board must include one of each of the following a director with expertize in the arts, a director with expertize in public art, a director with expertize in

heritage, a director with expertise in his historic preservation, and a director from the business community. A board member served for terms of three years and may serve up to two consecutive full terms. In addition to the 15 board members, four culture has five ex-officio board members, which include one member of the executive staff and three county council members and four culture executive director. The Culture Board has a governance nominating committee that includes the ex-officio board members designated by the county executive and the County Council. And that committee is responsible for nominating candidates for appointment to the Board of directors after seeking community recommendations, the for culture board votes on the nominations made by the committee, and then those nominations are forwarded to the county executive who is responsible for appointing four culture board members. And then the County Council is responsible for confirming that board member members may serve, may begin serving upon confirmation by the Council or 30 days after their appointment, subject to subsequent council confirmation or rejection. And unless there are questions about the for culture board or appointment process, I'll next introduce Mr. Bean. Councilmember Gossett Thank you, Madam Chair. A few days ago we had a I think it was a law and justice committee meeting in. Sponsored quite a few members to the board for culture. And then one of the members of the Common Council said I'd are three or four or five members, all from your district and on board, all from District two. And I didn't really know the answer. So we had a little discussion about distribution of board members. And we also had challenges to that concept that it needs to be removed from every district. So it's hard and it's probably coincidental that two, three, four people from the same district are on the board. There can be up to six from one municipality, but it doesn't specify within which council districts. And so you couldn't have more than six from the city of Seattle, which your council district has and there aren't. But you could have a number from that council district of the nominating committee. And the executive and the council find that there are qualified members to serve. Okay. Thank you. And it was my understanding, Councilmember, is that the way as as Leah said, that the way the charter sets this up is that there was a desire that the board have diversity, not all from the city of Seatt

le. And so the definition is no more than six from any one city, and that we have six from the city of Seattle on the board now. And the other nine or however many, I don't know how many vacancies there are today are from other places. So but it's a good question and worth addressing. Councilmember Lambert. Thank you. Since I'm one of the two districts that has nobody on this committee, that is very disconcerting to me. And I agree. We talked yesterday about the idea that isn't district wide, but it seems to me that there's 15 people that every district should have at least one person. So so the part here on page 15 is there no more than six directors, meaning one municipality that is in King County code or is that in the charter? That is in the four culture charter, which was initially adopted by the King County Council and could be amended, but it. Can't be amended. Yes. So I would like us to talk about taking that number from six down to four so we can talk about that. Who's on the governing nominating committee? Some of your colleagues sitting next to you. On the. OC are fired by the charter. Could be on the nominating committee. No, but you're done. What could be? It's like you're saying are. On it. According to the charter. That's what it should be. And he says You are. I'm on the nominating committee. By virtue of being. This is you only have 1/2. Okay. Trying to maintain control of the meeting here for a second. Mr. Kelly, why don't you come up, turn on the microphone, introduce yourself for the record, and then you can please proceed to address the councilmembers question. Thank you. Good afternoon. Members of the Council. I'm Jim Kelly, executive director for Culture. The fourth culture charter requires the three members of the King County Council serve as ex-officio members of the Four Culture Board. Currently, that is council members Baldacci, Gossett and Cole Wells. By virtue of your being ex-officio members of our board, you are on the board nominating committee. The board nominating committee includes all three ex-officio members from the council, the ex-officio member of the appointed by the executive, which is Jennifer Meissner and four members of the For Culture Board. And the charter also calls that the nominating committee be chaired by the four culture vice president. So vice president, three other board members, county council members, executive and myself serve as the nominating committee. Does it say in there that you're on the nominating. Committee because I'm an ex-officio member of the board? Yes. The executive director is a ex-officio member of the board. Okay. When when are these meetings going to. We've had we've already had one. We've had our first meeting already. You have been invited to that meeting and you will be invited to others if you can't attend. That doesn't mean you can't send a nomination over

to us. Oh, but is this process going on now? Yes, because we have two openings that will occur on the board at

the end of 2017. We have one board member who's completing two terms at the end of 2017, and we have a second board member who is moving in her fifth year of board service out of Kane County. So those two positions are open. Well, I would definitely like to know when the next meeting is. I didn't know that the charter calls for us to automatically be on a nominating committee, and I want to be a little more responsive to that request in the future. All right. Thank you, Mr. Bassett. Councilmember Caldwell's. Okay, Madam Chair, I'm not wanting to be circumspect or the opposite of that, but I. I also had not known that I was a member by accepting the exhibition status of the nominating committee. But I did receive an email three weeks ago or so alerting me to the meeting and that if I could not attend, that I could submit recommendations for or nomination. So I did do that. I submitted one person's name and so I would think the others got that to me. But we get so much email and we get so. We tend to seek your staff because it. Makes. You believe that you have time to open all our emails between you and you. But I do it faithfully here. You do their councilmember member. So I have in the past when I was an expedition member, put in names and so I'm very concerned just one district, we are the two that have nobody. And I just don't think that. That's right. Well, I totally agree. I have not a problem with that. One of our board members was actually appointed to the board as a resident of District one, and then she and her husband moved to District four. I'm sorry we couldn't control that. So I would hope that that and I will do something on my part to send out an email asking for people in my district this expertise. But if you could look for people in my district also that you have regular contact with, that would be wonderful because I really do believe that we have discussions around here about things like is a barn art or is it not? And, you know, it's very important, as you know, and people love it. So we need to have somebody at the table that has that part of the county in mind. Right. Okay. Councilmember, I'd also add that I recently saw their For Culture newsletter, their e-newsletter that goes out and the call for board members did specifically say they were looking for people from districts one and three. Excellent. I forgot to mention that. They say that you. I'm so glad. Well, thank you. Very good. Thanks, Councilmember. Go. Wells Madam Chair. Tim So what she just said about having had been a member from District one, but she and her husband moved to District Court, otherwise I would have not had any. That's here. You've got Kirsten. Powers. I just have one. And that apparently was she was appointed to justice. Right. So it was accurate when we reported that we have a restriction that no more than six board members can come from any one city. And it so happens the two board members who were leaving are not Seattleites. So those open up

to positions. If the council wants to consider reducing that number to four, that's entirely up to you. That is a charter revision that you would have to do by motion or ordinance. Okay. Like so, we have had a robust discussion about the structure of the board. We are here to appoint Mr. Beames. So welcome, Mr. Muzaffar. Thank you for being with us. Now you can sort of see the sausage being made here and how we how we engage with these issues. Can you just tell us a little bit about yourself and why you're interested. In you want me to go first introduction. What are you going to share? Okay, my notes here say ask him to introduce himself. So I'm just going to give his bio and then. Very good. Okay. So Mr. Bean lives in Kirkland in District six. He's a coordinating partner at Ernst and Young and has 25 years experience providing audit services to public and private companies in a variety of technology and media fields. He's also a member of Ernst and Young Global Coordinating Partner Network and oversees Ernst and Young's Pacific Northwest Entrepreneur of the Year awards program. Additionally, he's a board member for the Washington Technology Industry Association, where he serves as the finance chair and he has bachelor's degrees in finance and accounting from Central Washington University and is currently pursuing his master in fine arts degree. From the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. Okay. Thank you. Now, if there's anything else you would like to tell us about yourself and and about your interest in serving on the Fort Culture Board, please welcome. And thank you. I appreciate that. Yeah, I would say I actually completed my master's degree here this past December, and so I was fortunate enough to now have that in the bank and can spend time with my family again. Congratulations. Thank you. The other thing I would tell the committee is I serve on various other nonprofit organization boards here in the community. I've joined the photographic center, Northwest Board. I'm actually the board chair for this year. It's an arts education organization located on Capitol Hill

that provides classes as well as certification in photography. And then I also am a board member and the Treasurer for an organization called Apprenticeship. It's developing an apprenticeship program that's taking people that are non software engineers and moving them into software engineer field. It's a one year apprenticeship program. It's focused primarily on minorities, women and veterans. And so over 50% of the participants have to be in that pool. We're actually at 80% at this point. It's a Washington based program, but it's also going to be rolled out nationally, and we're in the process of doing that as well. All right. Good. So my understanding is that you have been serving on the Fort Culture Board already for a period of time. So can you tell us a little bit about your experience, what you've learned, and maybe what some of your interests are going forward?

Yeah, so I have been fortunate to serve on the Finance Committee for a little over a year now, and you're not required to be a board member in order to serve on the Finance Committee. And then beginning this year, I began attending the board meetings as well. And so I've really enjoyed my experience thus far with for culture. It's a very rigorous process was one of the things that impacted me initially in terms of the applicants for grants, both at the arts level, the individual artist as well as the organizational level. And I've been impressed both with the committees that go through that initial process, the other board members that then review, ask questions and approve that, as well as the staff people and their involvement just in making sure to do diligence around that and their involvement in the arts community. So it's an organization that I've been extremely impressed with and it's one that I'm excited to be able to participate in. Thank you. CASTMembers. Any other questions for Mr. James? Customer Gossett. Thank you, Madam Chair. One of the things I hear a lot from people in the community about for a culture or entity, that this was a expand culture around our county is that they don't pay enough attention to cultural relevancy. What does that mean to you? In terms of the different art for different cultures, or how do you mean that? And what I was asking you, what do you think it means? Cultural relevancy. So I would take that to mean that is the in the culture within which somebody sees themselves and is the artwork relevant to that particular culture as opposed to a general culture or somebody else's cultural background? Okay. Thank you. All right. At this time, yes. I called Councilmember Lambert to move this action item. Put it before us. Thank you. I'd like to propose motion 2017 0046 with a do pass recommendation. Okay. It's moved and is before us. Any other comments on this action? Or if not, I will. This is a roll call vote. Well, please call the roll. Thank you, Madam Chair. Councilmember DEMBOSKY. Hi. Councilmember Dunn. Hi. Councilmember Garcia. Hi. Councilmember Colwell. Hi. Councilmember Lambert. Hi. Councilmember McDermott. All right. Councilmember off the ground. Councilmember one right there. Madam Chair, I. Madam Chair, in the bonus, eight eyes, no no's and councilmember phone right there. Excuse. All right, with that, we have a do pass recommendation to the full council. And I haven't I don't think we've done a lot of these out of this committee. Does that typically go on a consent agenda? Yes. All right. We might as well expedite it because he's been serving for a while already. So no need for you to come to the full council meeting. It'll be a perfunctory consent agenda item, and we look forward to formally appointing you to the board and your continued active participation. Thank you so much for serving here. All right. And that will move us on to briefing item number seven, which is on the future of the region

al solid waste system. It sounds almost philosophical. What is the future of the regional solid waste system? So we know there's a lot of study and planning that's been going on for a while, and I look forward to Very good. Look forward to it. All right. That brings us to agenda item number eight, which is another solid waste item. When the county opted to build the new station in Victoria, in Bellevue, it's another Bellevue, solid waste issue. In fact, council will recall that specific goals were set for hiring minorities and women. Use of women and minority apprentices and use of minority and women owned businesses. Now that the project is either complete or very, very, very near to completion, we have before us the final report on how that went, which will inform the committee, how well we did meeting the targets that are set. So remaining here to brief us again this terre Rose, please take it away again. For the record, Terre Rose Council staff as the chair described proposed motion 2017 0288 would acknowledge the receipt of the final Victoria Recycling and Transfer Station Workforce Diversity Report. The materials for this item begin on page 33 of your packet. In 2014, the Council approved ordinance 17830, which authorized the executive to execute a contract to replace the 1960s era Victoria transfer station with one that was larger and more modern. This ordinance also required, as the Chair noted, some reporting on data related to

minority and women participation in the construction project. The first area relates to minority owned and women owned businesses participating as subcontractors. The second area concerns minority and women in the project workforce, and then the third related to hours worked by many minority and women apprentices. Additionally, these reports were to include a narrative description of efforts to meet the goals established by the ordinance. Reason for any shortfalls as well as recommendations for minority and women participation in future transfer station replacement projects. In order for the Solid Waste Division to meet the June 30th deadline required by the ordinance, the report uses data through March 31st of this year, and that's when the station was 90% complete. Overall, the final report demonstrates progress in most categories relative to the interim report that was transmitted two years ago. The project exceeded the goal established by ordinance for minority of. Just hours. Ours and the project also met or exceeded the self established goals for women and minorities in the project workforce. However, the project fell short of the goals for minority owned and women owned businesses participating as subcontractors, as well as the goal for women apprentices. The report notes that the project performed better than the national average for women apprentices and identified two challenges related to meeting the goal. The first being just the high level of construction in the region seeking to use apprenticeship la

bor and then the second that women represent only 6% of the local construction workforce. Before I move on to the recommendations, would it be helpful to go into more detail about each of these goals and the project's performance? We have the report before us and I think people can read it unless there's a desire to have you read the details to us. Why don't you move on to the next segment? I will continue with the recommendations in the report. So this final report does provide a series of recommendations on how to promote participation of women and minorities in future transportation projects for minority and women owned businesses. The recommendations mainly relate to effective outreach strategies, communication about contracting opportunities, and also structuring, structuring subcontract packages into increments that might be favor more favorable to small businesses to promote minority and women in the contractor workforce. The report notes the importance of supporting apprenticeship programs for women and minorities as a way to build up that workforce for the future. And the recommendations for women and minority apprentices include but are not limited to making apprenticeship hiring goals a priority on all county capital improvement projects, working with unions to commit specific percentages of construction slots to targeted demographic groups and developing a mentorship program. The final report also suggests that King County perform a comprehensive examination of the challenges encountered by women apprentices to help identify barriers and best practices. And as the Chair noted, the Council may wish to consider incorporating participation, goals and relevant recommendations in future transfer transportation replacement projects. I will note that there is a technical amendment on page 63 of your packet. Amendment one deletes the transmitted report and inserts an updated report dated August 11th, 2017. The August 11th report corrects an inverted calculation error in table three of the transmitted report and the associated references. That concludes my staff report and happy to take any questions. Thank you very much for that report. And I'll call on Councilmember Garcia to ask a question. Thank you, Madam Chair. And Terry, you mentioned the kind of things that we that the report says we plan to do to help minorities and women, potential contractors or workers, be better prepared or more competitive for securing work with the county. But I didn't hear anything about what we're going to do to make contractors and King County government itself better at figuring out ways that we can incentivize or become aware ourselves so that we are more successful at utilizing and involving minority and women. Do you care to comment on that? I think that's probably an answer that's larger than what's contained in this report. And so I. Would suggest. That perhaps the business development and contract compliance staff here might be able to answer that if t

he council member would like to call. Customers or somebody here to speak. Correct. Oh, please call me. Welcome. Thank you for sitting through the whole meeting. It's going to pay off now. When we invite you. Maybe. Welcome. Please introduce yourself for the record. Thank you. I'm standing and working my way. Way. You're not. Alone. I'm Sandy Hanks. I work in the Department of Executive Services and the Finance and Business Operations Division, and I manage the Business Development and Contract Compliance Section. Did you know if you heard my question. I Councilmember Garcia, could you repeat the question for me? Our staff indicated that we've had

some challenges involving minority owned and women owned businesses in our or to the extent that we have established goals to successfully involve them and then lay and then our staff laid out two or three things that women could do to be more competitive and some things that minority prospective contractors could do . But one of the problems around our larger society is that we never challenge, lay out changes that the employer or the larger contractors are utilizing. These smaller businesses can do to be more receptive and encouraging to minority and women businesses because they still have that same stereotypic, stereotypical view of what women and minorities might be able to do if we do give them a chance to work and make that really difficult no matter what minority and women undo in terms of improving themselves. So my question was, do we lay out things that are aimed at challenging the powers that be to change so they're more successful in reaching our affirmative action or inclusion kinds of strategies? Okay. Thank thank you for that. So there are two different approaches that we're using to meet the goals that were used to meet the goals in this report. One was for the participation of minority owned and women owned businesses as subcontractors and suppliers in the project. And as you heard, we had a 10% goal for minority owned businesses and a 6% goal for women owned businesses. And we fell just slightly short of those hiring goals. But what we did as a strategy was to set a requirement for the private contractor to use small businesses. We can be very directive in our outreach. And so we have the King County has a local small business program that is race and gender neutral. We set a goal of 25%, which is fairly high for participation rates. We believe that we can meet it. We want to set something that's reasonable and achievable, and we assisted the prime contractor in doing that in terms of identifying businesses, prospective businesses for our outreach, looking at the availability of those small businesses in the marketplace based on the scope of work and the trades and crafts involved. And I'm pleased to say on this project, the county exceeded that 25% goal for small businesses. We achieved 28. We had hiring goals for minority owned businesses, and we fell about a percent short. We tried

to be very broad in our outreach to minority owned businesses, and we have taken extra steps to put potential small contractors who are minority owned and women owned in front of all potential prospective bidders for our projects ways in which we do that. We last year, for example, we hosted 45 or participated in, hosted in or participated in more than 45 outreach events that were designed to put prime contractors in direct contact with businesses, small businesses, minority owned businesses and women owned businesses indicated that they had an interest in doing business with King County. So we're always trying to forge those partnerships and relationships that provide that access for those firms. Okay. Can you show on page 28? I mean, 35, 35. The chart. So we have a 10% minority business. And then what is the percent of dollars paid to firms was 3.2 versus 7.1. Me is related to time frame. So the figures because the project was not complete at the time that this report was produced. Two methods of showing participation for minority businesses and women owned businesses was included in both the interim report and the final report, both for which are shown in the table. The actual column represents the percentage of dollars paid for the interim report as of 2015 and for the final report as of March 30th. And that's relative to the amount paid to the prime contractor in that same period. And then the final column in table one is that is. The. Awarded subcontracts. So that's what they expect to pay over the whole duration of the project. Oh, okay. That prime contractor and the count is back there that it will get up to 8%. All right. Okay. Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, Mr. Gosset. Okay. Councilmember Lambert. Thank you. I just like to make a comment that on the conclusions page, on page 62, that you had exceeded three of the goals. So that's pretty exciting. And I'm really glad to see that you've got those specific goals as wonderful. You've been to 45 events and that the apprentices goal, you went over by 3.2%, which is great. So I think what I've seen in the last couple of years is greater flexibility and more practicality in how we help the contractors and to meet these goals. But there's two things that I think we need to be careful of, and that is, number one, the paperwork. So when you look at this report you're having in here, just keeping all this data. Well, it looks lovely. And charts, you know, when you're trying to build a building, you have to keep all this data. It costs time and money and employees. And until I started working on that little project that you and I work on every week. I had no idea the voluminous ness of this, and it was huge. But it right up to the word voluminous after seeing what that is. So I think we need to be a little bit careful in how much paperwork is required and how many employees are required to do that, because that takes away from, you know, the function of building the building or whatever the tas

k is. The other thing is that I think sometimes we think things will work on paper that don't work in practicality, and we have to be honest about that. And the example I'm thinking of is when you and I both know where we put a 17% goal in contractors that I'll do, 21% of them don't make me do those paperwork. We said we're not going to do it. You have to do it our way. And then it went downhill from there. So I think we need to be a little bit more flexible. And I know that this is not going to make everybody happy. But the idea that we pick certain areas where we have to get employees and that that's a requirement created a lot of havoc for everybody. And if we had just said that's our preferred area, but everybody inside a much larger area would qualify, I think it would have made things a lot simpler. So I'm really going to be looking at lessons that I have learned from being on that committee, that what really works and how can we do it with as least angst, paperwork and confusion as possible? So thank you. We certainly put that before you, conservative given other comments you made. And I thought, okay. Please go ahead, Councilman. I wanted to respond to what Councilor Lambert said, because I'd like to caution her about saying that we should push for these admirable social justice goals because of the burden of the kind of paperwork required to document that we're actually trying to get better. I think that we're better off by not allowing those who have historically been able to just do the work, not document who they're using, but almost always use the same people who are never, ever. Women are people of color and a society that has a long history of structural racism and implicit bias. There might be a medium where we cut down on paperwork, but we still got to keep the goal that these kinds of folks man involved and included. Thank you, Senator. Thank you. Councilmember Gossett, I believe Councilmember Lambert also has a comment. I know that you've noticed that I'm a woman, so I do care about women being able to get contracts and be able to succeed. Those are what I said at all. What I said was, there's paperwork and then there's paperwork. We need to be very careful that we don't require truckloads of paperwork. Paperwork is fine, but if it's really been onerous, we need to be a little bit careful of that. Okay. Would you like a motion? I think we're ready to move forward. Yes, please. Okay. I'd like to propose motion 2017 0288 with a do pass recommendation. Okay. The motion is before us, and there is an amendment. Amendment number one. Thank you, Madam Chair. I'd like to move amendment number one. This is updating the report, the correct calculation error that was in table three and associated references in the narrative, executive summary and conclusion. Okay. I just want to confirm for the record, before calling for a vote on the amendment, that that correction is something that the executive branch agrees is correct. It's not our co

rection. It's your correction. Okay. Thank you. All right. All those in favor of Amendment One, please signify by saying i, i, i. Any opposed Amendment one carries the motion as amended is now before us. Any final comments or questions, councilor, about please go ahead. Councilmember Dombroski. Thank you. I've been listening to the discussion and read the report on two things. One, my memory me said to me that I believe this was an amendment that I had offered around the time of the commencement of construction of the factory transfer station. And I'm really pleased to see that it accomplished two goals, one, which was to encourage additional outreach and work for small contractors and suppliers and apprentices, including women apprentices on the project. And two, to kind of shine a light on this so we can keep doing better. And today's report is really good. And those were stretch goals and most of them were met or exceeded. I want to thank Sandy Eddington, the Executive Branch Homicide Division, for their good work on this. And thank you, Councilman Debusk. I was just going to say in my comments that I think there's a tremendous value in this kind of transparency around what we're doing, even though we may fall a little short on some of our targets and be ahead on other targets, it just helps to focus attention and keep us always trying to bring more people into this contracting fold. So thank you so much for this work. And I think it's it's very encouraging. All right. With that, I would call for a vote on the motion to recommend approval. And we voted on the amendment, didn't it? Yeah. Yes. Sorry, I missed it. Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Councilmember Dombrowski. Hi. Councilmember Dunn II. Councilmember Gossett, I. Council member, Cornwall High Council member. Member. High Council member McDermott. High Council member at the Grove Council member Yvonne right there. Madam Chair, I. Madam Chair, the vote of seven ayes, no nos. Council members of the Gerben von Mike Bauer. Excused. All right, by your vote, we have approved the motion as amended for recommendation to the full council. I believe I can also go on consent and we've come to the end of our agenda. But I'd like to circle back and approve the minutes from the beginning. So, Councilmember Lambert, would

you be willing to put those before you? I'd like to move the minutes of both July 19th and July 26, 2018, 2017. As written, it's been moved to approve the minutes. Any comments or corrections? Councilmember Gossett So this is an opportunity to speak to it. Okay, very good. All right. Thank you very much. Staff. We will move on to proposed ordinance number 2017 0475. This item would approve and adopt two memoranda of agreement with the Joint Labor Management Insurance Committee, which represents benefits eligible employees represented by labor organizations except transit operators and sheriff's deputies. Understand, we have an updated fiscal note that will be passed around, hopefully

from what was included in the packet. Is that correct? That is correct. Thank you. And here to welcome our guests and give us a briefing is council staff Heidi. Papa Chuck. Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair. How do you provide our council staff? And also to my right is Bob Railton of the King County Office of Labor Relations. To his right is Denise Cobden from Professional and Technical Employees Local 17 Union. And to her right is Kari Schaefer from the King County's Human Resources Division. The staff report begins on page 99 of your packet. Madam Chair, as you mentioned, proposed ordinance 2017 0475 would approve to joint labor management insurance. Or JL am I c memorandum of Agreement or. Emojis. The first emoji would adopt an accountable health network or a H, and there's going to be a lot of acronyms in this presentation benefit plan designed for 2018 and 2019. The second emoji would adopt the Health Maintenance Organization or HMO and preferred provider organization or PPO plan designs for 2019, and replace the Health Incentives Program with a health and well-being program tomorrow. To provide some background on the J.L. and Missy. It consists of labor and county management representatives that collectively bargain ensure benefits for county employees except those that are part of the Amalgamated Transit Union, the Kane County Police Officers Guild, the Puget Sound Police Managers Association representing captains and the Technical Employees Association representing employees in the transit division. They share benefits in most union contracts and for now represented employees are negotiated by this committee. In November 2016, Council adopted Ordinance 18405, which approved the employee regarding insured benefits. And this meeting I recall that the benefits agreement between king county and the I c unions that prescribed medical, dental vision and life insurance benefits for del amici eligible employees for 2017 and 2018. There are three benefit agreement conditions described on page 100 of your packet that relates to proposed ordinance 2017 0475. The first condition describes the health and welfare plans the insured benefits plan provisions for JL Mis-C eligible employees during the term of the benefits agreement are described in tables one and two on pages 100 and 101. The plan provisions in these two tables are tied to the county's Healthy Incentives program, which requires county employees to complete a wellness assessment and an individual action plan such as like Weightwatchers or to work out for six weeks prior to July 31st each year in order to achieve the goal level of the benefit plan for the following year. The goal level benefit plan has the lowest out-of-pocket costs to achieve the silver or silver level benefit plan. Employees are required to complete the wellness assessment or the Individual Action Plan prior to July 31st each year. If an employee does not complete the wellness assessment in the Individual Action Plan by th

e deadline, they would maintain the bronze level benefit plan, which has the highest out-of-pocket costs. All county employees start at the bronze level benefit plan. The employee's spouse or domestic partner would also have to complete the same requirements in order to achieve the gold, silver or bronze level benefit plan. The second condition describes the G, the J.L. and Mike's ability to negotiate and implement modifications to ensure benefits for JL am i c eligible employees during the term of the benefits agreement? The third condition describes that the deal and MRE will add supplemental plan options beyond the HMO plan and that PPO plan for the 2018 benefit year in 2017. Council approved motion 14877, which acknowledged the receipt of the executive's budget proviso response report on accountable health networks or in the report can be found on page 119 of your packet. In addition, the third condition describes that the JL and Massie agrees to negotiate changes to the Healthy Incentives Program to be effective for the 2018 benefit year. In accordance with the Benefits Agreement, the first proposed J.L. and Missy Millard would adopt an eight, eight and a plan for the 2018 benefit year, according to executive staff. And an 18 is a form of value based purchasing. It brings together physicians, hospitals and other partners into focus networks for the amount of money the network receives for treating a population of patients is based in part

on the quality of care that they deliver and the patient satisfaction satisfaction with the care they experience. Executive staff offer the age and plan in the open enrollment period for benefits in 2018. The proposed ordering, which was transmitted to the Council on November 1st, 2017, would approve the HRA and plan designs for 2018 and 2019. Table three on page 103 illustrates the 2018 and 2019 King Cares. Select a H and plan design that was agreed to by the JL and Missy. According to Executive staff, eligible employees will be able to select one of the four eight. Available in the Puget Sound region, Eastside Health Network, the Everett Clinic, Multi Care Connected Care and University of Washington Medicine. The proposed ordinance would also authorize the following provisions as an incentive to the select HMO plan option. The annual deductible for 2018 and 2019 will be \$0 for per single, only with a maximum of \$400 per family . Beginning in 2020, the annual deductible rates will be \$200 per single, only with a maximum of \$600 per family. And also in the event that at least 15% of eligible employees elect the plan option during the fall 2018 open enrollment. The LMC will negotiate additional short term and or long term disability plans to be implemented no earlier than 2020. Should the JL and Missy reach an agreement on one end or both? Disability plan options? The county did not offer an HMO plan benefit plan option for its employees in the past. Attachment three on page 135 of your packet illustrates th

e 2018 benefit plan designs offer to eligible employees, which includes the term plan design, according to executive staff over 500 JL and may see eligible employees enrolled in the new Plan Kane Care Select for the 2018 benefit year. It was assumed by the county's benefit benefits consultant Mercer, that the shift in enrollment from Kane Care Taking Care Select will be approximately 5%, which equated to \$110,000 in cost savings for 2018 and 2019 combined, according to the executive's fiscal new executive staff state that the and Missy achieved a 6% shift enrollment for 2018 cost savings could reach as high as 1.8 million if 25% of employees move from Comcare to Comcare select, which is the HMO plan. Executive staff also indicate that there were no Smart Care Connect, which is the HMO enrollees that shifted to Comcare select during the open enrollment period. Also in accordance with the JL and Missy Benefits Agreement, the second proposed JL and Missy Molly would replace the Healthy Incentives Program with a health and well-being program. The proposed ordinance would also adopt the 2019 benefit plan designs for the HMO in the PPO plans to reflect the alarm to reflect the elimination of the Healthy Incentives Program . According to Executive staff, under the Health and Well-Being Program, starting in 2018, eligible employees and their spouse or domestic partner will no longer be required to complete the process steps of the Healthy Incentives Program to determine their benefit color level. Can you can you say that again, as I think that's some new magic there? Yeah. Yeah. So under the Health and Wellbeing Health and Wellbeing program, starting in 2018, eligible employees and their spouse or domestic partner will no longer be required to complete the process steps of the Healthy Incentives Program that in order to determine your benefit level by color, the gold, silver and bronze. That's a below forms with all of the tax, all of that, the business about how we're climbing stairs and running blocks, correct? You mean the way the ridiculously arduous and paperwork and necessary paperwork that everyone that's an employee can create, as I was referring to. So that is correct. All right. That was to the negotiators on that. Thank you to the gentleman. So we're going to tell us how it is determined. Yeah, okay. Okay, good. Can I ask people to please ask to be recognized? Thank you. We're just so excited about that. And then chair, I. I try to bring it in written. Thank you. So table for on page 104 of your packet illustrates the proposed plan designs for 2019. The plan designs are the same as the goal level plan designs for the HMO and PPO plans and 2018 shown in Attachment three on page 135 of your packet. According to executive staff, no significant cost savings are expected to be realized due to the discontinuation of the Healthy Incentives Program. Executive staff also indicate that the cost savings will be utilized to implement the Health and Well-B

eing Program. Council staff requested additional information on the count, the costs associated with the shift of employees to the goal plan who would have been in the silver and bronze plans and 2019 executive staff has provided council staff with a revised fiscal note, which is on the dice. I believe you have that to reflect this impact. The costs would increase approximately \$600,000 to implement this proposed deal, and I am aware that concludes my staff report. Madam Chair, we are happy. To answer questions at the start. There will be some questions. Councilmember Gossett. Thank you, Madam Chair. Is there any way that all 13,000 of our staff are going to learn about or

have already begun to learn about all this alphabet soup you just shared with us? And will there be anybody that I can check with to see if they have a sense that the staff understood all this? So the union's who? So as far as what they eat and benefit plan that was offered in the open enrollment process for 2017 and offered it will be available for the 2018 benefit year, in my understanding. Executive staff did provide some outreach and marketing materials for employees to kind of advise them of the new the additional plan. And as far as the 2019 changes for the healthy incentives, I will defer to executive staff on to to discuss the kind of outreach and educational steps to inform employees. Okay. So I'm going to offer an opinion and have before I have one more question for her. And Councilmember Gossett. Bob Railton, Labor Relations Manager. Office of Labor Relations. Kerry Schaefer actually is very much part of the communication process where we educate employees about the various planning choices that's available to them coming into open enrollment, as well as when employees first begin their employment with King County and they have an opportunity to select the plans. We do have a very, very extensive outreach and communication plan designed to help educate employees, both in terms of the plan options that are available to them, but the various sort of decisions that they'll need to consider as they determine which plan option is best for them and their family. Any more additional information term specifics? I'd have to turn to Carrie Schaefer. Carrie, do you think that we have a system where staff will generally become relatively educated on this new system or at least read health care reforms? Yes, Councilman. Again. I don't know if it's on. Okay. It's okay. Yes. Councilmember Garza, we have actually been educating employees over the past year. And you are hearing everything all at once. They've been hearing the story as it unrolls. So before open enrollment, we explained to employees what the new accountable health care, the King Care Select option was and what kinds of how they could make a decision whether or not that was a good plan for them, because it's not the best plan for everybody. It's a it's a good plan for some people, but not necessarily everyone. So there

was a lot of education before open enrollment that showed people how to think about their plans. So that was the first piece. Then after open enrollment was done, we explained that that people in 2018 will no longer have to do the wellness assessment in individual action plan because in 19 it's sort of gold for all. Everybody will be at the gold level. So that's the second part of the communication. And that happened in December. And there was a video and it's it's been widely watched. And so people people have that part. And then starting this in February and going forward, we will explain the new kinds of activities people can do to be healthy. It's not tied to the level of plan you have, but it's a whole different way of doing wellness activities. So it's spread out over, over many months without trying to tell everybody all this and all of these things with all these acronyms all at the same time. So how would our health care and health advisory staff know whether or not this new direction that we're going is going to bear fruit? Like, how am I going to how are you going to know whether that says cancel out? The girl doesn't have to fill out the forms if he's still running and walking and exercising like he had been doing. How would. It work? We're not trying to keep track of what every single person does. We're looking at things that we can offer in the workplace that help people be healthy. And so. They too, have different ways that people can participate. But it doesn't. You're not going to have to fill out forms. It's not going to be tracking each person. It's going to be looking at what happens in larger workgroups and and measuring things like people's confidence that they understand the health plan, their confidence that they know, that they know things that they can do. You know, just in the more of a survey, not not a whole lot of individual tracking. Okay. So, Chuck, I never knew that I was there to start off, historically speaking and have started off with Ron's coverage, because I know. You did when you do those actions in order to get to the higher levels, easier to complete those actions. Yeah, but I know some people have been I go from day one, I'm not supposed to know that. Oh. Is it possible offensively or no. Well, when we put the the healthy incentives program in place, depending on how you wanted to view it, you were either going to stay at the gold by doing those things, which is what the unions were explaining to their members. Or technically it was a bronze plan and you earned your way up. The result was the same. If you did the individual action plan and you did the wellness assessment, then you got gold. So you could either say you stayed at that level because you did those things or you worked your way up from bronze because you did those things. All right. Thank you. So I wouldn't have been here. Is it fair to say that the rationale here is that the executive branch believes that the use of the Affordable Care Netw

ork will provide better health outcomes at a lower cost than the use of the incentives program. Is that am I hearing that, Cory? Because I didn't get a real rationale for why to essentially back away from incentives and not use incentives anymore. Council Member Baldacci That is correct. The the cost of health care, of not getting the right health care at the right time, either getting too much or too little or going to a place that's more expensive without delivering better quality is a much bigger impact on our cost and actually our health outcomes. We certainly want to support people to do healthy things, to do what they can to control the the health situation that they have. And we want to continue to support that. But the real truth is that the cost of services and the quality of services has a much bigger impact on on our budget and on how healthy our people are than than the lifestyle activities. Thank you. And I guess if I may, I'm just going to follow up in Oakland Councilmember Lambert, the fiscal note that was handed out was pretty. It seems to show slight savings in 2018 and then a \$500,000 approximate increase in 2019. Can somebody put that in some context for me compared to what our costs have been and how much of a percentage increase that is and what's driving that? Councilmember Bell Michelle, I'll try to answer those questions for you. The cost savings were as a result of the shift of employees from the PPO to the Select Plan and the anticipated costs. And it was based upon a projection of a 5% shift. We actually had a 6% shift, but we wouldn't have known that at the time we were preparing the fiscal note. And with respect to gold for all in 2019, Mercer, who is a supports the county in its in its benefits administration had estimated that it would result in an additional cost of \$600,000 to the overall benefits budget , which is about \$240 million per year. So the offset is obviously enjoyed by the region. And again, when I say the \$600,000 increase in terms of the cost of the benefits, that is a projection that is really subject to really what the plan utilization will be by all members of the jail am. I said so. So that number is just the best that Mercer can put on it, just anticipating the utilization of those that had been at the silver and bronze level previously. So I'm doing some quick math up here. Never a good idea, but going with the numbers that you just shared, 240 million total health care costs to the county. That's our budget. For health care. That isn't necessarily our costs to health care, that is our funding. What has our costs been most recent number that we have? I do not have the most recent number of the costs for you. Councilmember We can get that for you. I'm trying to get at the curve. And so in the past, we've seen year over year health care increases in the double digits, 10% plus percent increases in health care. And and the county's been actively working to bend that curve downward while encouragin

g better health for employees for a while now. And this seems to me to be the next evolution of that, but I'm just trying to get at how we're doing. So that would be really good to know coming forward. We have we. Can give you detailed numbers on that. We've actually gone from double digits to an average of around four and a half percent per year, which is which is doing better than the national average. Very good. So that that's all I really need. I mean, that sort of basic information is helpful. And then in our projections for the protected fund reserve, which is the bucket and where the money goes into or comes out of, depend upon whether or not our costs are higher or lower. But then, then our budget is looking pretty good now. And I understand that one employee or one employee is dependent with a really particularly nasty form of cancer, can change the picture in, you know, in one year all by themselves because it can get very expensive. And that's expected that we will cover those sorts of, you know, situation. So final question, is this a process and approvals? So this comes to us now here we are in January, but these plans were offered for open enrollment last year. What happens if we don't approve this? Councilmember Bell Duchin that's a very fair question. And in terms of of that, I think when I sit here now, you know, in terms of having this discussion in January, one would have perhaps had two different agreements for each of the two changes, one in terms of age and the other one in terms of the health incentives and the plan design. Because the gym I see as as you know, is authorized to bargain and implement plans for 2008. And with respect to these but at the time we were bargaining that we were hopeful that we would have gotten everything in front of you before open enrollment. And we signed off on this in August or left my office in September and in a blink of time. Here it is in January. So so really what's here is in terms of looking at the continuation of these benefits in the 2019 benefit plan year. Keeping in mind to Councilmember Bell duty that the GMAC as well as Total COB are continuing to be empowered to bargain changes the plan design. So in April we'll be looking at, you know, our projections for 2009 ten and beyond and making decisions of whether or not the plan designs that are before you now should be modified . In addition, we're in total comp bargaining this year for

successor benefits plan, which also may modify these as well. So the one thing about looking at this is looking at the continuation of these particular plans beyond 2008 ten and recognizing that logistics being what they are. It wasn't a ideal situation. Yeah, and I get that it's complicated and not neat. And the end of the year is challenging for a number of reasons. But I would just ask that we take the Council's approval of these things as something other than just a rubber stamp. I would appreciate that is. Ed Yeah, because I still. Didn't hear an

swer you as to what would happen if we're not okay yet today. I think they would have to go back to the bargaining table and who knows what it would be a mess, I think, is what it would be. Certainly, Madam Chair, I would I would think that for 2018, based upon the benefits agreement, we'd be fine. But we certainly would have to take a look at 2019. That's the part that I'm not getting. So there's a benefits of like, did we and you'll have to forgive me for not knowing this, but did we pre-approve pre authorize the job of my C to decide within certain parameters or decide period and therefore whatever you guys come up with is okay, council approval notwithstanding. Madam Chair, under the benefits agreement, it does talk about the fact that we are empowered to negotiate the modifications to insured benefits and implement those agreements, and that these for the age and any third plan option for 2018 and to be implemented on January 1st of 2018. That was an agreement that previously was approved by the council that authorized what's happening here today. Yes, ma'am. Answer for 2018 2019. Like I said, had we thought about this in terms of the timing of how long it take to get before you, it would have probably logistically been better for the executive branch as well as to generally say union says. Well else to have had four agreements before you to recognize in the decisions we made for 2018 and to recognize in the negotiated agreements for 2019 as it was, we have them combined in 18 and 19 under single agreements for each of the provisions. So I think the answer to my question, Councilmember Gossett, would be that it would be a bit logistically and administratively challenging to pull the two apart and do whatever we do for 2019. But let's hope that that's not necessary. Okay. Councilmember Lamberts in waiting. Thank you. Just a couple of quick things. So you mentioned a minute ago that you were going to have healthy outcomes by work groups. And I think health is kind of an individualized thing. So I am concerned about that. I don't want to let up on the idea that we all need to be doing things to take good care of ourselves. And I know that I'm that I think it was like five or six years ago when we first started the plan where you had information on how to do exercises properly. I thought that was really good information. It's been years since people really were that specific with me on that. And I think, you know, I think that's a really good thing that we could share with our employees to encourage them to exercise, but also to do it correctly. So I hope that we don't give away completely. I agree with the other council members I hate and making those forms that all the time. But it did I did learn a lot on some of the years, but not all of them. I'm really thankful that you have other plans besides the PPO and the HMO so that people have an option if they choose not to have that particular kind of plan. We did a couple of years ago, and I thin

k it was the group you just mentioned that Mercer, that they were looking at each of the hospitals and a surgery in each hospital cost and made comparisons across the different hospitals and just have some numbers. This hospital has this survival rate and this hospital has that. And will we be seeing any more of that information? Because I think it's important for consumers to know how the hospitals are rating. Councilmember Lambert, that work was actually done by the Washington Health Alliance. That's right. Which which was an organization that the county helped start on. They do have public reports and we can certainly give you information about where to find it. It is public. It's public a by provider groups, individual, you know, clinics. So there's the community checkup report that shows the quality and outcomes for four clinics. There's a hospital report that shows variation and quality and cost. There's a new report that's going to be coming out that shows common things that the medical societies have agreed don't need to be done and how much cost they add. So it's things like giving antibiotics for for bacterial infections and certain kinds of knee surgeries that don't don't really help people. And that report will be coming out soon. And those are publicly posted on the Washington Health Alliance website. And we can certainly give you the the website information for that. I think it also we should talk to public health about having a link from their website because when people go to look for health information, they might go to public health and be able to see that their work. One of the things I mean one of the things I'm concerned about and it's happened several times in the last seven years, but as we change the

pharmaceuticals, that they will say this is the formularies that we will pay for and these are the ones we want. And then the next year it's different. And so if somebody is on a drug that's working for them and having to change and then change back, it's not good. And I think I've talked to somebody in your office about this. So I think we need to be aware of that. And, you know, maybe having I think there's appeal process or something that your doctor can write and say, no, they don't want them changing to this drug. But I think trying to keep it a little bit more stable would be helpful. And then in this plan, you know, we were supposed to be one of the early providers for the Affordable Care Act and all that. Is this connected to that at all, even tangentially? Councilmember Lambert Yes. This is one of the kind of health care innovations that was supported by the Affordable Care Act, because that the Affordable Care Act comes with what's called the triple aim, which is to get better population health at lower cost with better patients. Satisfaction. And so the Accountable Health Network idea is very specifically designed to achieve those three things, so that that is very much in line with the Affordable Care Act. So I

know the employer that was in charge of getting us on that early adopters is no longer with us. So are we going to we're not going to be an early adopter. Are we still going to be a mid adopter? Or when are we going to be adopting? And is this part of that or is this something separate? I'm not certain I understand your question because we certainly. It's mental health and physical health being combined. Yes, yes. Yes. And so it's happening at two levels. We're doing it in the employee plan. But far more important, that's what's happening in the health department and community health, where they're working with the accountable, you know, accountable communities of health. There's so many acronyms now. But yes, we are we are a mirror doctor in that there were two two counties that have a different kind of structure that were the the the test cases. And then we're in the next the the next wave and right on where we thought we were going to be. Health Department can speak more eloquently to that piece. Sure. I think that would be good for us to know because other counties, because we were going to be an early adopter. Other counties were saying things like King County figured out first because they're bigger than us and we'll just go in the tailwind behind them. And so other counties are calling me and saying, how far are you? And I don't really know. I mean, the affordable and the accountable communities of health. Yes. And when we're going to be fully adopted and and what have we learned along the way, which I went to one symposium from a county, and their lessons learned were pretty interesting. So it might be good for us to know those things and maybe a briefing at some point on that would be interesting. Okay. I mean, it would be interesting to know what our experiences anyway. Right, for our own purposes. So that'll be great. Before we close this out, I just want to make sure, Ms. KOPPLIN, that you have an opportunity to say something if you choose. Don't feel pressured. But if you've done as the the the courtesy. Thank you. Of of coming in being here this morning. So anything you'd like to add to what we've talked about today? Well, I would like to thank the council for their consideration on this. I'm really proud of our Joint Labor Management Insurance Committee. I feel like this is an example of where labor and management can come together, sit down, work through problems, and come up with some really good outcomes. I'm also very proud of our employees because I will note that this year they did not increase the employer contribution for the insurance contributions. They they took basically a 0% increase. And our our PSR is still doing very well, which I think speaks well to our employees and how well versed they are in health care and how this process has basically been a success in an arena where health care costs are often rising significantly. So I wanted to acknowledge that and acknowledge my colleagues and, you know, encourage the

council to really take the recommendations of the Joint Labor Management Insurance Committee seriously, because we work really hard together on this. And all of our decisions are very. Well-thought out and discussed at length. So. All right. Well, thank you. Thank you all for coming in, working us through this. This is before us for potential action today if we're prepared to move forward. It is proposed. Audience Member 2017 2047572. That please come from a member. Madam Chair, I'm happy to put before you propose ordinance 2017 zero four I'm sorry 0475 with a do pass recommendation and the other comments or questions, Council Member McDermott, followed by Councilmember Dombroski. Thank you, Ms. Palaszczuk. Your staff report analysis section ends with staff analysis is ongoing. Can you speak to what work is continuing? Absolutely. Councilmember McDermott, that was based on the fiscal note that was provided to you today. There was addition information that council staff requested and that information has been provided.

Great. Thank you. Thank you. Councilmember Tomasky, thank you. Just right above it and returning to our opening colloquy here. The staff report notes that the human resource vision doesn't believe that there will be significant cost savings. Did there's a discontinuous discontinuation? Just I can't even speak of the healthy incentives program, the ending of the paperwork. I just want to note that it may be hard to capture, but with 13,000 plus employees and their family members having to fill out those forms, that takes them away from their work. It takes them away from their families. It's a small thing, but but it adds up. And I think there is an undocumented savings, but savings there. And so I just want to commend you. You articulated it so well when you said, you know, if you're stuck down on that gold or bronze or silver level, the costs are higher to get in to see a professional. It's a barrier there. People may not go. So I think your shift in thinking on that is great. I really want to endorse it from a practicality perspective, from a reasonable perspective, and from a health care perspective, I think you're headed in the right direction. So thank you for your work on that. And Denise, thank you for our work working so hard on behalf of our representative employees. I really agree with everything you said that we have great partners there. Councilmember Dunn, followed by Councilmember Jamaica. Anyone from the insurance carrier here today? No, sir. Okay. So just labor and staff. Okay. I appreciate it and I appreciate all your work. So I'm not going to wrap you into this. But I called the local or the government direct relations director four times last year. Four times they were going to call back. Yeah. Which is kind of reflective of the level of service I think we get from this insurance carrier. So on my desk is a ordinance which I've shown to several members up here that would go in a different direction with our in

surance carrier as a county. So at some point I'd sure like to have a conversation with somebody from some regions. They want to give me a call back. I'd be grateful. If not, then I'll just move the legislation. Council Member Doug, we'll follow up with your office to get more information on that so we can take your time and I'd be grateful . Thank you. I think it's important that people are responsive and especially the tens of millions of dollars. And I also have other concerns which I can get into later. But thank you. I'm grateful. Thanks for being here. Councilmember Lambert would like to comment on that topic as he goes is going to say that are on the phone with me and and they were answering my calls but yeah they are so anyway. Okay, maybe you got the wrong phone number. Councilmember McDermott. Thank you, Madam Chair. You've certainly heard some clearly interest, frustration, maybe even on occasion disillusionment with the health incentives program. And I'm not I think there is some value in the concept, but as I expressed to several people in the executive branch over the last year, I have some grave concerns about the current implementation of that program in mind was much more specific to record keeping and whether we were seen if somebody could enter data in the right timeframe versus if they're actually engaging in activities to improve their health. In my conversations with the executive branch, I learned that a bigger concern driving some of their work to reform it is that healthy incentives had those who were reaching gold didn't reflect our in our workforce in its entirety, that there were ESG implications in who was reaching gold and who wasn't in that concert. That concerns me even more so than the frustration of filling out forms. I think there's actually value, as frustrated as it may be in taking that health and assessment. But I want one that. Helps our employees achieve their health goals and have better outcomes. So I'm not looking to chuck such a program, but I need one that actually is helping our entire workforce achieve better outcomes, not just segments of our workforce. I also need one that is outcome driven, not input driven. Do you check the rate box to input the data on the right time frame? Thank you. Well, just to wrap it up and then we'll we'll be ready to take action. I think that's what I heard is the direction and the idea of looking at the outcomes and looking at them in a population level as opposed to an individual level. I heard that pretty clearly from the presentation is the hope for this new direction? And Councilmember Lambert reminded me, but I think it's fair to point out, as much as we've all come to hate the poor, unloved incentives program, it won awards back in the day when it was first put in place. And it did a lot of good, I have to tell you. It did. It was not a bad thing for me to have personally to have a reminder at the beginning of each year to be thinking about my health. It made me

go get my checkups. It made it made me do things that, while they are indeed a hassle, are probably important to to health. And look at me here. I'm dripping. I'm a drippy, feverish mess. And I you know, if we had had our incentives program in place this year, maybe I wouldn't be. So let's just

put it that way anyway. Okay. Yeah, I think we're done with comments and we're ready to move to a vote rolls marker to call the roll. Please repeat before you do. Do we not have a motion? I might know people in motion. We do? Yes. You need one? Yes. Another? Not that out of it. I recall the motion. Okay. Please go ahead and call the wrong. Thank you, Madam Chair. Councilmember Dombrowski. Councilmember Dunn, I. Councilmember Gossett, I. Council member. Coles. Council member Lambert, I. Councilmember McDermott All right. Councilmember up the grove. Councilmember one right there. Madam Chair. Madam Chair. On the vote, a seminar is no nos. Council members. Cole Wilson one mike there excused by your vote you have moved proposed ordinance number 2017 0475 with a do pass recommendation. I think we really. No not at this one quite a bit. So we'll put it on consent if I don't see any objections. Not seeing any objections, it will be on consent. Thank you very much, everyone. All right. We have two final items. Maybe we can get through them relatively expeditiously. Both are about solid waste. So I'm not I'm going to skip my introduction and just call on our staff. Mary and John and Terre Rose to walk us through both of these items, and we'll take them up one at a time. I'm going to wait for one more member to approve those minutes. Well, turn to item eight. Is that our best action item? Okay. We'll go to item eight. Item eight is an ordinance which will improve the grant funding allocations for our Water Works program. This is round three of this very popular and successful program. These are sewer rate funded projects to address water quality improvements. The rate includes. What is it like about \$3.6 million per biennium as at 1.8 per. It's about two 2 million for this portion of the program. Now that there is a council portion of the program in the separately executive portion. So this is the executive portion. Right. So in this this this half of it goes through the recommendation committee. The grants rank and committee. That's correct. And those are the recommendations that are before us. That's correct. All right. And we're going to be joined by a representative to present the recommendations. Right. You've largely captured what I was going to present. So I think I'm I'm sorry. Working out of my class there. I think I'll just just introduce Elizabeth Loudon, who's the Water Works program manager for the water program. She will give you a briefing, as you indicated here, this is based on water, on water and wastewater treatment division funding. And from there, I turn to Elizabeth. All right. Thank you, Mike. Thanks for your work. Welcome, Elizabeth. Good mor

ning. Good morning. And thank you for inviting me. I'll be just offering a some brief comments on the water grant program and the current round before you. The overall goal of water works is to fund projects that improve water quality in the Wastewater Treatment Division's service area. The program also has additional benefits, including community involvement, building stewardship and leveraging funding. To date, 82 projects have been funded totaling \$5.8 million, and that's for both the competitive and the council allocated projects. Project types include green stormwater infrastructure. Rain gardens and cisterns. Education and community engagement. Research and monitoring. And stream and riverbank restoration. Most projects include more than one type of activity, and as mentioned, there are two different tracks for funding. The competitive and council allocated. Are very competitive to. Ensure they are for the competitive track. The Grant Ranking Committee reviews applications and makes recommendations. And this year for the competitive track, we have a biennial cycle which will award all the funding for 2017 and 2018. And also this year, we had a two step process. Letter of intent, short pre application and then a full application. We started with 80 proposals and then the 23 before you were considered by the committee to be the the best ones. And are these before us as the committee recommended, or were there any changes between committee recommendation and submission to the council? There were a couple of changes. There was one project that was proposed initially proposed by a wastewater treatment division that the committee recommended, and then subsequently the management decided that their preference was to have the funding go to outside entities. So the committee reconvened for another session to decide what to do with that \$113,000 and decided to awarded to two other projects which are on the list. The last two projects on the list. Yeah, great. So that was the one change that was made. So the round three recommended projects list starts on page 50 of your packet, and there are 23 projects totaling \$1.86 million. There's a wide variety in project types, in size of projects that also location and I, things that are different this round. The recommended projects include 11 organizations that have not been previously funded by Water Works and two led by Native American organizations. So overall, this \$1.86 million in water works funding is leveraging another \$6.8 million in match, both cash and volunteer time. So this represents a significant community investment in water quality improvements. Excellent. Do members have questions or

comments on this item? Councilmember Building. I'm still kind of going through the analysis here, but there's a series of grant programs that we do repeatedly where I'm very concerned. Turn that my district gets very shortchanged. And this is one of them. And I'm just going through the math here, and I haven't

been able to work all the way through because there's not a summary by district. There's kind of a general. And and I just want to point that out. It's it's concerning to me because the first year when I had this comment, our chairman pointed out, and I thought quite correctly and wisely, that these things come and go in cycles, and some years you're going to get less, some years you're going to get more. But I'm on year three now and I'm just not seeing that there's a fair distribution to my district, so I'm concerned about that. I might briefly note, Mr. Chair, that that on page one, page 71 of your packet, there is a listing of projects, and you will see on that fourth column from the left that there that it's defined by district. Yeah, I'm busy sorting through that right now and trying to do it because it's not totaled up my district. And so I'm doing math and spreadsheets over here, which is probably not a good activity on my part, but it just I'd like to know what what's being done to make sure that there's a fair distribution of this money. So I can respond that that the committee does look at the geography of where the projects are. And so what we do is we look at the we ask the applicants what districts their project takes, takes, takes place. And that's where we have this information from the table here. And many of the projects take place in more than one district. So we do put we put together a map, kind of a preliminary map showing where the different projects were. We are also limited by where the applicants are coming from. So. But I did look at all of them because I know that there was a question about this earlier. I did look at all of the projects in the final list, the final 23, and just to see how many were only in Seattle versus outside of Seattle. And the numbers on that were 21% of the projects recommended for funding were in Seattle. And then. I. Almost have about 45 were in multiple districts. And then another chunk, 30 something percent, were entirely outside of Seattle. So. That's helpful. But is there outreach to make sure people are applying? Is there is there a way of making sure, maybe by mapping out where these are, that things are being spread fairly? Do we look back over five or ten years and see where there are gaps and try to fill those gaps? I mean, I'm asking more of a process question. Sure. Yeah. Yeah. And we're I'm happy to do outreach. We have workshops that we've done in different locations around the county, and I'm happy to do presentations if people have suggestions on where I might present on what works opportunities. So Mr. Chair, if I might suggest I'd be happy to work with the agency if it's possible to take a look over the last several years and do a basically a spreadsheet analysis of where money has gone in terms of districts and how it has been balanced over over time as a resource for your information. I think that would be really helpful. And then maybe we can think about doing it because b

efore you. So I appreciate offers, but before I personally or asked my colleagues to ask for specific work, it would be nice to do a little bit of an analysis to see if my perception is correct, first of all. Second of all, if so, why? And then what is what would be the best way to address whatever the issue is? Okay. So I wouldn't ask you to run right out and do that right away. And I do appreciate the offer. But let's see if we can do a little analysis about what's really going on and why. Thank you, Mike. I appreciate that. Okay. Thank you. Councilmember LDC and Councilmember Coleman Wells might remember better than than me as former chair of the Regional Water Quality Committee, but I had some similar concerns the first time this came out, and we prepared some legislation to kind of help shape the technical or the recommendations committee. Right. In terms of having council members suggest representatives. Yeah. And do either of you recall if you type of how we structured that and whether each district get a representative and how are we doing on filling those? I think I know I've got my person. Yes. So very briefly, there is a grand ranking committee, as you're referring to, that Grant's ranking committee does. I believe there are nominations from each of your offices to the council district offices, which go to the executives executive appoints them to the to that committee. And I am not in fact, I was going to ask what the what. She's got. The list. I've got the list. Yes. So why don't we before we let's not call out any vacancies in case there there. But if there are council members who have not got their representative to you, why don't you let those officers know offline? Do you have to do that? Yeah. That was one solution because, well, gee, I'm not sure it's the most effective. You know, it's just one way to have a voice at the table, which is part of the process. Obviously, I think it would be interesting to see on the denominator, if

you will, where all the applications came from in terms of determining that that equity. And I think that could be rather readily transmitted. And the other piece of this was to ensure that equity we got these funds in half. So there is the council side. What is the will of the body on this today? Are folks ready to move forward either with or without recommendation? Is there any timing issues? I mean, I know what, by not approving it, we're holding up the funds. Oh, ahead. So for timing issues, let's see. So the initial letters of intent were submitted in June of last year and then went through the review process. So we did tell people, I think people are hoping to be able to get started this summer and some of the projects to have a seasonal aspect to them this year. Window. Yeah. Yeah. Mm hmm. What do you think, customer value. Will you be able to get the information you want between now and two weeks? Or would you like this to remain here? I, I don't know. Let me look to Missouri. Do you think we c

an do some work on this between now and two weeks from now? I would certainly start today to work with the agency, and I'll look to see whether whether you can produce information that would be needed for that sort of an array over the next, let's say, week. Yes, sure. We can do that. Okay. All right. Customer McDermott, it's your legislation. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I would move that we give you a do pass recommendations and a full council, he said, looking at the ordinance number ordinance 2018, 149. All right, that's before us. Further questions or comments this customer about. To say, I'm going to vote no on do pass, but I might get there by final count. Thank you. Okay, very good. The clerical cultural on. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Councilmember Baldi Chino, Councilmember Dunn, Councilmember Garzon, Councilmember Colwell, Councilmember Lambert, I Councilmember McDermott. High. Council Member of the Grove. Councilmember Wainwright Bauer. Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair. The vote is for eyes. One No. Four. Excused. All right. We've given a preliminary do pass recommendation to this legislation. It'll go in the ordinary course, which will allow a couple of weeks, and even if necessary, a courtesy delay for a third week. It sounds like that's reasonable information that could be gotten quite probably, and I'd appreciate a copy of it to our office as well. Maybe all offices, I'm hearing, to take a look and appreciate Councilmember Bowdich duties, diligence in making sure there's a balance in these grants. Thank you for your work and for being here. Thank you. Okay. We are going to turn now to item nine, which is. Oh, the minutes. We like to put those before us. All right, Councilmember Cole. Wells. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm approval of the minutes of the May 2nd 2008 committee of the whole meeting. The employees supporting the company's network, IP equipment replacement and the central desk. The department additionally provides fee based services such as geographic information systems or GIS services, radio services and China access to external customers. The Departmental 2017. 2018. Operating budget, inclusive of supplemental appropriations, is approximately. \$340.5 million. And includes just over 408 TDs. In addition to managing. The department, the department. Director and chief. Information. Officer. Or CIO. Also advises the county on technology issues, technology planning and project implementation, as well as provide overall vision. Information, technology management and investment. The CIO also provides oversight of county IT. Projects via the Project Review Board. And approves countywide I.T. standards. Policies and guidelines for wide adoption. A more detailed list of responsibilities can be found. On page eight of the packet and turning down to. Page nine to the experience and qualifications of DB has been serving as the interim director of KC I.T. since October 7th, 2017 and was selected. After a nationwide search that attracted more than 300 applican

ts before her appointment to be interim director. She served as the. Deputy director of KC I.T. beginning in 2016, and prior to her work with the county, this unit. Held senior management roles at Amazon and the Computer Sciences Corp.. The Executive Notes and the transmittal letter that mRNAs diverse skill set to modernize the county's complications, meet the challenges of. Cybersecurity and ensure customers. Have the right technology to effectively meet the goals and priorities for. The county's strategic plan. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in government from the University of Maryland. As well as a project management professional certificate from the University of California, Irvine. I'll close in putting your attention to two. Attachments to the Stack Report. Attachment three. Found on page 15 is the confirmation packet prepared. By the Human Resources. Division. It includes Ms.. Hanna's reasoning letters of support for her appointment, the county's financial disclosure form and the review of the background check. Attachment four can be found on page 47 and is the completed counsel questionnaire. That concludes my remarks and I

would be happy to take any questions. Ms.. Hanna is also. All right, why don't we invite this up? And, Mr. Skilling, are you going to join us? Marlon, thank you for these kind of materials. We appreciate you answering. These questions and a detailed question. I'd encourage all members to look. And start opening up council members and co-sponsor the confirmation motion because what would you like to say? A few. Words or ask any. Questions? Okay. Thank you very much. Have. And then. Never expected to. Serve on a. Strategic advisory board. We're also looking for one. More council member to serve on that. And that's what. We want to engage in a bigger recruiting effort. Yes, that's right. It's a funny thing. And I have to. And how her business savvy can be. Applied to governance and looking at how we can. Not only with the private sector, but. The leaders of our 18. She's also invited me to to have more fun. And that is where we have. People together to start counting problems and to. Or in the way he developed and I think her expertise. Actually taking real problems to. Our expert. And having them find a solution that will help them. It's been very interesting and exciting. And I have to admit that I. Don't always know exactly what they're telling me, because there's a lot of new technologies that are new and exciting, but I know how to put. Them out there and it's really exciting to see what she's bringing so far. Other members have questions or comments before we. Council members have this photo opportunity as. But I'll question whatever you invite now as you can. And I don't think it's going to work. The Speaker If I may say so. Thank you for your response. Qualifications and experience. It's very helpful. One of the challenges. I think we in any big operation. This is that. I think they're. Just about right. It's about

how organization doesn't. This is standard practice in the. Process of trying to save more to upgrade your IQ system. Almost always more about. The process and the business processes. Than it is about the. All that you do now, of course, is the. And then you. You wanted a partner with Operation Cars to make sure. We have systems that provide the most efficient service that work for our staff so that they can provide the most efficient service. Jane. The statue was really, really powerful. Thank you, Councilmember, for and very thoughtful question. From King County Information Technology to personal. It is all about our customers. Our customers are our employees. Interact with stakeholders and members of our community. We believe. In a customer centric approach in how we look at. Technology solutions that. Within the county. That starts with understanding. Our customers. And your customers and. Developing business requirements that meet the needs of those customers. And then you factor in the business processes and the technology and this. So it really starts with the customer. We have implemented with King County. Information Technology, some user center. Practices, whether it's around our web development. Aspects, whether it is our business analysis, those all start with our customers. And that is the. Yes, that. Ruling out any technology. Council Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm thinking this head is going to move about duty notes. You'd had a chance to try to jump on it for size. Also, you come with private sector. Experience, and I think that could well suit us in that balance. And I'm wondering what. You think the most innovative use for drones here at the county. I don't know what it is, but I know it's because we were Lambert. Oh, thank you. You're welcome for that question. So. He's an attorney in the county. He has his many potential use cases. One would include around properties and the domain, using drones to potentially look at changes in building structures. Especially the taller buildings. There is also a use case for. A flood warning and potentially do surveying the landscape. You know, while an event is happening, and we could probably come up with a few more. But those are probably the two best use cases specific for King County. Thank you. The other question. Here comes the memory. After that. No one. I think you mean that when that question. So could you talk a little bit more about the Community of Opportunity Project, the White Center that has to deal with the coding and digital literacy, but also how that relates to the expansion to the rural areas. We have so many people that don't have that. So last. Year. King County Information Technology undertook a project with the federal NTIA to look at. To do it. To perform an assessment of broadband access, we chose the right center community of opportunity to get an. Understanding of what digital assets. We have. Within the community that could be. Broadband service to the. Wi

reless access, nonprofits that provide grant money to library system job training programs within the area. So that we could then determine. And develop a. Digital equity plan through the county. Figure out how you can best serve. White Center and then leverage what we've learned there to. Expand it out. We are we have the draft plan available and we're. Working on finalizing it. But it

worked with our community partners at the Housing Authority, the libraries. And a couple of nonprofits. Oh. Oh. We're a part of this system. Like you said, it comes from on. Right. And I was not going to ask. You know, he probably knows the answer. You're at University of Maryland, College Park graduate. What does? A terrible turtle. A turtle. All right. You know that I think your mother is strong. Strong deeds, gentle words. Yes. Let's see that carried out. Councilmember Lambert, would you like to put the motion before us to confirm? That's number 2018 zero one. And based on that, the ratings are way. All right. That's key for us. Any other comments or questions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman. WG i. That's when a mobile phone. Buyer. I. Mr. came home to about a six hour space time and given the unanimous to pass recommendation to your confirmation, congratulations were expedited to. Muslims in Turkey. Thank you. Thank you. All right. Thank you for indulging us in that. Now we are going to turn back and we have three folks signed up for public comment, none of whom were on that item. So I want to get to those three folks. Thank you for being here. We appreciate it. MACK Thank you. Thank you to all our members and good luck. You do not need to come back for the full council meeting. We will turn now to item eight. And as we do that, Jennie Giambattista will brief us I. Wanted to let staff know on item nine that I in a prior dialog I thought that had passed out on our consent agenda. So I see why you're still here. This on the biomethane. We'll see what we can do. I'm not optimistic, but we'll see what we can do to get to it. Hi, Jenny. We had a substantive hour and 15 minute briefing on this piece of legislation that's been worked on very hard by Councilmember Cole. Wells Really the harassment and discrimination last time and we are here today to take a look at her striking amendment and other potential amendments and see if we can't get it advanced. Good morning. Council members Jenny and John Batiste. Council staff if it's helpful for you, I can give a brief recap of the ordinance or I can jump right into the striking amendment. Which would you prefer? Mr. Chair, I think. We've had the ordinance briefed basically, and we heard concerns last time, and so would it help? Councilman wants to jump to the striking amendment to see how you have proposed to address the House. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yes, that's fine. And I do want to bring to attention of my colleagues that we do have the materials that were distributed on our table today. So you can get those up. Thank you. So

thank you, Mr. Chair. So I'll go through the striking amendment. I have prepared a red line version for you, so the line numbers I will refer to are the red line versions. I think that will allow you to see the changes both clearly. So the primary substantive change that you will see before you in this striking amendment is that the judicial branch participation is now voluntary. And you can see that in lines 191 to 194, where there is a specific language that is added. There's a new Section five that's added that simply requests the Superior Court and the District Court to give consideration to the sections of this ordinance. Additionally, they are encouraged to transmit training options. That is the most significant substantive change to the ordinance. Other changes that I will walk through in the striking amendment largely reflect some of the discussion that was had at the last meeting on this topic. Throughout the ordinance, the phrase each entity managed by a separately elected official is replaced, and that is replaced by simply listing the offices of those separately elected officials. So, for example, on line 72, you will see that that has been replaced by listing the assessor, director of elections, sheriff, counsel and prosecuting attorney. That doesn't change the intent of the ordinance, except, as I indicated earlier, the effect is that the judicial branch is no longer included. So you will see those that phrase deleted, threw out the striking amendment. And if I may, Jenny, just an obvious question for you, or are the are legal officer, but can we direct those separately elected officials to do this? Or did they have any independence similar to the judiciary, although they're not a separate branch, if you will? I just go back to our paid leave program where, you know, it was essentially. I believe we can, but I would like to defer for confirmation to our legal counsel, Mike Hoover, on that question. He's got rules. He's like, you might as well take a permanent seat here at the green table. Thank you again, Mike Hoover, counsel to the council. This has actually been worked fairly extensively and we believe as it's written now, we do have the ability to direct it, direct those officials named in the current version. There were other versions where we went back and forth on this quite a bit, the courts being the primary ones that we removed inside over. I see. And I see we have executive branch books here from H.R.. Is that your understanding as well? Okay. Oh. I'm just trying to square in my mind. The reason for the silence is in the prosecuting attorney's office. The prosecutor, Soderberg, I thought, stepped up and did the right thing by on the one paid weeks of leave, offering to, you know, grant that benefit. But I understood that it was

discretionary. And so I'm getting nods from some maybe this is somehow different, but it's still an important now there are now they're shaking their heads. Could somebody from the executive branch

come forward and educate me? I'm looking at the lawyer. Yeah, this is I'm not I'm just to understand the difference if there is one or how this works, just from not that I think it should apply to all branches of the government. Right. But I'm trying to understand as a legislator, our ability in this context. Excuse. Islamica prosecutor's office. And Mr. Hoover and I haven't talked about this issue, but I do. Think the prosecutor, like with paid parental leave, agreed that they would be part of this ordinance. But I think there is a question and actually, you know, apropos of your charter review decision or excuse me, discussion this morning, there have been some lines where we have done things because we've always done them that way. And there's some things we're going to need to clarify in the charter about whether the this body can regulate what courts are doing or the prosecutors because. We like the courts. Are a separate branch. But Ms.. Jean Baptiste is correct that the prosecutor's office is happy to, you know, be part of this this effort to. Update policies and report back to the council. But I think that question, if we want to talk about it. Deserves a little more research. Okay, that's helpful. So we're proceeding here with concurrence of the separately elected. But there well, there is a. Or and again, the separately elected in the executive branch. If someone's doing the crazy executive. The assessor, the elections and my sheriff. The sheriff. All of their employees, it says in the charter, in. The executive. Branch. That prosecutors, employees are not in the executive branch. Because that office is established by state. Correct? Yes. Okay. But we. Do have some sort of mix up on how we'll get that all squared away in charter. Review. All right. That's helpful. I appreciate the tutorial. And if I may add just non-legal information. Our chief of staff, Carolyn Bush, did convene a meeting with the chiefs of staff with each of these separately elected officers to discuss the ordinance and the Stryker. And all of those officers were supportive and in fact, suggested the list, the way that this is listed here in terms of rather than using some phrase, such as each entity managed by a separately elected to actually list them out. So moving on, if I made lines 74 to 75, this was just a edit to clarify the writing. It doesn't change the intent where the edits here are done to clarify that, that there is a requirement for new or revised training rather than just recommendations for training later on in the ordinance. It's clear that we've tried to make it clear that what is to be transmitted on September 24th, 2018, in terms of training, are training options line 100. The striking amendment insert the word encourages in order to emphasize the intent that the county does want to encourage reporting. So it now reads a description of a reporting system for employees that encourages those who experience workplace discrimination and harassment

ent, including sexual harassment and inappropriate conduct, as those as well as those who observe such behavior to report it lines 107 to 113. This language was added at the request of Councilmember Balducci in order to provide more direction on what the guidelines for how to handle a complaint should address. I think the information that is added here is consistent with the intent of the underlying ordinance. There are, looks like, a lot of changes on lines 122 to 143. This is just moving text around for clarity. There is a new requirement in there at the end of line 130. And the new requirement is that resources for employees to understand the policies and procedures shall be easily locate able online lines. 158 to 164. Were edited for clarity. The prior version could have been read to suggest that we were trying to prevent complaints, which is certainly that was not the intent. And then on lines 177, this is a substantive change in that the requirement for reporting data on informal reporting is changed to when possible. And that was done in consideration that it may not always you may not always have the data on the informal reporting. I would note that the striking amendment has been shared with the executive staff and it has been supported by the executive staff. Get a note on this issue. We got a nod from RH, our director. Okay. So that concludes my comments on the striking amendment. I think you have also has a amendment from Councilmember Lambert as well, which is an amendment to the striking amendment. For a discussion of that amendment, I would like to turn to our legal counsel, Mr. Hoover. Good morning. This amendment is fairly straightforward. The the over the underlying piece of legislation actually directs a variety of departments and agencies in specifically including us to go back, revise and develop our own policies. This amendment that's boring would actually be a little more specific on what should be included in those council policies. And it specifies that if there is a concern or a complaint between council members, not necessarily staff, but council members themselves, a

mediation process would be imposed and it would be mandatory. This particular language essentially just directs us to adopt that. So we would be passing. If you pass this amendment, you would be passing an ordinance telling yourselves to go forth and adopt a policy, implementing a a mediation process that would be mandatory where there are concerns or complaints between council members over and above whatever other policies we also have. So this is some specific the ordinance itself is more procedural in terms of asking that processes and politics be developed. I think it's fair to characterize the although the ordinance has some specific standards and benchmarks to meet, the ordinance generally tells departments and agencies to go and develop something. This would be a fairly specific directive to us. Yeah. All right. We'll take these up in order. Council

member Caldwell's, would you like to put the legislation before the committee? Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move by ordinance, proposed ordinance 2018 0256 pertaining to discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment and inappropriate conduct in the King County workplace. All right. And would you like to move striking Amendment One? Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move striking Amendment One. All right. And Jenny has given us an overview of it. Would you like to speak to it? Okay. Do where do we need to take up the Councilmember Lambert? And then after we take after we well, before we vote on the striking amendment. All right. Councilmember Lambert, would you like to move your amendment? I would. Thank you so much. I'd like to move amendment number one. And it would. Serve. I need a procedural ruling on this. Is this within the scope and object of the legislation Council? I believe it is. I yes, I could elaborate. All right, Councilmember Lambert. Thank you, Mr. Chair. This idea came to me during the meeting that we had with all of our employees. What date was that? Is that Thursday? Thursday? And the question that came up and then we had legal advice is, is what how do these things that other employees can go to their manager? How would that be handled by the council? And I thought, okay, that's an interesting question. And the advice was that we would self-police. And that was very difficult to do. And so I thought, well, how could we do this in a way that's respectful and a way that would be a good example to all the employees that even when you're an elected official, you're still held to the same kinds of standards and that if we don't have a manager over us, although we do have our constituents, but that doesn't help on a day to day basis that we have a process where we can make sure that we are able to do whatever we need to do to make sure that this is a healthy working environment. And I thought this is a good way of being an example to all of our employees that we to take this very seriously. And if there's a problem that we will go to mediation and get it worked out in a timely way as possible. Thank you. And I'm sorry, Governor, did you move that amend? That's because other council members are concerned about the issue. Thank you, Mr. Chair. So this is one of the innovations, and I think I mentioned this in our last meeting about this ordinance that's in front of us, is that it does include council members. We're not exempted from the requirements that Councilmember Caldwell's has put forward to review our policies and to adopt policies and procedures that address all of the things that have been now stated as in the ordinance. I will say I lived through an experience on another body where there was an elected official who was alleged to have committed some behaviors that could have qualified as sexual harassment that was on senior staff, possibly not just senior staff, but also was problematic among some of the female council

I members. And so it's very difficult to deal with a situation like that. It's important to deal with it. But it's very difficult because each one of us is here, because the constituents in our district voted for us. And there is nothing that the rest of the council can do about that, that the people we are here and we're here until we get voted out of office or we do something that enables us to be recalled by law. So however, it sends the wrong message if we just shrug our shoulders and say, therefore, there's nothing that can be done if there are complaints like this. I asked a question earlier on the side that I want to ask you again, now that we're speaking in public, and that is can you talk about so first of all , I think the before I frame the question, just one more thought. I'm doing this in real time. I do think that the issue of councilmember behavior is a correct thing that we ought to address. I don't think it should be about councilmember behavior just to other council members. It should be about councilmember behavior to anybody. And I think that there should be a process that is as effective as we can make it, that gets developed, that we use in situations where there is a concern about sexual harassment or discrimination that meets the definition of this policy. Do we have

anything like that in the ordinance here? And if so, can you explain what it does now? Yes, we do. The the at the beginning of the ordinance, we actually directed many entities, including ourselves, to go back, review and revise our policies in line with standards that were set forth. If you then go down, I'm trying to think, I guess it's section two D, there actually is a specific provision that is, I think, fair to say, aimed at what you're raising, which is although it applies to any interactions between staff members, etc.. We also ask that the policy include a specific look and and procedures for accounting for power dynamics. I didn't say that very elegantly, but it is to account for the power differential. But when elected officials erect with staff or with each other, I would think. Can you point to line number? Yes, I can. It's in I hope I've got. A very striking amendment on s one lines, 144 to 148. Right. And it reads the policies, procedures and training developed by the and I'm skipping all of some of the people council shall specifically address the power dynamics involving staff and elected officials and how to respond to and prevent discrimination, harassment, sexual harassment and inappropriate conduct by elected officials. So the way I read this amendment in keeping with the striking amendment and the ordinance, because this isn't new language, this is in the underlying proposed ordinance. Right. This what I just read. Yes. Is that the ordinance and the striking amendment would direct all of these parties, including the Council, to go create procedures and policies that do all these things, including this particular thing. And the amendment w

ould say what at least one of those procedures must be in a specific type of situation. It's like sort of getting to the end on this one question, though, because it's so so here's what I'm suggesting. And I look at Councilmember Lambert for a second. I completely agree that mediation is a tool in our toolbox that ought to end up in our final policy, in an appropriate place, with appropriate language around it. Who does it when? I don't know that we can require each other to engage in mediation, but we can certainly encourage each other to do so. But I do think that we're set up right now with this ordinance to tell everybody, apparently set the courts to go and figure out what your policies, procedures and training are going to be and then come back and then we're going to adopt those things or we're going to implement those things anyway. So I. Wonder, Councilmember Lambert, if you wouldn't be willing to accept that this language says we're going to work on exactly this sort of thing. I'd be willing to work with you. I'm sure Councilmember Caldwell's would be willing to help us with this, as he's been the guiding light on these things, to come up with a procedure that at the end does what we need it to do. Because I support your idea. I do. I like it. There are some tweaks I might propose, but I do think that this gets to a place of stating the end result when this entire ordinance is really about dictating a process to get to the end result tonight. Councilmember Caldwell's stating that correctly in your mind. And thank you, Mr. Chair. Yes, I believe you are. And what we what I've wanted to do throughout this is to be consistent. And my concern with the amendment is that we would be going for a level of specificity with the council and especially particularly with relations between council members that we do not have anywhere else in the proposed ordinance. And I think that's the way to go about this. And I agree it's very important is to work on the council's policies and procedures and training to reach the objectives that Council Member Lambert is wishing to have included. Councilmember Lambert, Thank you. I am very concerned about power differential with a staff member. I think it'd be very difficult for a staff member to say Councilmember X has whatever yelled at me, screamed at me, jumped up and down, giving me funny looks, turn green, whatever, because they work for us. And so they would come through either us or through H.R., through the county, if they felt that the processes here weren't working. But for council members, I think that we need to set the tone of good behavior and treat each other with respect and what we you know, what we say to our kids. And, you know, sometimes we give a greater example by what you do than what you say and hopefully what you do and what you say match. But when they don't match, then it's a very bad messages to our children or to anybody around us. And so I think that as we go forth and make our own p

olicies, I think this is an aspect that is very touchy and something we haven't ever talked about before a very much. Although if you look upstairs, we at one point, Julia Patterson did the chart on the wall upstairs about how to treat each other nicely , which has been there a long time. So I'm going to withhold this amendment for the fact that, as we do our own, this is a aspect that I think we need to include and that we also need to make sure that our employees know that we intend to model the very best behavior and not allow things to continue that could be swept under the rug in the past. Are you withdrawing Amendment One? I am. All right. That's withdrawn. Are there any

other amendments council member made? Just as a final comment, I everything you just said, I agree with and support and will work on. As we move forward to our Council proposal, I commit to working on getting to a place that acknowledges all of those realities that you just outlined. Thank you. Very good. Thank you. Councilmember Caldwell. So I'm sorry, are there any other amendments? No. All right. Councilmember Cole Wells. Thank you, Mr. Chair. In speaking in support of the striking amendment, I would like to just bring out a few things that I think are really critical. First of all, thank you to all the staff and all of the H.R. just across the board. It's been a very productive process that we've been going through for the last six months. But secondly, I think it's really critical that we bring up our whole county, including our council policies and procedures relating to harassment, discrimination, sexual harassment and inappropriate conduct, which would be new in this case. We have to modernize what we have in place, which has been good but has not been adequate to really achieve what we all want. And that is a welcoming work environment where people feel as though they can thrive in a safe and an equitable, a respectful and inclusive environment. And we know that people across the country. In government entities as well as in the private workforce, are reluctant to come up to report discrimination and harassment and inappropriate conduct. And I want to make sure that we're not dealing with the abstract here. We have good policies, but if they're not ones in which people feel comfortable coming forward, then we are having effects on individuals that can be mental, they can be physical, they can result in economic difficulties if they feel like they have to resign. And so my main effort here has been to make sure we have something that works that. We don't have a workforce here that is reluctant to come forward. We are the best county in the state. And I believe with this amendment, with this ordinance, if it is indeed approved by the Council, we will go a long way in making sure that we have the most productive workforce and that we value our employees as they should. We need policies and procedures that are easily understandable, that don't result in people trying to

read them in their eyes, glaze over because, you know, it's like they just don't even want to continue reading that they feel comfortable and all the King County reflects and what we want to have happen. This would result in some cultural change, but it's needed and we will all be better for it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Councilman Coles, thank you for your impressive leadership on this issue, and the amount of work that you've invested in is very impressive given the time. I'd ask that the clerk call the roll on this. I'm sorry. All in favor of the strike amendment. Say I am opposed. That carries. And as they turn to the underlying ordinance as amended, I ask the clerk to call the wrong. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Councilmember Belted. Councilmember Dunn. Councilmember Garza. Councilmember Cornwell's Councilmember Lambert. Councilmember McDermott. Hi, Councilmember of the Grove. Councilmember one right there. Mr. Chair. Hello, Mr. Chair. The vote is seven. Eisner's no nos. Two. Excused. All right, we'll advance that to the full council. Does it need to be or can it be expedited? We'd like to expedite it. It can be expedited. That is your policy decision. Would you like to do that, Councilman? Also, let's expedite it and we'll have it on the regular calendar so it can be spoken to with my colleagues permission, if you will. There's one more item that the waste our Truman Division would really like to get addressed today. I think we can do it in 4 minutes. Mr. REED 4 minutes. We went a little long on the charter review, and this is with respect to our environmental attributes legislation which the Council has adopted before. And I think we've got a fine tuning ordinance. Mm hmm. And that takes us to our second motion with a for culture appointment today. Motion 2019 103. This is King Chasm, who I'm nominating for appointment to the board. And I'll turn it over to Ms.. Krakow's up for introductory remarks. He can up. Thank you. Mr. Cosby is making his way up here as well. So for culture board appointee King Casillas in Seattle in Council District two and was appointed by Councilmember Jo McDermott. Mr. Kazem is an artist, designer, producer, M.C. and educator. He is the founder of two of six Universal, a Seattle hip hop organization. He's also the rental manager for the historic Washington Hall Community Space and the founder and director of Record Label and a multimedia company and a media producer for hip hop one on one TV and Zulu Radio. Additionally, he has received state and national awards for historic preservation. Mr. Gotham's appointment appears to be consistent with the requirements of County Code, the for Culture Charter and bylaws. Good afternoon, Carson. Thank you for joining us today. I really enjoyed our visit to Washington Hall and thank you for showing me around and having me out. I'd love for you to just give us some introductory comments and in particular maybe talk about your various work. Absolutely. Thank you for having me

. I've been following for culture for many years and very privileged to serve in my capacity of, you know, been an immersed in the community within the arts range, modest disciplines. And I've always been kind of rooted in activism and serving community. And I have many hats being heard. I'm currently spending a lot of time at the Washington Hall, which is 110 year old building, is the historic hub for many communities of particularly the African-American. Me first documented jazz performances and many, many greats have called Washington our home and along with our culture, as well as a historic Seattle who helped to get the acquisition and restore the space which was in perilous conditions. And we've our organization to say Zulu is one of the groups that have been the part of that preservation in the last ten years. And now we're able to continue to provide affordable and equitable spaces for many communities. Thank you. And if you might also comment on. The work you've done with foreign culture. I think you were telling me before the meeting started, you've attended the last board meeting or two. Yes. I've been loosely, you know, working in collaboration with Ford culture and especially in terms of, you know, restoration with us. Washington Hall recently had been able to sit on board meetings and kind of get a better pulse on some of the things that are on the agenda in terms of programs and and funding and kind of the kind of the electrical components of the on the board level. Other than that, of participated in review panels different trainings and and put together as a funding of due to us exhibiting has been a very valuable asset to our community. Great. Thank you. Other questions? Councilmember Gossett. Thank you. Mr.. Yeah. For Culture put together a tribute to me when I accepted recognition on behalf of all of us for putting \$1,000,000 as part of building for Culture Grant three years ago. And the overwhelming majority of that money went to really create African, Latino, native, progressive, but very small white cultural organizations that ordinarily have not been able to access our culture. And they were very excited about having that opportunity. And I was really happy that councilmember about Do Jan DEMBOSKY also were able to join me at that event. So the three or four groups that's running Washington Hall now are really making sure a broad number of organizations and people or any groups that have an access to that facility for media rooms, for cultural or just political or just educational shows that they want to do. So it's really nice. I want to have the opportunity to say that. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you, Councilmember Dombroski. Thank you. And I wanted to say that I really enjoyed the four culture performances at Washington Hall, but what I think I enjoyed more was watching our colleague, Councilmember Gossett appreciation of them. And we talked a lot about the impacts of art and culture on the viewer and the participant a

nd the person experiencing it. And I took a picture of Councilmember Garcia, and I was talking about the beaming pride and appreciation for their really incredible performances in government buildings. You and I both enjoyed them a great deal, but they were eye opening. They were different, they were community based. I mean, I'd say different, different than, say, going downtown to an established, you know, theater that might be more traditional. But I could see in Councilmember Gossett the pride, frankly, decades of work that he has put in work in the community, being brought to the fore and put on stage for everybody to enjoy. And that was the highlight of that night for me, was seeing Councilmember Gossett. But there's one more piece to the story I'd like to tell, and that is a few years ago here, Councilmember Gossett led in an effort when there were some additional capital dollars in the for culture bucket, if you will, to help finish off the restoration of Washington hall when we reprogram that money. And it was a little different than what the initial proposal was. But Councilmember Gossett took the lead, knowing the historic importance of Washington Hall, knowing that it needed to be repaired so it could continue to provide the performances that we all got to enjoy that night . And I think that historic Seattle and the other associated organizations were would not have had at least the success on the timely basis that they had to get the facility completed without Councilmember Garcia's leadership. And I didn't want today to go by without recognizing our colleague for his work on that. Thank you, Ms.. Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Bell Dutchie. So I'm just going to join the line of people who are expressing appreciation for the place that Washington Hall is taking in our regional arts and culture ecosystem. I represent District six, which is the East Side and the relationship between you Theater Northwest, which is one of our major arts groups and Washington Hall has been wonderful. You've hosted their fundraisers every year and recently the production of Ragtime, which was a collaboration with, I forget the name of the organization in Seattle and the one on a theater in Northwest on Mercer Island, which was a real, I thought, a great dialog and presentation on sort of race and class. And all

through the lens of this turn of the last century, sort of setting of the play. Anyway, you're doing an amazing job bringing the region together there. And so I just wanted to say thank you and thank you for taking time out of what is obviously a rather busy schedule with all the things you've got going on to give your expertise to for Kultura, we're really going to benefit from it. I appreciate your time. A pleasure. Thank you. Any other praise of Kazim or Washington all seeing then? I'd ask Councilmember Wells if she'd make the motion. Thank you. Mr. Chair. I make I move that proposed motion 2019 0103 to confirm the appointment of Mr. Johns

on to our culture board. Councilmember Cole Wells has moved the appointment of King Kazim to the Foreign Culture Board. See no further discussion. Madam Critic, would you please call the role. Councilmember Bonaduce, back. To Councilmember Dombroski? Councilmember Dunn Councilmember Gossett. High Council member Colon I, Council member Lambert. I just want to bring up the grill. Councilmember Brown. Right. Mauer. Hi, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair. Vote is no eyes, no no's. Thank you. We've given a do pass recommendation to Motion 2019 103. We will send that to full council on April 24th and put that on the consent agenda as well. Thank you very much, Kazim. Look forward to your service on the board and thank you for joining us today. Thank you. You bet. And that takes us to item seven on today's agenda. On February 26, 2018, the Council adopted Ordinance 18665, which required the executive to develop language assistance plans for every county agency and office and submit them to the Council by September of 2018. Thank you. Thank you very much. That takes us to items five and six. The King County District Court, Northeast Division currently has two openings to the incumbents being appointed to the Superior Court by Governor Inslee. Pursuant to King County Code, I instructed staff to coordinate interviews with all of the eligible applicants, and that subcommittee consisted of myself and council members Baldacci, Dombrowski and Lambert. We conducted six interviews on July 8th and July 10th and are recommending three candidates as finalists to be interviewed today. The county code requires a procedural motion to select the finalists to be interviewed, and I wish to call on Councilmember Dombrowski to make that motion now. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. It's my pleasure to move that. The King County Council take up the appointment of the two open seats for Northeast District Court, and that we consider the recommendations of the select committee that you mentioned Kevin Peck, Jill Kling and Michelle Gilson, and conduct interviews here today and make a recommendation to the full council if that is the motion you were looking for. I believe it. I believe in fact it is. Discussion Council Member Gossett. Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair. I want to ask Councilmember DEMBOSKY does that mean we are filling two positions today or just one? Two positions? Oh, thank you for that clarification. Yes, I see no further discussion. All those in favor, please say I oppose. Nay, the ayes have it. Thank you. Today, the full committee will interview. The three finalists, will provide about 15 minutes for each finalist. And until the finalists are before the panel for the interview, I'm asking that they be sequestered in the actually in a conference room in the administrative offices of the council. Grant Lemon will facilitate that, and that allows us to interview each candidate in open session and allow each one of them to be hearing the questions and participate in with as much warni

ng as the others. Sam Porter is here with counsel staff to answer any procedural questions and point out anything I may have overlooked. No one seems to think I've overlooked anything, Mr. Lemon. We have names of the applicants, but the paper randomly at first will be back, followed by Will King County Television is not happy. The clerk of the show again. You don't. Know how where they. Go. Oh, General, I would just go with that. Everybody has, right? No. It's not. Appropriate for you to be. Against it. You have to apply their word. But they have made it their personal. Yeah. I mean, you know. Yeah. All right. We gotta go. Yeah I've been feeling you know I we have not pre assigned who asks the questions and will be making that up as we go along. So let me begin actually by welcoming Kevin Peck and ask you to briefly introduce yourself. Describe your background and why you'd like to serve it as a district court judge. Thank you, and thank you for the honor to address the entire council today. My name is Kevin Peck. I served as a trailer in King County for the past 36 years, and I've been honored to serve as a pro-tem judge in the King County District Court for the past 29 years. At age 14, I began working at McDonald's in Chicago. I graduated high school a semester early and took a position as a law clerk in a Chicago law firm where in my spare time I would go to the courthouses in Chicago, either the federal court or state court and watch trials. And it was there at the age of 17, I began my love and fascination for our

legal system. I moved to Seattle 41 years ago, where I worked in the shipyards and as a vendor at the kingdom in order to help pay for law school and graduating from law school. I immediately took the job full time as a public defender in King County for three years, where a guardian significant trial experience in representing indigent clients and communities of color. I also advocated for caseload standards for public defenders that that based on the overwhelming caseload we were being presented with to make sure that being provide adequate representation . After I was served as a public defender, I was then hired as in-house counsel to the hotel and restaurant employees. I served in that position for two years where I negotiated collective bargaining agreements for fair and sustainable wages, safe working conditions, and work to try and eliminate sexual harassment, which was rampant in that industry. I subsequently went into private practice where I've now been for 31 years, where I continue to represent indigent defendants in federal court, criminal proceedings, and continue to practice employment law representing over 200 individuals in employment matters based on discrimination of race, sex, national origin, religion, disability and sexual orientation. I've been honored in that position to also sue a case all the way through the U.S. Supreme Court, a criminal case where the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a statute based on f

ree speech. I've come up with some ideas. I started serving as a pro tem judge in the district court 29 years ago. Over the past 29 years, I've made it over the time. It was until just a second ago. Over the past 29 years, I've presided over hundreds and hundreds of proceedings, criminal cases, civil cases, trials, jury trials, every type of case that comes before a district court judge. There's not a day that I filled in as a district court judge that I haven't relished and love the opportunity. I find the work intellectually stimulating, and if I had my choice, I would do this work every day. The rest of my life, the lawyers that appear before me, the lawyers that appear before me advise me. They feel respect. It's okay. I'm sorry. Oh, pardon us. No, that's okay. Over the past 29 years, until the end, as a district court judge, the lawyers that have appeared before me advised me they feel listened to, respected. They appreciate. I get to the heart of the matter quickly and I have good judicial temperament. Two years ago, in the lobby of this courthouse, a lawyer stopped me and said he had appeared before me a month before on a motion hearing in Shoreline District Court. He said he lost the motion, but he wanted me to know my decision was well-reasoned. I didn't know this lawyer, he said. He wanted me to know my decision was well-reasoned and he was uplifted when I announced the decision. He said, You should run for judicial office. We need more judges like you. Three years ago, a claimant appeared before me in District Court on what's called a tow hearing, trying to get reimbursement , alleging his car had been illegally towed by a property owner. I showed him the statute and said the way the statutes written, I couldn't order reimbursement for him. But I said, here's the copy of the statute. You can go in the back of the courtroom and when you're ready, I'll recall the case and we can discuss it further. When he came to the front of the courtroom, he said, You're right, the way the statutes are, you can't order reimbursement. But I want you to know this is real justice and I really appreciate this opportunity. So those are some of the stories to people who've lost their hearings in my courtroom, but still appreciated the type of justice that I was able to provide. And I look forward to answering your questions. Thank you. Thank you. We have a volunteer to ask the second question. Councilmember up the grove. Yeah. You're making me put my old man glasses on. Well, it's a pleasure to meet you. Thanks for being here. Thank you. You touched on this very briefly in your introductory comments, but maybe you could flesh it out. Could you describe your understanding of the racial inequities in our justice system and our judicial system? And describe how you've worked to address these issues in your career and how you could seek to address them in a position as a permanent district court judge. Thank you. Thank you for the question. Do I feel sad that t

here such a racial inequality in our justice system? As I said, I've dedicated a good part of my life to pursuing discrimination, so it's not esoteric to me. I deal with it every day, people in the workplace being treated differently based on race or gender. But I also see it in the criminal justice system. The communities of color are well, overrepresented, unfortunately, in the criminal justice system. And that's actually why I'm honored by my reading by the Latino Bar Association, exceptionally well-qualified and by the Lawrenceville or Mars Bar Association, exceptionally well-qualified, because I think they recognize the work I've been doing on behalf of communities of color over the last 36 years. And I think we can do a lot to change and reduce the inequities in the criminal justice system. Actually, some of some of you, if it's okay, if I pass out the. Call, do it for you. My cousin.

Thank you. What I've come up with is based on my experience of 29 years as a pro tem judge and 36 years practicing in court as a trial lawyer. I've come up with some ideas and some of the ideas I think would help reduce the racial inequity in the district court system. So I quickly go through those ideas. The first page ideas and the second piece pages, a criminal case timeline. I know some of you are familiar with criminal case timelines. Others perhaps it would be a help to. But some of the ideas I have to reduce the racial inequity we have way, way too many people miss court hearings and warrants are put out for them. You know, when a warrant is put out for an individual, not only is that judicial time and public defender time and prosecutor time and police time and share of time, you know, then once they're taken into custody, they have to stay in jail potentially overnight and then come back and be brought before the court the next day. Transportation time, it's a mass cost to the district court system. So and what it does to the individuals is the individual that has to stay in jail overnight or perhaps longer. They can't support their family because they're in jail. They might lose their job. They might have to miss school. It can create havoc for persons. And at least based on my experience, I see it affects persons of color to a greater degree. And I think what we need to do is work to reduce warrants. So my first idea is we put out text notification to individuals the day before their court hearing. Too many people miss court hearings. As I explained to the subcommittee, when I need medication, Costco sends me a reminder. I press the text. It's its time. Yes, I want to renew my medication. And then they tell me when it's ready so we can send that same notification out. And as part of the notification, I also put in my ideas that we can describe the type of court hearing and again, my representation of persons of color for 36 years and interdependence. A lot of people don't come to court because they're afraid to come to court or they don't unde

rstand and they think they're going to end up in custody and they can't afford to lose their job. They can't afford to lose their housing. They need to take care of their children. So I think we can reduce those inequities. And you can help describe what happens in an arraignment hearing, simply a plea of guilty or not guilty. You can describe what happens at a pretrial hearing so it can reduce those inequities. But the second you can have agreed pretrial continuances in an arraignment hearing, as I said, I've been protesting for 29 years and on an increasing, frequently based, frequent basis, I think the court steps know that I'm willing to do the work. I can get the job done in an efficient manner and provide the type of justice that's needed. And I'm willing to drop what I have to show up to protest. So when you go to an arraignment hearing, there's 60 to 80 people be arraigned after the arraignment hearing based on the timeline. The second piece of paper is the pretrial hearing. What happens at the pretrial hearing? You either have worked out some arrangement to resolve the case or there's a plea or the case is going to get set over to another pretrial. So 80% of the cases are set over at the pretrial to another pretrial. So all that happens. It's a minute hearing people come before me. I asked them, did you go through this speedy trial with the attorney? And you understand it's a knowing decision, volunteer decision, educated decision. You understand by signing this, the prosecutor is going to have until March 2020 to try you. Is that okay? Yes. They signed a waiver. We presented to the clerk. I said, I want to see the clerk. We can give you another hearing in six weeks. So that whole hearing was completely unnecessary. If based on the person's criminal history, which hopefully there is none. But if there is criminal history, if they've shown up for court in the past, you could agree with the prosecutor, the defense attorney and the prosecutor can agree in advance that if the person files the waiver seven days in advance of the hearing, that hearing can be stricken. You can have hundreds of less hearings in King County district courts every week. It's completely unnecessary. What does it do? It would save persons that are low wage earners, potentially persons of color from having to come to court. Transportation costs, child care costs, missed a day of work. So if you could equal some of that, create equality in some of those situations, approximately 30% of the people that appear in an arraignment hearing are eligible for what's called a deferred prosecution, meaning if they enter into alcohol treatment or drug treatment or some kind of behavioral health treatment, they can have their charge put off for five years. And then if they're successful, it can be ultimately dismissed. So in the arraignment hearing, again, when there's 60 or 80 people in front of me, we can in advance, if people are willing to do so voluntarily, come and tell their

story. You know, I was arrested seven years ago on a DUI or whatever the case. I went through a deferred prosecution. I went through treatment. I successfully completed it in my life is much better

now. My case was dismissed. You know, it can be a two minute recitation or five minute recitation voluntarily. And hopefully the audience is going to listen to that person much more. They're going to listen to a public defender, which they're not going to the public defender's not going to talk to him about it until the next pretrial, which is six weeks later . And then they might talk to him about it for 10 minutes. And then when they think, oh, that's a possibility. No, said it over another six weeks to get the alcohol evaluation. So if you get people thinking about a deferred prosecution earlier, you can save again and reduce these unnecessary retrials. And it also reduces the cost, the hidden costs, I call it. Again, I was public defender years. It reduces the hidden cost of public defense increase because you don't have these unnecessary pretrial hearings occurring again in terms of the equity. You increase the use of video hearings in the district court and there is a lot of video hearings occurring, but there can be more. Most of the defendants are held at the facility, the score facility it's sitting in, if I'm protesting in Bellevue, Redmond, or whatever the case may be. It's a video period. A person was taken into custody on a warrant. Then you determine whether or not they should be released and you can introduce the inequities in the court system. Like one of the last times I filled in, there was a gentleman that it was a video hearing. I was in Bellevue based on his history of failure to appear for court. He probably should potentially receive some type of bail. But the prosecutor and the defendant was pleading. He said, Your Honor, I just got out of jail. I just got out of prison. 90 days ago, I served a three year sentence. I now have a job. I know I have a place to stay. So do you know how hard it was for me to find that job because he was an African-American gentleman? He said, you know how hard it was for me to be able to find that job. He said, I miss my court hearing. I know I missed my ordering, but my job, me, if I wasn't there for the first 60 days, I would lose my job. So I think those type of situations, inequities have to be taken into consideration. The prosecutor wanted thousands of dollars of bail. I let the man out, no bail so he could keep his job and hopefully appear for court. So I think a judge in district court has that capacity. The same thing that just the defendant's out of custody. Instead of someone coming, driving all the way from Auburn to Redmond to appear at a pretrial for a few minutes, why not have a hotspot or head of a video location where they can appear for court? And then again, it could save transportation time. Unnecessary missing of work, child care, unnecessary expenses. We can equalize these thin

gs. I think these are just some of the ideas. And I should point out, when I in my pursuit of this position, I met with the prosecutor. Please continue. In my pursuit of this position, I met with prosecutor Dan Theodor burg, went over my ideas with him. He said if you get a chance to hear from the county council, go over these ideas with them. He liked my ideas. He endorsed me for the position. I also met with the county executive. He said When I went over my ideas, he said, Where have you been? We want you for this position. He endorsed me for the position. And he said, We need to keep this dialog open. So thank you. Thank you. And with the next question, Councilmember Caldwell's. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Peck. Handling a mistake can reveal a lot about a person's temperament. And I would like you to tell us about a time you've made a mistake and how you realized you made that and what made you change your mind and did you correct yourself or reverse your mistake? So kind of a lot of questions there, but I hope you get the idea. Yes. I think it's a very good question. I think based on my experience as a pro tem, I've learned to be very, very careful before I make a decision. And I've learned to listen carefully to the evidence. If I need further research on a matter, I can ask the parties to present further testimony, either oral argument or research , or I can take a break, go do research myself. So my experience as a pro tem and in one of the most difficult cases I had filling in as a pro tem is the individual was it was approximately a year ago now that I tried the case in individuals driving in Bellevue West toward the sun it right at sunset they turn left into an intersection. And fortunately there was an elderly person in the intersection. They hit the person and unfortunately the person died. There would have been extensive pretrial in litigation in that case, I wasn't part of. I was called again. I think it was an early morning call. Can you fill in today? First Judge So-and-so, whatever the case may be. I was called it turned out to be a three day trial. Extensive exhibits, very, very difficult decision to determine whether or not the person was negligent. But I learned through that decision. I took my time. I went through all the exhibits. I finally came to the decision. And in response to your question, whatever decision I made, I think I wasn't going to be satisfied with because it was such a difficult decision. And I found the person was not negligent. They were they were found responsible for a lesser traffic infection, but not the higher traffic infraction. But what I learned from that is just to be very, very

careful. And if I do make a mistake, which I hope we don't, but there's an appeal process available to people. But I always am very, very careful about my decisions. And I think actually that the matter was so difficult that the sitting judge actually apologized to me. When they came back, they said, oh, I didn't mean for you

to get stuck with that statute. I said, No, I appreciate it. I do. I really appreciate the opportunity to experience. Thank you. Thank you. Opportunity for follow up questions from members. I would ask I would ask you to provide your closing remarks. Thank you. And thank you again for this opportunity. I sincerely appreciate it. Over the past 36 years as a trial lawyer, I've represented hundreds of individuals in either criminal cases, civil cases or employment cases. And what I've done over those past 36 years is try to find justice for individuals and improve their lives. And I'm proud that I've been able to help people improve their lives. When we leave court, either as a citizen or a lawyer or a litigant, what is it we want? We want to feel respected, listened to and received a decision that's fair and impartial based on the facts and the law. And I think, based on my experience filling in as a pro tem judge, I provided that type of justice. The mission statement for the King County District Court is to provide fair, understandable and efficient justice in a dignified and respectful manner. And I respectfully submit that that's what I've been able to do over the past 29 years. As I said, I love the position. I love filling in as a pro tem judge based on the fact that I love the interaction with the individuals in court. Many people call the district court the People's Court, and they call it the People's Court, because I think if the odds are a person has interaction with a court in King County, it's most likely the district court. In addition to serving as a pro tem judge. I've represented communities of color, indigent, indigent clients for the past 36 years. And again, I think it's based on my experience representing those communities. Again, the Latino Bar Association and the Laura Miller Bar Association gave me the highest rankings, exceptionally well-qualified. And I think it's because I work with those communities. I understand the unfortunate issues that they face and I work to try and improve some of their lives. In specific, I've worked with individuals that are unfortunately afflicted with addiction to either heroin or methamphetamine or. Alcohol or. Cocaine. I work with individuals that are homeless, that don't have a job, don't have any family support, have little education, may have little hope for the future. And what I've been able to do on behalf of those individuals is provide them hope and work, work with them to get through the system and hopefully get out of the criminal justice system or the cycle of the criminal justice system in getting individuals out of the cycle of the criminal justice system. It not only helps that individual, but it helps all the citizens of King County. It betters King County for all of us. So if I had the opportunity to serve as a pro tem judge, I would love the opportunity. As I said, I don't I'm not applying for this job as a stepping stone. I love the district court. I love the People's

Court. And if I'm so honored to be selected for the position, I plan on staying. If I had the opportunity, I would do this work every day the rest of my life. I relish this position. This position is a dream job to me. Essentially, I have 29 years of intermittent on the job experience in this position, and I would like to be able to continue to put my skills and ability to work on behalf of all the citizens of King County. I commit to you that I will work as personally humanly possible, work as hard as humanly possible on behalf of the citizens of King County. I want to better the citizens of King County. I want to work collaboratively with you and the judiciary to improve the judiciary and the administration of justice. I've been honored not only to be endorsed by and what's interesting is 36 years of practicing criminal law on one side of the aisle. But I've been endorsed by King County Prosecutor, Dance Theater Bird, and I've also been endorsed by the former U.S. attorney, Jenny Durkan. So I think it shows these people understand my ability to be fair, honest and impartial. We had a discussion the other day in the subcommittee, and I think those are in practice law. Know that you as a lawyer, you can file what's called an affidavit to have one judge removed if you don't think hypothetically you're going to get a fair trial. So over my 29 years of filling in as a pro tem judge, only once ever did someone file what's called an affidavit to have a different judge. And that was only because that case was tied into essentially 29 other cases. And they wanted a sitting judge to be there over the next few months to be able to resolve the matter. So I'm proud that the lawyers that appear before me, as I said, they like my judicial temperament. They feel respected, they appreciate I get to the heart of the matter quickly. And I would relish again the opportunity to be able to continue to provide justice on behalf of the citizens working on your behalf. And I would work tirelessly not only in the courtroom, not only in the courthouse, but I'm willing to commit to work and

go out in the. Community and publicly speak. Tell individuals. Tell public school events, community meetings. If you're gracious enough to invite me to a constituent meeting 10 minutes as a guest speaker, I'm happy to speak on what new laws there are out in the community. My example is I said to the subcommittees, there's distracted driving laws that have been in effect for two years now. 30% of the drivers, unfortunately, suffering fatalities in King County, in the state of Washington on the road, it's now related to distracted driving. 25% of all serious accidents are related to distracted driving. So I'm willing to go to community meetings and at least as a judge say this is what the law is. Just so you know, this is what's legal under this is what's illegal. And if each person there just tells one or two of their friends, the word can spread and hopefully we can save lives or prote

ct lives. So thank you very, very much for this opportunity. I sincerely appreciate it. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you very much. We'll take a moment to invite in. GMs Clang, clang, clang, clang. Thank you very. Much. Thank you. Swing back. Yes. Good afternoon. Welcome back. Thank you. I would ask you to please introduce yourself, describe your background and why you would like to be a district court judge. Thank you very much, Councilmember, and to all the honorable council members, thank you all for being here today. I'm exciting. And I want to start just by thanking you all for all of the hard work you do for King County and all of the time and commitment that I know that you've spent in making this really important decision today. It's very much appreciated by myself as a citizen of King County, as well as the candidate I. As you know, my name is Jill Kling, and I am King County District Court Judge Pro-Tem. I have been a Judge Pro-Tem on King County District Court for five years. For three years that has been my primary occupation, as well as many of the municipal courts in King County, including Renton, Issaquah and Taboola Municipal Courts. My primary employer is the King County District Court. Last year I covered for 23 of the 25 current and recently elevated King County District Court judges. I have sat in every branch in King County except for Vacation Island, which I understand only meets once a month. So they haven't got me out there yet. And and I love I love the job is a job that I feel is very close to my heart and it's something that I love going and doing every day. I have also lived on the East Side since 1996. My husband and I have raised three children on the East Side and sent them to the public schools there. And my community involvement has been heavily centered in the East Side, particularly in Bellevue and in Issaquah. I worked for 13 plus years as a prosecutor for the city of Redmond, so my work experience is on the east side in King County District Court in Redmond previous to being a judge. So my experience and involvement on the East Side and my qualifications for this position with respect to my experience, speak for themselves the many judges, staff members and community members that have written letters on my behalf. I am humbled by the support that they've given me and they have they speak for me as well as the King County pro-tem. I've been exposed to this job far beyond the day to day operations of the courtroom. While my position involves working in the courtroom. I am there behind the scenes, in the chambers and in the hallways nearly every day. And I've had the opportunity to be exposed to all of the facets of what it means to be a King County District Court judge. The judges and staff in King County are some of the hardest working people I know, and they work tirelessly to improve and maintain the quality, accessibility and efficiency of justice in King County. I have spent many afternoons talking to Judge

Finkle in Redmond about the therapeutic courts, particularly mental health court, which is his passion, and the new community court, which we've just begun in Redmond, and the workings of those and the benefits that we're seeing from those therapeutic courts I cover for Judge Chapman in Seattle on Thursdays when the Case Management Committee meets in his chambers and they are about to roll out a new electronic case management system that will make us essentially paperless and frankly catch us up to many of the municipal courts that I work for that are already completely paperless. And I sit as a fly on the wall in those committees and listen to how they operate. I have also discussed with Judge York in Auburn the importance of a stronger district court representation in the District and Municipal Court Judges Association, and is something that I would be very interested in contributing to. So I understand the multifaceted nature of the job of King County District Court Judge, and I am yearning for the ability to make a larger contribution to King County. Thank you. Thank you. Everyone here for the second question. Councilmember Gossett. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you, Jill, for being willing to move forward in a very competitive position. I have a question that deals with you, as requested of you, that you describe your understanding of racial inequalities in our judicial system. And we'd also like for you to talk a

little bit about how you might have worked to address racial inequality or race related issues in your career, even if it's in other arenas. And then lastly, how would you seek to address some of the issues relative to racial disproportionality as it may exist in the district court? There's a lot of questions that I'm going to address each of them, so I hope you'll be patient with me.

Councilmember Gossett, first of all, it's good to see you again. I thank you for meeting with me last month. And and I had a nice time chatting with you then. And I hope that I can expand on some of the things that I told you then about these issues. First of all, we're very fortunate that in King County there is no shortage of conversation about access to justice, about implicit biases, about racial disparities in the criminal justice system. It is a topic that is widely and vigorously discussed, and there are ample opportunities to go to workshops and go work in committees, read articles and learn about what the issues are and how we can possibly contribute to solving them. There is certainly a disparity in our criminal justice system and it has many causes as a criminal justice system as a whole, that the racial possible racial biases, the implicit biases can come in at every level, starting with who gets arrested and why they get arrested to who the prosecutor charges with the crime and what crime they charge them with, to how that case then plays out in court to then ultimately what sentence, if any, is imposed in that case. So this

is an issue and just in the criminal justice system that needs to be attacked at many different levels, not in the courtroom, and it needs to be addressed holistically, which is why the conversations need to keep happening between all of the players. Beyond that, there are further social issues that are that these these criminal justice issues are rooted in other social issues that need to be addressed as well. And so there's many, many players that need to come together in community to solve what is a continuing problem in the in the criminal justice system. As a judge, I have some abilities to affect the outcome of cases in my courtroom. I have the ability and I'll just give one example, because there are several. One of the big things that we're all talking about right now is who's on a jury, who gets picked to be on a jury and who gets thrown off of a jury and whoever even gets called to be on the jury. And when they are called, who shows up for jury service? And the the factors are many. But the result is we do not have enough diversity on our juries, and it is affecting the outcome of cases in negative ways. Recently, in the last few years, great work has been done in this area. There was a symposium at the Temple of Justice in Olympia that discussed this issue, and it resulted in the Washington Supreme Court justices passing g r 37, which changes greatly the way that we select juries in our state. And it has helped judges it has given judges some tools that we can use to make sure that candidates for being on a jury are not being dismissed improperly. And it is more power than judges had previously. So that is one thing that I take very seriously and have looked into. I also recently read an article in Northwest Lawyer magazine about the social sciences of a juror who says that they can be fair, even though they've had an experience in the past that makes them feel, you know, biased and this social science. A study discussed. When a person says, even though this happened to me, I can still be fair in this trial. The question is, can they really and will they really be fair? And our attitudes are changing about that. And the way I approach that situation in the courtroom as a judge is changing because of the changing awareness and social sciences that are happening in our community. So one of the things that I'm doing is trying to stay educated, trying to talk to as many people I can read as much as I can learn as much as I can, so that I can apply these concepts in my courtroom to make sure we get the most fair outcomes possible. You also asked what I am doing in my community to address issues of racial disparity and race relations. My community service is focused primarily outside of my profession. And at first blush, it may appear that my community involvement has little relation to my work, my career. I believe that's not true. My community involvement focuses on trying to reach young people of disparate communities before I ever have

to see that in the courtroom. And that is how I believe it's related primarily. My work right now is with Village Theater in Issaquah. I'm on the board there and a primary mission that we have is arts, education and outreach to underserved communities. Last year we reached over 40,000 young people. One third of that programing was free or subsidized. And the purpose is to expose young people of underserved communities to the arts and arts education, which studies have shown result in positive community outcomes and less kids ever happening to see me in the courtroom. So that's something I'm very passionate about. I also serve on the Equity Diversity and Inclusion Committee at Village Theater, where we are trying to identify barriers that exist in getting more diversity in the

arts, both on our board, our patrons on our stage, and the people who support us, identifying those barriers and figuring out how to break them down. And I think that those themes really cross over into many different societal areas, including our criminal justice system, a barrier in one areas, often a barrier in the other. So I bring my education and experience from that field to my work as a judge. And in that way, I think it's very relevant. Thank you. Thank you very much. Third question. What's up. Council member Carl Wells. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Ms.. Kling, how people handle a mistake can tell a lot about their temperament. And we'd like to have you tell us about a mistake you've made and how you realized you made that mistake and what made you change your mind. And did you correct yourself or reverse your mistake? Kind of a lot of questions. Yeah, there. But now I appreciate that question. Obviously, I do make mistakes and the struggle with being a prosecutor or a judge is that a lot of what my job is about is making judgments. So there's legal mistakes where you think the law is one thing and then you made a mistake and it's something else. And that's a little bit easier to identify and correct. And then what you think might have been a mistake in judgment. And so as a prosecutor, I had the luxury of speaking to juries after jury trials. And win or lose, I always took that opportunity to have a conversation with the jury about how they perceived the case that I had put on. And it taught me a lot about my judgment, my perceptions and theirs. And I learned a lot about how everybody might not see things the way that I see them. And I needed to be aware of that and learn from that. So there were times when I would have particular cases and the outcome would result in a way that I was concerned that I made a mistake in judgment. And in those times, I would talk to as many people as I could that would have some perspective on that situation that would be different than mine and try to learn what that perspective was so that I wouldn't make that same mistake in judgment again. Now I have a similar issue. Being a judge, I have to make judgment calls every day, and I don't kn

ow if I'm making a mistake or not. But being able to question that regularly is important. I did have a situation come up recently or I made a ruling in a case it was just about a month ago. So I need to be careful because I think the case is still pending. So I don't want to say too much specifically, but what happened was it was a motion to suppress evidence. And I made a ruling. And after I made the ruling, but before we left the courtroom, I had a moment where I was not confident that I had made the legally correct ruling. And what I did was I called the case back up. We went back on the record and I said to the attorneys, I'm having a moment, and I'm not 100% confident that I've made a correct ruling. I'd like to invite both of you to further brief this issue. And if you would like and so we can talk about it further, because I'd like to reexamine that decision that I've made. So I wanted to make sure that when I had that moment of not being confident that everybody had an opportunity to think about this a little bit more. And in criminal court, it is extremely rare for a judge to take a case under advisement. I have done it. Nobody likes it very much. It takes time. It means everyone has to come back to court. The attorneys want an answer because they want to be able to move on with their case. So it's not great, though I have done it. But in this case I didn't because I gave instead I gave the attorneys the choice if they wanted to bring that back before me and further argue it. So that's one way that I handled what was a potential mistake. I have not been appealed as far as I know, so I don't know of any specific legal mistakes that I have made. But if I truly made a ruling that was adverse to a part of the party and in particular adverse to a defendant that I later learned was an incorrect legal decision, I would undoubtedly have to make a suicide motion to reconsider, reconsider that. I would give the attorneys an opportunity to come back in and argue some more before I changed my ruling, because I don't think it would be appropriate for me to just go back into chambers. Guilt. You know what? I think I changed my mind and give everybody another shot at it, but I would take affirmative action to correct the mistake. I would never let a ruling lie that I felt was adverse to a defendant. That was incorrect. Thank you. I don't know if other questions come to mind about the group. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thanks for being here. I've enjoyed listening. I was not one of them on the interview panel. I've had the opportunity to get to know everyone. Right. As well. So I was going to ask you to focus very much on your professional career. And I wanted to ask more of a personal question just to get to know you. Growing up in, you know, early in your life, maybe you could speak to any experiences that were formative and helping shape your values. And then secondly, people, you know, those are two very kind of different things. But were there momen

ts in your life or experiences you had growing up that have shaped that particularly stand out as sort of shaping who you think you are as a person and the values you bring to life and as well as what individuals in your life have and how have they shaped your values. All right. Thank you for that question. So I grew up in a middle class, primarily white neighborhood in the East Bay of California. I did not have a very diverse upbringing. We were pretty homogenous group out there in Alameda County. And I went through life pretty comfortable. I had a family that was a whole family that never that never broke up in any way. My parents are still married after 62 years. I think it is now. They are still married. And and I and I had it, I'm going to say pretty easy. And the most formative times for me was when I started law school. And when I went to law school, I went to King Hall, which is named after Martin Luther King at UC Davis. And that is where I started getting the most exposure to different people and different ideas. And it was a good time to get it because it was in an environment where people were thoughtful, they were passionate, they were smart, and they wanted to talk about these issues. And I really started forming a lot of my feelings and opinions about the world and people and who I was throughout law school when I went to law school. I will admittedly tell you that I at 18 years old, I decided I was going to go to law school and I didn't know why I was going to law school. It just seemed like I would like it. It would be good at it. I was I liked to talk. You might have noticed, you know, I was a talker. And so it seemed like a good fit for me. And it wasn't until I got to law school and I started meeting people and speaking with people that it really started forming who I was as a person. And now, looking back, that's not surprising when you're 18 to 22 years old. And I now have kids that are 21 and 24 years old, and I get it, you haven't formed that quite yet. So I started meeting people who are particularly influential in my life, and I would say that many of them were women and they were women who were strong women in the legal community who introduced me to opportunity. At that time we were doing pretty well. I think we were about one in four attorneys were women. So it was still we're still in the minority, but I wasn't the only one. And I had significant role models that were women. And I had one internship as a young woman in law school with a private attorney who had her own practice in Davis, California. And she really empowered me to believe that I could do this and that I could be good at it and that I could live in what was still primarily a man's world. And then I had an internship with the Sacramento Prosecutors Office, and in that job, many of my supervisors were women. Many of the people in power there were women. And I worked in the domestic violence unit, and I was an intern and I wasn't a graduate of law school.

And so my duties were limited. And what I primarily did was was provided support to victims and witnesses in domestic violence cases. So I would walk them through the process and help them understand what was going to happen, sit with them and talk with them about their stories. And that was the the day that I understood why I had gone to law school. Everything happens for a reason, and I hadn't figured out what it was yet, but that that internship woke me up to why I was meant to be there. So I did go on then to get my dream job, which was at the Alameda County Prosecutor's Office in Oakland, was one of the best respected. Prosecutor's offices in the country. And I was so fortunate to get to work there. There again, I had fantastic role models. My direct supervisor is now the elected district attorney in Alameda County. She's a fabulous woman. Fun fact. One of the women that started with me just a year apart, one year older than me was Kamala Harris. And we worked together for many years at the prosecutor's office. So so those were really special times. And I was surrounded by very strong, dynamic women who were able to teach me how to be not a prosecutor that goes for a conviction, but a prosecutor that seeks out justice. And one of the reasons that Alameda County was so respected is the diversity that we had on our team of prosecutors and the perspectives that we all brought. I also had the opportunity to work in Oakland for six years as a young, white, skinny prosecutor who did not come from that world at all. But I lived in it and I worked. I didn't literally live in it. I lived that world of Oakland, California. They were my witnesses. They were my victims. They were my defendants. And I learned so much about people during those six years and people who come from different places than I have since I've gotten to Washington. Some of my greatest influences have been the women who serve on the bench, particularly in King County, who have mentored me and encouraged me to seek this appointment. And it's those women who have told me that I can do this, that I am good at this, and that I am well suited for it, and that I should put myself out there to try to do it. So so I would say those would be my greatest influences are a combination of fabulous women. And of course, my mother, who had her first baby at 18 and her and me at 27 and I was the third by 21, she had two babies and she did

a two year community college stint to become a dental hygienist. She had a loving and supportive husband. As they told you, they've been married 62 years. And and she also, of course, always through my life, was one who told me that I could do anything but maybe don't get pregnant when I'm 18 like that. Thank you. Our last question would be an opportunity for you to provide any closing remarks. Thank you. I will. All right. So by now, I think most of you probably know a lot about me. A lot more. Than a lot of my friends do. Probably you've heard about you've read

my application, you've heard from me, you've heard from judges who I'm so humbled by the letters that they have written on my behalf. I believe that you've heard from staff that I work with. You've heard from ratings committees, you heard from community members. So you know a lot about me, what I do, who I am. So I would like to just leave you with some bullet points of why I think I'm uniquely qualified for this appointment. I would like to return to the theme that this is a very multifaceted job, and I have a breadth and depth of experience that I think fits well in the job of 15 years in the King County District Court, both as an advocate and as a judge. I have strong connections with the East Side communities. Bellevue was my home. Redmond was my workplace. I worked for the city of Redmond, and in that capacity I worked on committees. And Redmond is one of King County District Court's clients, if you will. They were they contract for that service. And so as an employee of Redmond, I sat on committees with the King County District Court representatives and with the mayor's representatives and with representatives from the prosecutor's office and other places in the city. And we work together to find solutions to issues that would come up. And we worked together to figure out how to King County and Redmond, the city of Redmond, would work together. So I have experience with that. I have relationships there, and I understand the complexity of that relationship. I understand budgeting. I worked in Redmond with the Budgeting by Priorities Initiative. Every year we had a cut where in the prosecutor's office 20% sounds like a lot, but 20% of our work force was cut when we had two full time and one part time prosecutor and the part time job that cut and that's an extreme cut. When you now go to only two full time prosecutors, it was myself and Larry and. And we figured out how to make it work and we had to revise our budget and we had to work with the mayor and his committee on figuring out how that was going to work. I went through the lean process in Redmond where we went through each department and figured out how we could work more efficiently to save money. As president of Village Theater, which I will start my term as president elect in September and then followed by a three year term as the president of that organization. Not only will I lead 30 very diverse board members, but I will oversee a \$14.4 million budget which our board sets and approves and enforces every year. So I and arts are notoriously underfunded, so I understand doing more with less. I understand budget cuts and I understand finding creative solutions to budget issues. So I want you to understand that I am obviously qualified to do the courtroom work. I do the courtroom work every day and the judges that I work or who have spoken on my behalf and made that clear. But I want you to know that I'm also qualified, prepared and eager to do all the other aspects of the job of King

County District Court judge. And not only am I prepared and qualified, but I'm excited. I hope that you will decide to appoint me to this position, and I will have so much more to contribute as a full time sitting judge. Thank you. Thank you very much. All right. We appreciate it. We do it. Yes. Thank you, everyone, so much. All right. It was a brief pause as we wait. Michelle Goldston, who? If you let me go here. All right. I. Let's see what. Kids yours. First. Your second. The second one in there? Yep. Our third one. Good luck. Thank you. Sorry. Sorry. Thank you. First to discussion. Welcome. I'll start off with the first question, and that is to ask you to briefly introduce yourself. Describe your background and why you'd like to be a district judge. All right. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Kent County Council members. My name is Michelle Gelfand. I am a Bothell, the municipal court judge. Can you hear me okay, Councilman? About that? Thank you. Being a judge enables me to make a difference in people's lives. I am seeking the King County District Court position because King County is at the forefront of innovative restorative justice programs such as community court, mental health court and Veterans Court. Those programs make a difference and they are a solution. And I want to be a part of the solution by bringing my skills, experience and dedication and commitment to improving justice. My legal experience began in King County as a special deputy prosecuting attorney. I then was hired by Snohomish County Prosecutor's Office. I was a prosecutor in the criminal division for four years, and then I was in the civil division for three years as a mental health prosecutor. During that time, I also was a pro tem for three years, and in 2010 I

was appointed to the Berkeley Municipal Court bench as the sole judge. I have been there for nine and a half years and I have presided over approximately 35,000 cases, 45 jury trials and hundreds of motion. In addition, I also am in charge of the management and operation of the court. I manage a court team and they are an amazing court team of seven and I operate \$1,000,000 annual budget. I also believe truly that a good judge is not only in the courtroom, but is in our community and in our neighborhoods. And I have volunteered thousands of hours in local elementary, middle school and high schools teaching civics. And I also saw a need when I was very early on the bench that we needed a ball for youth court. And I created the Bubble Youth Court. I created a bottle probation department, as well as assisted in establishing a mental health court in Snohomish County. I have a track record of leadership. I am the President elect at this time of the District Municipal Court Judges Association. That association is composed of 200 of my colleagues, fellow judges, and I am slated to be the President next year. I want to make a difference in our community, and I hope to be on the Austin 16 bench of King County District Court, and

I'd be happy to answer any questions. Thank you. Thank you. Question two. Councilmember Gossett. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you, Michelle, for being willing to go through these grueling interviews and going out and getting community support. I had the opportunity to read many, many letters of support that you've gotten and you got them early on. That was significant. Interesting to me. But I'd like for you to describe your understanding of racial inequities or the way in which racial injustice or injustice works in our judicial system. And you can determine whether or not you think it works. And then secondly, I'd like to know if you've worked on issues, on cases in your career relative to conflicts based on race and class. And then lastly, how would you seek to address issues related to race or class inequities if they should arise and the district court that you have that you preside over? All right. First of all, I think the first question is racial inequities and racial injustice. Injustice. And I don't think racial inequities exist. No, I'm not going to correct you. Unfortunately, they do exist. And there, as we know, that our system penalizes, I believe, people of color and low income because of the incarceration rates that we see in our county pretrial. And so what I'd like to do is how would I address those issues? I've addressed them in Bothell as well under the as we've seen from the Gender and Justice Commission. And the study that they have completed is that I believe that we have 14,000 people sitting in jail, 16, 500 awaiting trial. And that just does not correlate with the presumption of innocence. This is pretrial. And we know that the people that are incarcerated are much higher numbers of people of color and poverty. And I think that as a judge, to address those issues, you have to be questioning the prosecutor. I'm constantly questioning our prosecutors on 3.2, and that's the criminal rule when the jurisdiction and why you cannot hold or release somebody. And I think that as a judge, that's how that's one of the things that you can do to address that issue. And I think that we have to do better and that we can say I think that the the I know that it's stated in the article that you could say save up to \$12 million by releasing people pretrial. Now, of course, you have to keep into consideration the public safety aspect as well. And so that is what I do every day is weighing public safety with personal liberty. Thank you. You're welcome. Thank you. Councilmember Caldwell's. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michel. Judge Gilson, rather. Welcome. Thank you. And so again, how an individual handles a mistake can reveal a lot about that person's temperament. So we'd appreciate it if you could tell us at a time in which you've made a mistake and how you recognize that, how you handled it. Did you correct yourself or reverse the mistake or just give us a feel for how you handle have handled that or would handle. All right. Thank you. Thank

you. Definitely over my legal career and as a judge, I've made mistakes. We are not infallible. We are not perfect. And I think that what we have to do is absolutely recognize the mistake and correct it. And a judge does that either by making having the parties come back and change their ruling. But I can't give you a specific example of something that I did on a sentencing. And I had a judge. Woman in front of me who was in custody. And I truly believe that that in a district in and use of a court and as a municipal court setting as the People's Court, it is the judge's job to try to get somebody to change behavior. And you're always looking for the sweet spot as a judge. How much time do you do you have to give jail time? Is there a different is there a least restrictive alternative that you can give to get them to change behavior? So I had a gentleman in front of me. I he had substantial criminal history. I gave him a high end sentence. And you could tell it had completely deflated him and he stopped listening. And I believe the sentence was on a Friday. I thought about

it all weekend, and I had him brought back. I had a discussion with him, dialog with him. He had a he didn't have enough time to really tell me what had brought those issues in his life. And so we created a plan. And so I said, I want you to do, you know, get treatment. I want you to do this. I want you to do this. I'm going to see you in 30 days. If it's not done, then we're going to start with a 60 days jail. You're welcome. Thank you. Councilmember Cool. Are there any follow up questions that I would ask you to share, any closing remarks? I just want to just briefly as well to follow up on Councilmember Goss's question as well. So I think that we truly we really need to look at our least restrictive alternatives that we now have, which is the SCRAM bracelet, the GPS, DV unit, those sorts of things to keep people out of custody and keep our community safe. Thank you. You're welcome. Well, again, I want to thank council members for having me here this afternoon. As I stated, I would really like to be appointed to the King County District Court because I have a desire to make a positive difference in people's lives. And I think as a judge, you have an extreme amount of power to either make a positive difference or a negative difference. I have nine years of judicial experience plus three years of protesting. I have created innovative programs, and I have a track record of leadership. I have been acknowledged by my peers from Snohomish County as winning judge of the year, from Washington woman lawyers. I by winning the Vanguard Award or being given the Vanguard Award and also am on the Legal Education Flame of Democracy Award. These awards reaffirm that what I'm doing in the community is making a difference and inspires me to do more. I am passionate. I have a strong work ethic. I am dedicated to improve our justice system, and I would be honored to be appointed to the King Coun

ty District Bench, which it is such an esteemed bench. Thank you for your time. Thank you very much. Thank you. We'll now invite the first two interviewees to join us. And why is it the committee's desire to have a few minutes in executive session then before we actually invite them into the room, will excuse everyone from the room. And to do that, we will have executive session under CW 4231 ten. The committee is going to an executive session to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment. We will be in executive session for approximately 10 minutes and until approximately 344. Now I'm asking the public to leave the chambers at the time, as well as any kind of employee not directly necessary for these discussions. Thank you. That's the big theme to the dedication. Good afternoon. We're coming out of executive session. This is a committee of the whole continuing our Monday, July 15th meeting, and I would entertain a motion on item five on today's agenda. Councilmember Dombrowski. Thank you, Mr. Chair. On proposed motion 2019 0307.1. That's position number two. I move. Adoption Council member Dombrowski has moved adoption of Motion 2019 307, making the appointment to position two of the Northeast District District Court. Councilmember Dombrowski Mr.. Online 25 where the is a blank space I move that we insert the name of Michelle Gilson. It's been moved in seconded. We amend motion 2019 307 to have the name of Michelle Gilson speak to speak to each member. Dombrowski. Just very briefly, Michelle was the strong choice coming out of the select committee. Her background and experience impressed us and me as a representative of the Boston community. She comes before us with the strongest of recommendations, including many from our friends to the North, with her roots in Snohomish County, putting their prosecuting attorney. She has served the city of battle extremely well in terms of administering justice, but also in running the court from an administrative perspective. Her work has been recognized with the awards that she noted here. Frankly, unusual for a municipal court judge to be recognized in some ways. And that caught our attention. Our bar rate ratings are also impressive. I tend to look at those and weigh those heavily. I think as many members do in this process. And I just think she will serve us very well on the district court and encourage my colleagues support for her. See no further discussion. Councilmember Gossett. I'd like to second Councilman Dombrovskis recommendation. I first time I met her, I was so impressed with the wide variety of letters that she's gotten from legal as well as community folks and politicians. And still, at the end here, when I look at all the support letters and comments for all three candidates, the quality and the number are just amazing for her. So I look forward to joining Councilmember DEMBOSKY and supporting this extremely well qualified person for this position. Thank you, Councilme

mber Lambert. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd also like to say that I support this. I believe that Michelle is very innovative. I really liked reading all the letters, and it was clear that she's done a lot in the community and dealing with restorative justice. And she also has starting the youth court. And

during the interviews earlier we she talked about how there were many changes and adaptations and things to improve that, and I really respected that. She continued her perfected work going on and on. And I know in one conversation we were talking about some ways to help children, and she followed up with me afterward to say, Tell me more about children and their vision problems and how that impacts. So I was very impressed with the idea that when she heard an idea, it just clicked. So I support this. Thank you, Councilmember Bell, DG. Thank you, Mr. Chair. There's not a really good time in the agenda to say this, so I'm just going to say it now. If we had three openings, these are all three extraordinarily well qualified candidates. So I just wanted to say that at this moment before we start picking people to be appointed and and I hope that it comes through to the public and to everybody who's following this process, that what we have here are three people who are really committed to strong judicial practice. They've given years of their lives to working on the bench. And that takes that takes a little bit of that takes some sacrifice. You can't have a completely unlimited private civil practice or even criminal practice and and pro tem the way these folks do. You have to give up some stuff to do that. And so and they all come with strong recommendations, a great deal of relevant experience, and importantly, a civic record of working outside the court just to make the community a better place, which I think reflects well on their on their abilities and what they will bring to the courtroom. So I just wanted to say that before we started picking and I agree with my colleagues and everything that's been said about Judge Gilson, you know, we ask questions. And one of the questions that I had was whether a municipal court experience translates directly to a district court experience. But from everything I've been able to judge, from talking to folks who have worked with Judge Gilson and others, that they believe very strongly that she would be able to make that transition very well. And I was exhausted reading her her application materials, and she's done all of that stuff. So I think she's going to work very, very hard to make sure that she she is a strong district court judge. And I look forward to voting yes on the motion. Thank you for the discussion. Others in favor of Councilmember Dombrowski is amendment. Please say I opposed nay. The ayes have it. The motion as amended for the discussion. Councilmember Dombrowski, just to close the story from Judge Wilson's application materials, she's a hands on practitioner of restorative justice practices,

and she described the youth court that she founded in the city of Bothell and observing a difference in the outcomes based on whether it was a young man or a young woman in a justice circle, a peace circle, if you will, where the conduct, as she described it, of the young woman warranted perhaps a more lenient sentence. It was reflective of the young woman's understanding of the infraction and her ability and willingness to do better versus the young man who was a little less sympathetic. But it turns out the result was different. So she took that experience to heart, reflected on whether or not they were really practicing the principles of restorative justice and changed the system. I thought that encapsulated all that we want in our judicial system today awareness, a willingness to implement new practices and a willingness to continue to revise and improve them. Her initiative and not just saying she's doing it, but actually doing it and doing it well, really struck home with me and confirmed everything that we've heard about her. I'm excited to see her join the district court. Congratulations. Thank you. Madam Croak, will you please call the roll? Thank you, Mr. Chair. Councilmember Balducci. Councilmember Dombrowski. Councilmember done. Councilmember Gossett, I. Councilmember Caldwell's. Councilmember Lambert. Councilmember of the Grove. Councilmember Bond right there. Mr. Chair. Hi, Mr. Chair. The vote is 99 zero no's. Thank you. We have given a do pass recommendation to motion 1219 307 as amended. We'll send that to full council and regular course on on consent without objection. That takes us to item six in today's agenda. Congratulations that exist item six on today's agenda. Motion 2019 308 Councilmember Lambert. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd like to move. Propose motion 2019 0308. Councilmember Lambert has moved adoption of Motion 2019 308. Councilmember Lambert I'd like to move an amendment for Lane 25 and insert the name juggling. Councilmember Lambert has moved that we amend motion 2019 308. Councilmember Lambert. Thank you. Well, I'm I agree with what Councilmember Balducci said. We have a strong group of candidates that we were able to interview among the strongest group of candidates that we've ever had. And so the decisions are difficult. But I feel that Jewell's solid experience, she's effective and efficient on the bench. She has a very caring manner and looking to people and how to make people's lives better. And she also has experience that's going to be particularly powerful right now as we transition to the new computer system. And so I thought that that would be helpful. She's also known and highly

respected in the community, and I think that that's important, that the judges be respected in the community. And I think her transition for many reasons will be very smooth. And I look forward to her being on the bench on the east side. Thank you for the discussion. Councilmember Gossett I just wanted to have the opportunity to con

cur with my colleagues that all three of these candidates were and are extremely well qualified. I do. But before we close, I did want to say about Kevin Peck that his excellent interviews that he had with the Latino and African-American bar associations, I was thought that I pay particular attention to, and that is the articulation of issues relative to social justice. And this community in this society are ones that, you know, if he doesn't get elected, I hope that he will continue to stay involved in looking for a judicial position or a leadership position in the judicial system, where he can even more effectively carry on the kind of understanding, experience and skills that that he has. But I agree with everybody. All three of these candidates are superbly well qualified. Thank you, Councilmember Caldwell's. Thank you, Mr. Chair. What Councilmember Bell did, she said, was really very poignant and very significant. And a number of us have known Kevin Peck for a long time and have the greatest respect for him. And when she said and a couple of others implied that, that we really do hope that the third person in this case, Kevin, will apply for the next opening. And I think there would be a lot of support. You never know. But I certainly would encourage that. Thank you. Thank you. See no further discussion of those in favor of the amendment. Please signify by saying i. I those opposed nay. The ayes have it. The motion as amended. Councilmember Lambert. Thank you. I just want to say a final passage to say that we have great candidates. And I think that Joe will do an awesome job representing the east side of the county. I know that they rotate around the county, but I think her demeanor and her caring attitude will be useful and helpful to people changing their lives. Thank you. But Councilmember Belushi. I know I should stop at this point, but I'm very I'm very excited to support Judge Kling becoming that full time seat at the table, person getting involved in helping to make change in our courts. But I really, really do hope that we get an opportunity to elevate Judge Peck as well, because I was very impressed with your deep, lifelong commitment to equity and justice that comes out in everything that you do and everything that you say. And and frankly, these proposals, people should steal them and do them anyway. And then you should get the credit. And I hope that you don't give up. I hope that we see you here again. Thank you. Councilmember Dunn. Thank you. Forgive me. A little cold here. Just wanted to say thanks for your your interest in this. And you guys all ran the gantlet. It's really challenging to get this appointment. It's the first time I've seen three really, really outstanding candidates come before us where there was very little to create gaps in terms of how to rank order the cabinet. You and I had a chance to litigate against each other back in the day when I was a federal prosecutor. And you had a fantastic job for your clien

ts. And I will tell you this. This is an interesting job because we get to see people again and again come up at appointments that occur for positions that we might have another one at six months or three months or eight months. And so I've seen many times where so it did get get the gig that they came forward a few months later and got it. And it has a part to do with your continued commitment, but also we're familiar with you. We like you. There's a lot of good stuff that was said here about you today. So I'm just really excited that all three of you are here in our county, work at various capacities. Look forward to supporting the nominees today, and we'll take great interest if you decide to play again. Thank you. Would you please call the roll? Thank you, Mr. Chair. Council Bell. Duty Council member Dombrowski. Council member. Done. All right. Council Member Gazette. Council Member. Coles. Council member. Member. Council. Member of the group. Council Member one right there. Mr. Chair. All right. Mr. Chair, the vote is 990. Thank you. By your vote, we've given a do pass recommendation to motion 2019 308 as amended, and we will send that to full council in regular course meeting a week from Wednesday on consent. Without objection and without congratulations. Thank you. In knowing of no other business to come before the committee. We are. The minutes are before us. No discussion. All those in favor. Please say I oppose. Nay. The ayes have it. The minutes are approved. That brings us to the first of two items on today's council agenda. Committee agenda. That being motion 2019 641. The filling of a district court vacancy. There is a vacancy in the King County District Court, Northeast Division, due to the passing of Judge Peter Nolte pursuant to County Code. I instructed staff to coordinate interviews with eligible applicants, and the committee that conducted those interviews consisted of council members

Lambert, Dombrowski and myself. We conducted six interviews through the week of November 4th and are recommending three candidates as finalists to be interviewed today. The county code requires a procedural motion to select the finalist to be interviewed. And I'd like to call on Councilmember Dombrowski to make that motion now. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair, and thank you for setting forward this process that's led to today's recommended candidates. And I believe you would like a motion, an oral motion that this committee, the committee will accept the subcommittee's recommendation that we interview three candidates for the vacancy. And those three candidates are Jessica Jenner, Kevin Peck and Ronna Rampersad. And I apologize for any errors in the names, but that's the motion I make at this time. Thank you very much. Councilmember DEMBOSKY has made the motion that we interview the committee subcommittee's three recommendations. All those in favor, please say I opposed nay. The ayes have it. With that, we'll proceed with the full committee interv

IEWS of the finalists. We'll provide about 15 minutes for each interview until the finalists are before the panel for the interview, I'm asking that they step into the side conference room in the Blue Room so they don't hear the questions that were asked of the first interviewee. And we randomly assigned order before the meeting began. And Mr. Peck will go first. Before I excuse you, I will ask members if there are any procedural questions. Sam Porter is here to answer any questions or add anything that I have forgotten and help me field any members questions. Councilmember Gossett. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Are there going to be time limits on the candidates? Time to respond to our questions. Their opening and closing remarks. I've asked them to limit those to 2 minutes, and I had not planned on keeping a hard stop on responses to each of their questions. But I would hope we as a panel might think of about 15 minutes total for each one of the three interviews. Thank you. Further, Councilmember Colwell. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Do we have available the materials submitted by the applicants? Miss Porter. Contributed binders. Even. Here. Well, let me look here, but. I'll find it. Yourself. Okay. Thank you, Patrick. And in. My office. All right. So, having no further questions, I would ask Mjolinir and Ramprasad to step out. Mr. Peck to join the committee at the presentation table. Huh? Right. That might come. Mr. Pitt. Good afternoon. We're still in open session. And I want to again thank you for your interest in the judicial seat that's opened in the North-East District Court, welcoming you here to the committee of the hall and invite you to give us an opening set of remarks in about 2 minutes if you'd be so kind. Well, thank you for the honor to address the council. Again, my name is Kevin Peck, and I've served my entire legal career as a trial lawyer in King County over the past 36 years. And during that time, I've specialized in both criminal law and civil law, the civil cases being personal injury cases and employment matters. I've also been honored over the past 29 years to serve as a pro tem judge in the King County District Courts and as an arbitrator in the King County Superior Courts. I've now presided over thousands of hearings in the King County District courts, and those include criminal cases, civil cases, bench trials and jury trials. And I enjoy serving as a pro tem judge. Often I'll have up to 60 cases in the morning and 60 cases in the afternoon, and I enjoy the pace. I'm proud to be endorsed for this position by ten King County District Court judges, including the presiding judge of the East division where the vacancy is located, and every other judge in the East Division, including the Honorable Michelle Gilbertson and the Honorable Jill Kling, who are both appointed by this council in July. In addition, I've been endorsed by three retired judges from the East Division. Many of these judges I helped cover their calendars and trials over

the years. I discussed their cases with them, and in many respects I've served as a colleague to them. Many of them have pointed out to me, based on knowing my the quality of my work, that if I was selected for this position, they believe I could fill in the position and hit the ground running on day one. They've also pointed out to me that the versatility that I bring to the court based on having both a civil law background and a criminal law background. Finally, many of the court staff I worked with for years have pointed out to me they enjoy working with me and they hope that I'm selected for the position. The King County District Court bench is a superb bench and if I'm honored to be selected for this position, it would be my goal to help improve and enhance that bench in any manner possible. So thank you again and I'd be happy to answer any questions. Thank you. And colleagues, there are prepared suggested questions that everybody please we have unscripted who might ask questions and I would take a volunteer to ask the first question. Councilmember Bell. DG Thank you, Mr. Chair. The first question is and welcome. Thank you again. You too. What is

your view of the role of district court in King County? Well, my view of the role of district court in King County, it's the People's Court. So if people have an interaction with a court in King County, it's most likely the district court and many people that come to district court have never been in a courtroom before in their lives. So as a judge presiding in a district court, I make sure people are comfortable in the court. I mean, I use what I call procedural fairness and due process. I make sure they understand the type of the proceeding, what the process is going to be in the proceeding and what decisions are going to be made. And I want the process to be as transparent as possible. I want them to be treated with dignity and respect and feel that they had an opportunity to be heard. So at the end of the hearing, no matter what the outcome, they receive their full day in court. And I think that's the appropriate role of a judge. Thank you, Councilmember Gossett. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. During the previous time that we interviewed you, you talked to us briefly about your awareness of racial and economic and other kinds of inequalities that exist in our judicial system. So my question to you is, could you tell us what the terms racial and ethnic disparities generally means to you? And is there a role for a judge to help address these issues at the district court level? Yes, thank you. I think we all recognize and acknowledge that, unfortunately, in today's criminal justice system, there is some implicit racial bias and racial bias. I myself have taken three classes to studying on implicit racial bias. So when I've served as a pro tem judge, I've attempted to use what I've learned in those courses to combat bias in the criminal justice system. I've also spent a good part of my career

working to try and eliminate discrimination in the workplace. So I think I recognize the signs of discrimination. As a judge, it's my role in the criminal justice system to ensure that no members of the public or none of the court staff is ever subjected to any type of discrimination in any courthouse I'm sitting in or any courtroom I'm sitting in. I think I've also worked with communities of color and diverse. Relations for years in my practice, and I think I understand some of the issues and problems that they face, and I think that's reflected by the ratings I receive from the Lord Miller Bar Association, the Latino Bar Association in color, which all exceptionally rated me exceptionally well qualified for this position. And what is Q law? It's the LGBT community. Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you. Thank you, Councilmember Dunn. Thank you. Sir. Mr. Beck, you and I had a chance to be together, at least on a couple of occasions against one another. And it's good to see you up there. My question involves the basic fact that the district court here in King County is really a high volume court. There's a lot going on. And I guess can you explain to me and others up here what elements in your training, background and experience have prepared you to effectively manage such a busy courtroom? Well, thank you. And it's good to see you. And I enjoyed litigating against you and when we had a chance. But I think my background I first started practicing. I was a public defender for almost three years, so we were attuned to handling large caseloads and many people learning the facts and circumstances in the unfortunate circumstances potentially that they were in and working to advocate them on on behalf of them as best as possible. I've continued to practice and represent indigent persons in Federal Court since that time, over the past 31 years. So I'm used to dealing with large caseloads. In my experience as a pro tem over the past 29 years, I'm used to dealing with the large calendars in the district court. Like I said, sometimes it's 60 matters in the morning and 60 matters in the afternoon. And to be frank, I think I thrive in that atmosphere. I enjoy the personal interaction with those that come before the district court. I enjoy learning the facts, applying the law. If it's new law, I look up the law, research law, or ask the parties to help provide research or briefing on the law. And I think I've excelled in providing the type of justice that people are deserving of in the district court. As a matter of fact, last time I gave an example of a lawyer I ran into in the lobby of the courthouse who I had denied a motion in Shoreline District Court. And he told me, you know, I understood that your ruling I thought it was a great ruling and I was uplifted by your ruling. And this is someone that I denied what the request was. So I think I've learned to provide the appropriate justice on a good, rapid basis in district court. Thank you. Thank

you. And with the fourth question, Councilmember Paul Wells. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Kevin. Thinking hypothetically and envisioning the future. If you were to get the appointment, how how do you hope a court participant would describe her or his experience in your courtroom? And what steps would you take to accomplish that goal? That's a great question. So in my experience serving as a pro tem, I always address each individual litigant that appears before me, even if the lawyers start talking and want to move the case and it's just a continuance and they pass the continuance

paperwork up. I make sure I address the person that appears in court. So it's obviously a significant matter to them. It could be the most significant thing occurring in their lives. And I want them to know that they felt respected, heard and I was involved in their decision that day. And as I described each and every case, I think a good attribute of a judge is having patience. I do handle it on a patient matter. I learn the facts and circumstances. I make the feel people feel respected. If they want to address the court, I listen to them. And before I issue any ruling or decision or continuance or whatever the case may be, I want them to feel that no matter what, that they had their full day in court. Thank you. Any questions from colleagues before we ask Mr. Peck for closing statement? Mr. Peck, you are closing remarks. Well, thank you, and thank you again for the honor to appear before you. I now practice criminal law in King County for the past 36 years, and I've been honored to be endorsed by the top law enforcement officials in the area, including King County prosecutor Dan Sater, Berg, Snohomish County Prosecutor Adam Cornell, and the former U.S. attorney, now Mayor Jenny Durkan. And I think these individuals endorsed me not only based on knowing me, but based on my reputation for honesty, integrity and fairness. I think it's also important to note that the vacancy created by the unfortunate passing of Judge Nault at the time he passed away, he was carrying a full civil caseload. And again, based on my experience, not only in criminal law, but in civil law, I think I would be ready to step in and handle a full civil caseload if requested by the court, to help eliminate that backlog. Over the past approximately two decades, I've been called by the court staff into the evening to see if I could pro tem the next day or often in the morning to see if I can fill in that day. And I've accepted as many of these appointments as possible because I love serving as a pro tem judge. Approximately a few weeks ago, my wife came across me early morning in the kitchen and she said, Are you protecting today? And I said, Yes. How did you know? She said, I can tell by your energy and enthusiasm. And I think I bring this energy and enthusiasm to this job. And if I'm honored to be selected for this position, I will bring that energy and enthusiasm to this job every single day. So thank you

again for this opportunity. I really appreciate it. Thank you. Thank you very much. And we will take a minute while we have Miss Jen Genaro join us for her interview. Thank you. Thank you. Legionnaire, we want to thank you for joining us this afternoon and for your interest in the appointment to the North-East District Court and look forward to a conversation. I'd invite you to share opening remarks with us. All right. Thank you. Well, I would like to begin by thanking you, council members, for the opportunity to be here with you this afternoon. I am seeking this appointment because I believe in the ability of the King County District Court to empower individuals to improve their lives and to uphold the public's confidence in what justice is and what it can be. I currently serve nearly full time in King County, and it is a privilege for me to be on the bench nearly every day. I love this job. I love what the district court does. This is not a stepping stone for me. This is not a checkbox for me. I believe in the work that the District Court does to empower people to change their lives and to keep our communities safe. And the many letters of support submitted on my behalf, both from current members of the bench as well as from the legal community, I believe attest on their their humbling for me. But they speak to the sincerity of my desire to serve and my qualifications to do so. I began my legal career with nearly a decade of service as a prosecuting attorney before I spent a number of years working as a defense practitioner, and I appreciate the opportunity to have developed a balanced perspective from both of those roles. I then transitioned into service as a judge per term and have served in that capacity for approximately six years. I'm appointed in ten municipal courts and two district courts, but today I serve nearly full time in King County. This is not a once or twice a month commitment for me. I am on the bench nearly every day, and I walked away from my law practice in order to make this my primary occupation. During my career as a judge pro-tem, I have issued judicial rulings in more than 20,000 matters. I have sat in nearly every courthouse in this county, and I have served for the majority of our current sitting judges. I have presided over every area of the district courts, criminal jurisdiction, and most of the matters of the court civil jurisdiction as well. And this experience has left me uniquely qualified to not only manage the day to day responsibilities of the role, but to take on the administrative court of the work primary work of the court as well. My community investment is also an important part of who I am, both as an individual and as a judge part time. I live in King County and I serve in King County. My work with the Women's Advisory Board to the Council, along with a significant number of other youth focused community organizations, has enabled me to address the critical needs of those in King County. Many of these

needs are tied to the very same issues that I see day in and day out during my service on the bench. I am seeking the opportunity to become an involved and engaged member of the bench, to serve the critical needs in King County, and to take on the difficult issues of bias and equity in our justice system, and to improve the public's confidence and faith in what that justice system is. I thank you again for your time and consideration, and I look forward to answering any questions that you may have for me. Thank you very much. Councilmember Banducci. Thank you, Mr. Chair. The first question we have for you is and first of all, welcome. It's good to see you again. What is your view of the role of district court in King County? And I understand you've covered this a little bit. If you could speak more specifically to that question. Yes, certainly. Thank you. I will say that one area in which I believe our district court unequivocally excels, that is innovation. We are the largest court of limited jurisdiction in Washington state, and as such, we have a tremendous amount of contact with the public, and that is incumbent upon our district court, therefore, not only to be innovators, but to set the model and the tone for what justice can be for the public's perception of our court system. One area that our district court certainly can work on is sustaining and expanding the scope of this innovation and applying that equitably throughout our county. And while I recognize that King County District Court, along with many other county programs and departments, is being asked to do more with less or more with the same. I do believe that King County District Court is up for the challenge, and I'm committed to serving as a judicial officer who is well equipped to respond to those challenges. I've had the privilege of protesting every Thursday for Judge Hahn while she worked on the committee to establish and to implement our new electronic electronic excuse me, case management system. I've also had the opportunity to work closely with Judge Stephenson and judge it to understand systematically how cases are now being processed within the court. Civil jurisdiction utilizing the new the IMF. In addition, I've had the opportunity to work and engage with Judge Pagel authority on our therapeutic court programs and to understand the process of expanding those court programs. And I've had a front row seat to the many opportunities to engage administratively in the work of the court in terms of direction in the future for the court. I strongly support expansion of the electronic CMS. I believe that we need to expand that to other areas of the court's civil jurisdiction and hopefully someday to the court's areas of criminal jurisdiction as well. I also believe that we need to focus on sustaining not only our therapeutic courts, but the network of resource providers serving US courts so that we can address the underlying causes of criminal behavior rather than just tre

ating the symptoms as we see in recidivism rates. And I think as a court, we also need to give significant focus to our cash bail system. Our cash bail system is a factor that we need to consider with regard to examining the cost of housing individuals who are charged with misdemeanor offenses based upon and held in custody based upon their inability to post bond rather than based upon a meaningful finding by the court of their likelihood to fail to appear to court or likelihood to pose a risk to city of community. And I am committed to engaging with all of these concepts with innovation and with vigor and with engagement as a member of the bench. Thank you.

Councilmember Gossett. Thank you, Mr. Chair. The term racial and ethnic disparities exist and all you as many people feel in all U.S. institutions, particularly public ones like the judicial system. Do you agree with that assessment? If so, why? If you disagree that racial and ethnic disparities is a serious problem, also tell us why. Thank you for that question. Unfortunately, we are a system of disproportionality. When one in 38 arrests in King County is an African-American individual compared to only one in 200 white individuals. We have clear and unequivocal evidence of disproportionality in our system. I am personally invested in addressing issues of bias and disproportionality within the realm of the district court, not just by engaging academically, which I have done to a significant degree, but also by meeting with individuals and the organizations that represent the communities most impacted by bias and disproportionality within King County. This predominantly impacts communities of color, for example, those impacted by gender based violence or those from economically disadvantaged circumstances. My work with the Women's Advisory Board, as well as a number of a significant number of other King County organizations, has been based on a desire to address the need to promote equity and address disproportionality and bias in our justice system in King County. I've had the opportunity to host a high school classroom visit into our district court courtrooms. I volunteer to coach a YMCA mock trial team. I also serve with the Girl Scouts of Western Washington, a little league all done with the intent of

understanding what the critical needs are in King County and placing myself in a position to be able to respond to those needs in King County. I have had the privilege of overcoming personal obstacles in order to access education in my life. And I believe that it's critical that I share that education, that experience with our community. And again, we can do that through a number of assets. Councilmember To address the second part of your question, including focusing on our therapeutic courts, but also giving meaningful, considerate consideration, excuse me to the cash bail system. The cash bail system has caused an avalanche of criminal convictions that are that are not based entirely upon t

he evidence , but rather upon an individual's desire to have their case over with so they can be released from custody and avoid placing their housing, their medical care, their employment in jeopardy. And I think that we need to give consideration as judicial officers and whether or not this results in authentic justice. We also need to look at jury composition in King County. Recent statistical data is indicating that we're now approaching 8%. Population is African-American. Only 4% of our jury pool population is typically African-American. And we need to give consideration on the implications from that type of data. Lastly, I do believe we also need to focus on youth resources at the District Court. We need to improve opportunities for young people to engage with our courts, form positive associations with our courts, and to reduce the school's school to prison pipeline as well. And we will incorporate all of these considerations into my practice on the bench. Thank you. Thank you very much for the response. Thank you, Councilmember Dunn. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thanks for your interest in taking on a role like this in a full time basis. As you know, more than most, I suspect, district court is a high volume court. Lots going on there. And so really, can you speak to what elements in your in your training, your background, your experience have prepared you to manage what can be a very busy courtroom? Absolutely. Well, it's not uncommon to see court calendars with an exceedingly high number of cases. I see this on a near daily basis in my practice on the courtroom, as we've talked about a little bit earlier this afternoon, we are at the district court being asked to do more with existing resources. D.U.I. case filings has significantly increased and that it does take consideration both by our judicial officers, but by our very dedicated court staff to be able to successfully process higher numbers of case filings. However, it is critical that court efficiency should never come at the cost of due process. And in my significant experience as a judge pro time, I have developed a number of case management strategies that enabled me on a daily basis to balance due process with efficiency of the court and with efficiency of court resources. Some examples include my preparation before court. Each day I invest time to prepare my calendars before I even step on the bench. I review every case on a court calendar. This enables me to not only understand the history of the case and to understand why it's sat on that specific calendar and what you are hoping to accomplish . But also ensures that I understand why we're all here day and I can give meaningful consideration to it. I take the time to prepare notes for myself for every case that is on my calendar. And this allows not only a smooth transition from case to case, but also helps me to avoid delay in researching the cases individually while I'm on the bench, as they're called up, I also enter the cou

rtroom on time. I understand that the attorneys and the parties before the court have taken care technology issues aside to appear on time in court, and I want to extend them that same courtesy as well. Once I step onto the bench, I stay on the bench. And I understand that sometimes the attorneys need additional time to discuss their cases before they are able to be presented to the court. But I'm also fully aware that while the court is on the bench, there are a number of individuals seated in the back of the courtroom waiting for their cases to be called. And I think it's important for them to see the district court is here and we're working hard for them and we're ready to hear their case. I also maintain a demeanor of judicial court decorum excuse me, throughout the calendar. It's important that my temperament on the bench upholds the public's confidence in the respect and equity and fairness of our court system. And I'm very aware of that. And while I recognize at the end of the day, some calendars are just going to be long calendars I may experience, has it still instilled strong case management practices in me? And I plan to continue those on not just as the judge for time, but as a member of the district court bench. Thank you. Thank you very much, Councilmember Colwell. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd like you to just think about what your courtroom would be like in the future when you are, you know, on the bench there. How do you hope a court participant would describe her or his experience in your courtroom? And what steps would you take

to accomplish what you would like to have happen? That is the question Councilmember I've given significant consideration to. I spoke a little bit about the importance of a judicial officers demeanor, upholding the public's confidence in the equity and the fairness of our justice system. And that is that concept is one of the cornerstones that I have developed my own personal judicial philosophy based upon. During my nearly six years as a judge pro-tem, I've had the opportunity to develop a strong judicial philosophy that is based upon the cornerstones of respect and commitment to public service. I have learned that the perception of justice is just as important as justice itself, but we unfortunately can have neither. If the judge does not establish a courtroom of fairness and equity and justice and respect, and as a judge pro tem, I treat every person who appears before me in court with respect, and I would continue that practice as a seated member of the District Court as well. It does not matter if that person is a pro se litigant, a criminal defendant, a witness, an attorney, an alleged victim in the case. Each person who enters the courtroom before me will be treated with equity and fairness and respect. Judicial officers are charged with not only administering the law, but, as I have said before, with upholding the public's confidence in the integrity of the law and of our court system. And that is a

very big task. That is not an easy one, and there's no one short answer. But I can assure the Council that it is my judicial practice and this will remain unchanged to approach my service on the bench as a commitment to public service and to upholding the public's confidence in our court system. Thank you. Thank you very much. See no other questions from my colleagues. I might invite you to share closing remarks with us. Thank you very much. And council members, I would like to thank all of you again for the opportunity to be before you today. I am seeking this appointment because I am committed to using my extensive experience in order to serve our county. In addition to my extensive experience as a legal practitioner, I have served as a Judge Pro-Tem for nearly six years, and during that time I've had the opportunity to issue judicial rulings on more than 20,000 matters. My primary occupation has become nearly full time service as a judge pro-tem in King County District Court, and that experience has prepared me to transition seamlessly into the role of appointed judicial officer. Not only am I extraordinarily comfortable with the day to day responsibilities of the role, I am ready to take on the administrative challenges and practices of the court as well. Serving in the court nearly every day and having the support and mentorship of current sitting members of the bench, has enabled me to understand the issues that are critical to serving on the King County District Court bench in. Looting, continued work to transition and implement the new electronic case management system, as we discussed earlier, to hopefully extend that to other areas of the court's jurisdiction as well, but to also expand and sustain our therapeutic court programs and the network of community resource providers who serve those programs to actively engage with the district in Municipal Court Judges Association in order to foster collaboration and create an even greater impact for the resources of our county, as well as to to balance the need to manage increased case filings with existing court resources. My track record of community service, I believe, speaks to my deep and abiding commitment in public service. Not only have I served as a member of the Women's Advisory Board to this Council. I also volunteer to coach a YMCA mock trial team. I volunteer to host high school classroom visits into our district court courtrooms, and they serve with a significant number of youth based organizations. King County Wide. I have the support of the bench and our legal community, and in addition to my reading, I believe again that the letters of support filed on my behalf by those individuals can attest to the sincerity of my desire to serve and my commitment to do so. I am passionate about my work and I'm passionate about public service, and I will take the same deep commitment into serve on the District Court Bench. I am seeking this appointment so that I might have the privilege of

applying my experience and my community investment to serve us on the District Court Bench. I thank you again for your time and your consideration of me. It's been a pleasure to be here this afternoon. I want to thank you for joining us and for Indigenous in this conversation and with that institute. I'm sorry, council members obviously a late breaking question, but I had the chance to ask the questions during the interview panel. But this one occurs to me, because of the candidate's particular experience in the district court, sitting pro-tem is by invitation of the of the judge, as I understand it, who normally presides in the courtroom. And and I don't know the answer to this, but I'm curious, has there been, in all of your experience, talked about 20,000, you say judicial decisions. Or 20,000 judicial decisions. As there has. Has there been a time and there could be any

number of reasons, stylistically or otherwise, where you're aware of not being invited back to pro tem for a judge? And if so, did can you tell us perhaps why that might have occurred to the extent you know? Quite candidly, I am not aware of any circumstance where I have not been invited back. I can tell you I still consistently serve in all of the courts from which I was originally appointed. And as I think you're likely aware, Councilmember Dombrowski, if a judicial officer is displeased with the work that you're doing on the bench, if you are not able to treat court staff, for example, respectfully or the attorneys, then the parties who appear before you respectfully, if you're not able to efficiently manage your courtroom calendar and to do so in a way that exhibits respect for the community and the justice process unequivocally would not be asked back. Right. Thank you for. That's helpful to me. Thanks. All right. And with that, I want to thank you for engaging in the conversation and invite Mr. Lemon to invite Ms.. Rampersad out. And Mr. Chair, just. Why we have a break in between. When I authorize the packets to go out, I mean, I didn't notice that the motion wasn't included. So this is the blank motion that would actually appoint the person if you insert a name mark and are handing out copies right now. So I'll put that. In front of you. Make a unity between. You and I. Recommendations from all seven. Yet she only got interviewed by six. Watch this picture. Of course. Welcome back. Yeah. Yeah, yeah. Okay. Thank you. Good afternoon, Ms.. Rampersad. Thank you for your interest in serving on the North-East District Court. I welcome you to the committee, the hall for a conversation. I you conversation with the entire committee and would invite you to begin with opening remarks. Thank you and thank you for having me here today. The King County Bar Association excuse me, the King County Bar Association rated me exceptionally well qualified to serve on the King County District Court bench. But if the council remembers just one thing about me, remember I get things done. And I

have created this chart that I just, Madam Clerk, just handed forward to the council members to illustrate how my qualifications line up with the skills necessary to be an outstanding District Court judge, and also to explain the what, where, why and how I get things done. I'd like to draw the Council's attention to three things on this chart. One of them is I get things done in high pressure, high volume environments. So, for example, I presided over hearings at the United Nations where I determined who was a terrorist and should be excluded, therefore, from resettlement to the United States. Second, I get things done under intense budget constraints, and that's my administrative skills down there at the bottom. At those hearings, I had one pen excuse me, and I was told, don't lose. It. Because the supply truck won't be coming for another ten weeks, so you won't get another one. But I've also managed multi-million dollar budgets, funding projects across the entire nation of China, and I have experience designing, implementing and expanding new programs. So, for example, on top of a heavy civil legal aid caseload, I designed obtain funding for and implemented a pilot project that was duplicated across multiple countries. And third, the most important thing, what motivates me to get things done, and that's the top line here, public service dedication. Every decision in my career has been driven by my desire to serve where I saw a need. I didn't go live in a tent on the border of a war zone or advocate for criminal justice reform under the surveillance of the Chinese government because those things were safe or easy or comfortable. I did those things because I felt compelled to serve where I could make a meaningful contribution. And I see that same possibility here to bring that wealth of experience. I've had the opportunity to gain to serve my home community as a King County District Court judge. So thank you for having me here today, and I'll be happy to answer the council's questions. Thank you very much. Councilmember Bell Balducci. Thank you, Mr. Chair. It's Syrian. The first question we have prepared is, what is your view of the role of district court in King County? My view of the role, well, I will say something about my judicial philosophy, and that is that I don't view the role of a judge as a neutral. I know that's a phrase that a lot of people say, but to me, it just conveys a limp noodle. You know, you're not there to be passive. I see it as being a fierce and passionate advocate for the rule of law and for due process. So the role of a judge is not to be an advocate for either side or to put the put my finger on the scales for either party or try their case, but to be an advocate for the integrity of the process. And I'll give you an example. So if during a jury trial, for example, a party proposes a limiting instruction, so evidence is admissible for one reason but not another. So a party proposes a limiting instruction, but it's a

misstatement of the law. So then I would have an obligation not just to be calling balls and strikes and say, no, that's rejected. It's wrong. I have an affirmative obligation to provide a correct

statement of the law and then provide that limiting instruction. And that's a view of the law that the Washington State Supreme Court has told us trial courts have that affirmative obligation. So I see the role of a judge as as upholding the rule of law and safeguarding that process for everyone. Thank you. Thank you, Councilmember Gossett. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Oftentimes in the U.S., you hear a lot of folks talking about terms related to racial and ethnic disparities when talking about big public institutions. And it's often talked about in relationship to the criminal justice system. So my question to you is whether or not you believe that or what you think racial and ethnic disparities mean to you. And then do you think that that is a challenge or our problem and the judicial system, particularly the district at the district court level? Yes or no? And why? Well, absolutely it's a problem. I think statistics has borne that out. We see that people of color are more likely to be drawn into the criminal justice system, to be drawn in multiple times, and to have more serious or disproportionate outcomes from the criminal justice system sentencing bill. And, you know, the biggest example of that was the Washington State Supreme Court fairly recently striking down our death penalty in the state, saying that it was disproportionately implemented and that was shown by statistical evidence. So in my view, it's not it's not really up for debate anymore, whether it's a problem. The question is what to do about it. And there are a lot of things that can be done. I think we're making progress on that front and awareness. People can go to trainings and as a judge, I could ensure that my staff go to trainings to understand our own biases. I, as a person of color, also, I'm not free from that influence. I've taken the the online bias, implicit bias test. And people of color can be biased against people of their own group or against other people of color. So it's a thing that we all need to be aware of. Something in my personal life that I have done to address on my own behalf as I have gone to other countries to live in other places where I am a minority there. So I've lived in Kenya and I've lived in China, I've lived in Tanzania, those places. Those experiences inform my understanding of how those issues and people interact in our own societies. So I think it's given me a different perspective and a lens through which to view things here, and it can definitely creep in to all kinds of decision making at the district court as the court that most people interact with in our community. So I think being aware of it and always consciously thinking about my own biases and setting those aside when making decisions is one thing that can be done to to address that. Thank

you very much. Councilmember Dunn. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you so much for your interest in what is a very, very important job here in King County and, of course, across the state. The role of the district courts is really critical. It's really where the rubber meets the road. And it is a very high volume court, as you know. And so I guess the question I sort of have is what what elements in your training, your background, your experience have prepared you to really effectively manage such a busy, busy courtroom? Absolutely. Yes. I think my experience as a public defender in Yakima, Pierson, to a lesser degree, King County district courts. So I've had, for example, 5 minutes in the hallway with a client speaking to them through an interpreter, trying to get someone to understand important constitutional rights, make a decision about a deal that maybe they have. Should we set this over? Should we take the deal? You know, and sometimes that's the only time I would have to handle that. I've also been, you know, the hearings that I handled as the decision maker at the U.N. I would have an hour to interview 30 people. And it's my responsibility to screen out who is the terrorist who I don't want to resettle to my country and who is a civilian. And I don't want to have my issues of bias deny someone and doom them to a life in a refugee camp when they're when they have a credible asylum claim. So I've I've dealt with being a decision maker and assisting other people, making decisions as a as a defense attorney. And recently, I've I've had some pro-tem experience at Edmonds Municipal Court, which is also very high volume civil cases and criminal cases. So I know that I have the experience to do that, and I have a strategy. My strategy is be prepared. Make sure that I prepare as much as possible for all my hearings and prioritize during the hearings. So certain cases, maybe you're running up against a constitutional time limit. We need to. Handle those today. Other cases could be set over if we run out of time. So so prioritizing with absolutely necessary to get done or what issues within the case must be addressed today and what issues could be set over. And also not panicking because there's always something that comes up that's unexpected. So having a reasoned step by step way to handle issues that arise that I don't anticipate or to handle de-escalation strategies within a courtroom when people are not behaving, maybe appropriately. So those are all tools that I use to manage the caseload in a high volume docket. Great. Thank you. And Councilmember Rico Wells. Thank you,

Mr. Chair, and welcome. I'd like you to imagine your court run in the future when and if you are a district court judge. How do you hope a court participant would describe her or his experience in your courtroom? And what steps would you take to accomplish that? Yeah, I would want someone to walk out of the courtroom feeling like they had been heard and they had been treated w

ith dignity. And I keep quotes from from people throughout my legal career that are motivational to me. Quotes from clients or quotes from people I've interacted with, and I included two of those in my application. One is, thank you for treating me with dignity and respect, and the other is thank you for treating me like a person. And one of those quotes is from a person I prosecuted and another is from a person I represented. And that is very important to me to feel that everyone has their day in court, everyone feels respected and they feel heard because on a good day, you know, you'll have a 50% approval rating on your decision. There's always somebody who goes home unhappy with the outcome or, you know, on a on a better day, maybe both people are equally disappointed in how things turned out. Right. So to me, the goal of a judge is not to make everyone happy, but to make everyone feel heard and respected. Thank you. Thank you. And thank you very much for the conversation. Closing remarks. Oh, okay. Judicial excellence. It requires two things. Competence in the law and informed compassion. How can the Council know that I will be competent in the law? I attended Georgetown University Law Center. I clerked for then Chief Justice Mattson on the Washington State Supreme Court, and I passed the Washington, New York and Tulalip Bar exams on the first try . Oh, that was a long time ago. So why does that still matter? Because you, the council, can be confident that I have the intellectual capacity to do this job and to do it well. I also have an exposure to a wide variety of roles and subject areas in the law. And in particular, my appellate work has given me a unique perspective. So I like to think of appeals as trial autopsies. What went wrong and why? And that's given me a database of issues in my head to be able to see how to avoid costly and inefficient appeals. If things aren't done right the first time. And it also has led me to understand that appellate courts will correct errors of law. They will not correct errors of judgment, which is why it's critically important to have a trial court judge who has informed compassion. And to me, that means having the judgment and the life experience to understand different types of people, because the role of a judge in district court is to influence behavior. And a person with addiction issues or a mental health crisis, or who is experiencing a prior trauma. Those influence those things influence the decision making process. And so informed compassion means understanding that context. It means setting bail and sentencing and treatment order decisions, using those to give people the tools to succeed, to influence their behavior, and also ultimately to make our community safer. With my background, I am uniquely qualified to make those calculations, and the counsel can have confidence I will make those decisions with perspective and with balance. So in closing, I am seeking this appointment because I love t

he law. I love people and I would love the opportunity to serve my home community as a King County District Court judge. Thank you. Thank you very much. Shall I. Go? You don't have to excuse yourself from the chamber. And Mr. Lehman, if you didn't. You're welcome to invite the other applicants interviewees back. Colleagues, would we like a few minutes in executive session? Okay, then we will go into executive session and for everyone's information, we will do that. The council members will move into the Blue Room so we don't have to clear the chambers. Fewer people moving in that case. And to that end, the committee needs to discuss the matter in executive session. The grounds for executive session under RTW 4231 ten one h are is to evaluate the qualifications for appointment to elective office. The committee needs to be in executive session for approximately 15 minutes until about 305. I'm asking the clerk to post the doors to this effect, and I'm asking that I'm asking the council members to step into the Blue Room to have that discussion. Thank you. We're coming out of executive session. Welcome back. And for emotional call on Council Member Col Wells. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I moved proposed motion 2019 0461. Council member Cole Wells has moved adoption of Motion 2019 for six one. That's the motion making the appointment to the District Court with a blank in it for inserting the name of the person we would appoint and as introduced prior to today's meeting and to make an amendment to that motion. Councilmember Dombrowski. Thank you, Mr. Chair. On line 25, it is blank. And I would like to offer to amend that to insert the name of Kevin Peck. Councilmember Damascus moved to amend the motion. The motion to insert the name of Kevin Peck, Council member Dombrowski. Thank you, Mr. Chair. This is probably and I've said on the interview committee, I think in my six years here for

every one of these vacancies and we've done up maybe seems like ten of them, this has probably been the most difficult decision among the three advanced candidates that I feel that I've had to made and could certainly vote for any of them. And I hope I get to vote for all of them before my time on this council is done. But Mr. Peck comes before us with a significant amount of experience. He comes before us with four exceptionally well-qualified ratings from the bar rating organizations and three well-qualified. He appeared before us on the last two vacancies and I think made a strong case for how he would fit in on the district court vacancy and for the Northeast. The other candidates, I want to say, are extremely impressive. And to that to that point, we couldn't make a I don't think a bad decision here. And I wanted to just express my appreciation. I'm making this motion, frankly, procedurally as the third person who sat on the committee in this process here. But I think it is the I think without knowing for sure, because we don't decide things in executive session and not k

nowing for sure. I think it probably is the maybe it reflects the majority of the will of the council at this time. But the other two candidates, Michener and Mr. Rampersad, I just want to say how impressed I was and am with each of you and believe and hope that you that we'll see you again if you remain interested in this particular part of your legal career. I know you have a lot to offer, and I want to express my personal appreciation for your application. And we'll see. I don't I don't know, Mr. Peck, if this motion to amend is going to carry. Okay. So there's there's my basis for it, Mr. Chair. Thank you. Council members investigate further discussion. I'm on my own behalf. I would echo some of what Councilmember Dombroski said about the strength of all three candidates we've interviewed today. And all three of you bring a very different a different set of qualifications to serve on the district court. Each one of you is exceptional in what you bring in the work that you've done to this point. Miss Jenn-Air, the dedication you have to district court and serving and the temperament with which you speak would serve continues to serve. District Court exceptionally well. Ms. Rampersad The diversity of experience different from what we would see many other judicial appointees or judges being elected to the position and holding, I think, would be a real enrichment to the bench. And it's been a pleasure. I'm getting to know and talking with both of you through this process. And Mr. Peck, the record of involvement in the criminal justice system, in the overall justice system throughout your career and including as a member, as a pro-tem judge, speaks well to your ability to do the job, do the job well, and excel in it from day one. For the comments, colleagues. Councilmember Gossett. All I can say, Mr. Chair, is that I concur with you and Councilwoman Dombroski all three. And what's particular to me is that we were about in the same space last time. We had two very qualified female that had applied for the job. We had two jobs opening. We gave it to both of them because they were so well qualified. We told Kevin, who competed against them, that he did well and we hope he would continue to try this time around. We haven't voted yet, but it may be a juxtaposition, and I wanted to strongly encourage the two competitors of Mr. Peck to please stay involved at the judicial arena, which you will as lawyers. But you all both of you are going to make excellent judges at the at the district court, superior or even higher someday. And I hope that we're able to communicate that feeling to you. And if Kevin wins the vote, I also think you are going to be a superb and extremely experience and successful judge, and I'd be very surprised if you were not. So I wish all three of you well on behalf of the King County Council and the people that all of us are are looking forward to serve. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you. Councilmember Dunn. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Apprec

iate it. Three of the best candidates ever seen for this job. So I mean I mean that seriously, somebody is going to get in local and federal courts. So it's great stuff. Mr. Peck, enforcer, seven months ago now and we indicated that and I indicated in my comments at that time that, you know , frequently what I see here is people who are interviewing and if they don't get the nomination on their first attempt months or years later, they're back here before us again. And they frequently do get it at that time. And in a minute when I said that and I think other members echo that. And and so I have a lot of confidence, Mr. Peck, in your ability to to take on the judiciary here. But all of you are some really, really great interviews, and I would urge you to stay interested in this. District court is really where the rubber meets the road, and a good bench requires different temperaments, talents and convictions to be on it and to share information with their colleagues. And so the forward in support of Mr. Peck's nominations, do you look forward to the opportunities that abound in the future for the others? Thank you. And they'll do. Everything I would have to say has already been

said. But I do want to make a brief statement about process through this process, because you will recall that we put in place this new process that requires the bar reviews for the bar ratings upfront in order to shrink the time it was taking as it was taking, as a very long time to fill vacancies. And I think we've succeeded in shortening the time to fill vacancies. But I feel like we may also have erected some barriers that we should inquire into for future appointments, because we heard from candidates that might have applied to our previous round if they had been able to get their bar ratings, that they were ready and willing to apply, but they weren't able to get the bar ratings because of the Bar Association's process. So I just want to ask that and there's no action required from us today, but I'm going to follow up to make sure that our process is open to everybody and gives them a fair chance to be competing for these jobs when they come, because they do seem to come up a fair bit. I think we've got an aging bar. We are filling retirements and things have some such. Thank you. And I'll just add my thanks to all of the candidates. You've all put a lot of time and heart and experience. And frankly, I was so impressed by how different all of your backgrounds are and you all bring something unique and very, very valuable to the work you're doing. And I also want to encourage you all to continue to seek judicial appointments, because I think you would all make excellent judges. And and I would love to see you get there. Thank you. Others in favor of amendment. The amendment from Council member Dombrowski added Mr. Peck's name please say I oppose nay. The amendment carries. We have motion 2019 for 61 as amended before us. I see no further discussion. Madam Quirk, would

you please call the roll? Thank you, Mr. Chair. Councilmember Kimba Bell. Duty Councilmember Dombrowski. Councilmember Dunn. Hi. Councilmember Gossett I. Council Member. Cornwall Council Member Lambert, I. Council member of the Grove. Council member Van. Right now. Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, the vote is 880 noes. Thank you. By your vote, we've given a do pass recommendation to motion 2019 for 61 and it will be advanced to full council, I believe, a week from Wednesday, regular course of action. And I want to thank my colleagues for the work. I want to thank all three of you for being interested in devoting time and resources and energy to pursuing the possibility. And I particularly want to add a note of appreciation to both Mr. Hamacher and particularly Sam Porter for this staff work in supporting us through the application and appointment process. Thank you. With that, we have one more item of business on today's agenda. That is motion 2019 for 59 establishing the 2020 state legislative agenda. For those watching at home where the county does is often constrained by state law. Thank you very much. That will take us. We'll go back to item six. In today's agenda, this is Motion 2019, 484. This is the appointment of Hank Cooper to the Ford Culture Board for the remainder of his three year term. And that expires on December 31st, 2021. Matt Cooper lives here in the Capitol Hill neighborhood of Seattle and serves as the art program manager at the Brick Starr Indian Cultural Center. Developing a program supporting emerging native artists to present the item is live crackles up with our central staff and I invite you and Ms.. Cooper to the presentation table. Good afternoon council members I'm Leah crackles the council staff. The materials for this item begin on page five of your packet. The motion would confirm the appointment of Hayden Cooper to the Work Culture Board of Directors. And just a brief recap for culture is the king is King County's cultural public development authority, created in 2002 to administer King County's arts and heritage programs for culture, is governed by a 15 member board of directors. Directors are to have a demonstrated commitment to and knowledge of cultural resources, be active and experienced in community and civic issues and concerns, and have the ability, the ability to evaluate the needs of cultural constituencies in the region as a whole . The directors are to present a range of or to represent a range of talents, experience says backgrounds and viewpoints and directors must be residents of King County and are chosen to reflect the geographic and cultural diversity of King of the County. Directors are appointed by County Council members and the executive and are confirmed by the council. Ms.. Cooper lives in the Capitol Hill neighborhood of Seattle in District eight and was appointed to fill a vacancy for the remainder of the current term. Four for Culture Board Position four by Councilmember Cole. Wells and Ms.. Cooper

serves as the Arts Program Manager at DAYBREAK Star Indian Cultural Center, developing a program supporting a virgin virginity, merging native artists. She has a master's degree in musicology and a bachelor's in art degree in indigenous and American Indian Studies, and has held several positions at several or has held various positions at several museums. She's been active in

several Indigenous community organizations as well, and Ms. Cooper's appointment meets the criteria established in the For Culture Charter. That concludes my staff report. Thank you. I encourage you, first of all, not to take it personally that the TV cameras packed up as you were being introduced. That's fine. I'll have my name at some point. Thank you. Would you like to introduce yourself, make a few opening comments? Sure. Okay. So he drew Hank Cooper together. Sky took Oklahoma to. Golly, they are golly. Go figure. Hello, how are you? My name is Hank Cooper. I am from Skyhook, Oklahoma. I'm very happy to be here today. Thank you very much for the appointment. Our council member, Jane Cole. Well, I appreciate it. I am just very honored to fill this position, especially during this time of a little bit of restructuring and transition. And the more resources that we can provide to the citizens of King County, I am very excited to be able to offer my resources and network system to the underserved artists community here and be able to figure out ways for these folks to be able to tell their stories and find healing across different demographics and communities. And I'm really excited to witness that community building. So thank you again. Thank you. Questions. Councilmember Caldwell's question or motion. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd just like to ask a question first before making the motion. I think you've got a stellar background. I mean, in so many ways with your education. I particularly love that you have a masters in musicology and all the practical experience you have had. Do you have you had experience working with work culture at all or any similar type of agency or organization? I have with for culture been able to witness programs being sustained through them, really important programs that that support. Then the native community in particular. I have some very close colleagues and and friends and peers from the cohort, from the musicology program who have worked for our culture and have said nothing but wonderful things about them. This admittedly, this process is is very new to me. I do have, you know, a lot of fancy titles on on paper and whatnot. But I am really excited about the challenge and opportunity and the process of of my role on the board. And so I'm just I'm gathering information as it comes. And I will ask questions and try to show up to the best of my ability. And and. Yes. And with our culture and their values. Right. Thank you. And one comment, as my staff and I were looking into potential nominees for this appointment that come to mind

about United Indians of All Tribes Foundation, as I'm sure you know, located in Discovery Park. And when we talked with Mike Tooley, the executive director, about recommendations, Hank was the one who recommended and very, very highly, very strongly. So I'm very supportive of this nomination for confirmation, and I would like to make that motion, Mr. Chair, to move that Hank Cooper be confirmed to the Fort Culture Board . Councilmember Caldwell's moved to adopt that. We give a do pass recommendation to motion 20 1944 and see no further discussion. Madam, quote, Would you please call the roll? Thank you, Mr. Chair. Councilmember, about the time. Councilmember did ask COUNCILMEMBER that I was trying to remember. Councilmember after. On right now. I've got to resolve. Mr. Chairman. Mr. Jones, what is 980? No, thank you. Having received the required majority motion, 20 1944 is sent to full council and we'll expect that in full council on February 4th. Is that expedite? Yes. Expedited consent on the consent calendar? No objection. Thank you. Congratulations. Thank you. Well, assuming it goes well in full council. And that takes us to item seven motion 2019 485. That is the approval of the appointment of Stacy. I've been to the Fort Culture Board for the remainder of a three year term expiring on December 31st, 2020. This admin lives in Kenmore in District one and serves as an art instructor at the Shark Art Center in Everett. Good afternoon. Hi, Mr. Cosby. Good afternoon again. Council members. Materials for this item begins on page 17. I already provided the background on for culture and the board, so I will move on to the information about Ms. admin. The motion before you would confirm the appointment of CC Admin for the four culture board of Directors. And as the Chair stated, she lives in Kenmore in Council District one and was appointed to fill the vacancy for the remainder of this term by our board position one by Council Member Rod Dombroski and Ms. Admin has a Bachelors of Fine Arts degree in painting and serves as an art instructor for the Stack Arts Center in Knows by your vote we have given a do pass recommendation to ordinance 2020 203 will expedite that to full council next Tuesday. Takes us to item nine proposed ordinance 2020 204, which would place on the November ballot amendments to carry charter the would change the term citizen to public or resident. Brenda Luskin from the council's policy staff will provide a report and then we'll hear from Charter Review Commission members Toby Nickson and Linda Miranda. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you. Members of the Committee for the Record, Randall Askern and Council staff.

The materials for this item, item number eight begin on page 39 of your committee meeting packet. As noted by the chair, this item, if approved, would submit a charter amendment proposition to the voters to update terminology and change references from citizen to either public or resident where applicable in the King County

Charter. As a quick note of background, the word citizen currently appears in four areas of the charter in its preamble in Section 260, in Section 630 and in Section 800. Again, the proposed ordinance, if approved, would place on the November general election ballot a proposed charter amendment that would replace references to citizen to either public or resident. In the preamble in sections 260 and 800 of the County Charter. The proposed ordinance itself, which is consistent with the recommendation of the Charter Review Commission, shows the specific changes that the proposed Charter amendment would make in the charter language, and a copy of the proposed ordinance is in your packet on pages 43 to 46. Of note, the proposed ordinance and amendment would not make changes to Section 630 of the Charter, which relates to all elected officeholder qualifications. And just for context on this, as stated in the 2018 19 Charter Review Commission's report to this Council, as quoted, there is one reference to citizenship that will remain in the Charter if this amendment is passed. Currently, state law requires citizenship to hold elective office in the state unless state law changes. The Commission does not recommend removing this sentence. Similarly, for the last item in order to place this potential charter change amendment on the November ballot, the last regular council meeting date for adoption of this item would be July the 21st, as the deadline for elections to receive an effective ordinance is August the fourth. There are amendments for this item, Amendment one and a corresponding title amendment Amendment One, which is located on page five of the committee's amendment packet and would make technical corrections and clarifications regarding the ballot title and the election date in which the proposed amendment would appear on the ballot. And then title the corresponding title of amendment, which then page seven of the amendment packet would simply conform the title of the ordinance to the changes made by Amendment One. As noted by the Chair, we are joined by members of the Charter Review Commission, including Linda Larson and Toby Nixon, who are on the line and will also speak to this item. Mr. Chair, that concludes my remarks. Thank you, Mr. Tusk and Ms. Larson. Mr. Nixon. I'm going to go first. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Members of the Council. It's good to be with you again, albeit virtually. For the record, I am Toby Nickson, member of the Charter Review Commission and of the King and of the Kirkland City Council. Each Council member. Thank you for this opportunity to address you today. Commissioner Larson and I will be presenting the proposed Charter amendment on revising use of the word citizen in the charter. I will first talk about what the proposed amendment does, and then Commissioner Larson will talk about why early in the charter review process, I carefully reviewed the entire charter and among other things, were surprised to see the

word citizen used in several places where it didn't seem necessary and this amendment would change all but one of those instances to a more inclusive term. In the preamble, it changes the phrase enable effective citizen participation to enable effective public participation. In Section 260, it changes the name of the Office of Citizen Complaints to the Office of Public Complaints in two places and also changes citizen of the county to member of the public with regard to when the subpoena power of the office may be used. And finally, in Section 800, it changes the makeup of the Charter Review Commission itself from being citizens to being residents, which really is a substantive change. It does not change, as noted, the one instance of citizen in the charter where it refers to holding elected office, which under state law does require you to be a registered voter, which requires you to be a citizen. And this is a very simple charter amendment. I suspect there might be some. Controversy about it, but nevertheless, it's the right thing to do. And I believe it will be supported by the people of King County. I urge you to support placing it on the ballot this November. And I also want to thank Councilmember Adam Baffsky and Councilmember Caldwell's for sponsoring the ordinance. And to you all for hearing it. Now, I'll hand off to Commissioner Larson to explain why the commission made this recommendation. Thank you. I'm Linda Larson. I'm a member of a charter review commission and a lawyer and a partner at Norseman LLP in Seattle. As part of our initial work, the Commission looked at the changing demographics of King County. We learned that King County has grown by almost 300,000 people since 2010, and over three quarters of the population growth in that last decade has been people of color. And over half of our total

population growth has been from people born outside of the you know, outside of the United States. One in four residents of King County over the age of five speaks a language other than English at home. So having a charter that was inclusive for all King County residents was very much top of mind as the commission went about its work. The citizenship of a person. And what that means in terms of access to government and government services has become highly politicized, as Toby just mentioned. However, the commission is not aware of any situations where the county denies access to government or services to individuals based on their citizenship. And we believe that the Charter should reflect this policy and this practice. Many agencies and protections exist to prevent discrimination based on citizenship. The 50 year old language in the charter does not reflect either the current demographics of. The county and is needed and. Is needlessly politically charged. It's also unwelcoming to new residents who we very much welcome to our community. The Commission strongly concurred with existing county policies that make access to government and

government services. Available to all. Residents of King County. And we believe that the proposed amendment is both necessary and equitable to make sure. That. The words of this 50 year old document reflect the current reality. And I actually I agree with Toby that the majority of voters are going to want to adopt this amendment, and we hope very much that you will put it before them in November. Thank you to you both. Colleagues. Questions of staff or our commissioners. Three None. Council Member Dombrowski. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm very proud to move adoption of Ordinance 2020 DASH tool for. Council member Damascus moved adoption of Ordinance 2022 for Councilmember Dombrowski. Well, thank you, Mr. Chair. Socrates said, I am a citizen of the world and my nationality is goodwill. This recommendation brought forward by the Charter Review Commission represents the best of goodwill and the welcoming spirit that we exhibit here in King County. Like many of you, I have had the privilege in elected office to attend swearing in ceremony for new citizens in Seattle down in Boston. And I think they are the most uplifting and heartwarming of public ceremonies that I am proud to have been able to attend an and entrepreneur. Wells often attended the one at the Seattle Center and speaks very fondly of it. And at those ceremonies I realized the privilege I had of being born here and being given citizenship. And I'm very proud to be an American citizen and to have all the rights and obligations that come with that. We have over 500,000 people. As Commissioner Larsson mentioned in some of her statistics, but in addition to the ones she mentioned, over 500,000 people living in King County, more than one in five were foreign born. And while many choose to become citizens, many aren't. But we in King County do not discriminate in our service provision or in our rights and duties as a government to be responsive to those living here based on their citizenship. And so this this this charter amendment really, I think, clarifies and corrects, perhaps an unintended use of the term from 50 years ago, because it is used in a number of contexts in the charter where clearly it doesn't apply. And Commissioner Nixon, you correctly pointed those out. Should somebody be precluded from making a complaint to the Office of Citizens complaint because of their nationality or their lack of citizenship or their citizenship? No, I don't think so. And so this change would clarify that it does leave intact, obviously, the citizenship requirement around voting, but I think it is a step in the right direction. The wonderful thing about our charter is it's a lot easier to mend than some of the founding documents of our country where they had phrases like all men are created equal and how often do we wish that that was not as exclusive today as it sounds and and in many cases has been? So I think this is a great amendment. I think it's consistent with recent work done by our three fem

ale members of the council, Councilor Carlos Baldacci and Lambert, to remove gender, a language that was exclusive a couple of years ago. The community that residents of our county that voted for that overwhelmingly, I think appreciated it. And for those reasons and that the reasons articulated by the commissioners, I really think this is the right thing to do and I hope it will go forward. I'll say this as a proud American citizen, it does not diminish in any way all of what it means to be a citizen of this country. Instead, it means that we are more welcoming here in King County and not excluding folks based on some language put in our charter over 50 years ago. So thank you very much. And when you're ready, Mr. Charter comments, I'll move the amendments. Councilmember Carl Wells. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd like to join you in supporting this Charter Review Amendment, and I'd like to say that what is so one of the most amazing things about our country is our embracing of our equity and social justice principles, using that as a lens in evaluating everything

that we do. And I am particularly gratified that the King County Strategic Plan, which was first adopted in 2010, brings out a guiding principle of our government of being equitable and fair and focusing on equity means that our people have full and equal access to opportunities that enable them to attain a folk potential. And I think that actually brings in another concept of equality and fair and just meaning. The county serves all residents by promoting fairness and opportunity and eliminating inequities through actions to reach equity and social justice. Foundational practices are applied, and that's what this measure is about. Every resident of our county deserves to have equal treatment. Every resident of our county deserves to be able to obtain their full potential. So I commend this to you and support this amendment. Thank you. Seeing no further discussion at this time. Councilmember Dombrowski. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move Amendment One technical amendment previously described. Councilmember Dombrowski moves adoption of Amend one, which is on page five of our amendment packet. See no discussion of this. Please say I, I may. The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted. Councilmember Dombrowski moved the title amendment. Mr. Chair. Title moment to you one as before. I see no discussion others in favor. Please say I. I opposed nay. The ayes have it. The title amendment is adopted. Any further discuss, debate and conclusion. Councilmember Dvorsky. I just want to close by thanking our two commissioners who are here today, and in particular Councilmember Nixon, who jumped right in on the Charter Review Commission work. Councilmember Balducci made a very wise recommendation there in getting on the Charter Review Commission, but for catching this language and thinking about it critically, as he does on some of the issues and bringing it forward to today and hopefully to adoption in November. T

Thank you, Councilmember Nixon. And thank you, colleagues. Thank you, Madam Court, would you please call the roll? Thank you, Mr. Chair. Council member. Baluchi I Council member body Chief Council member Dombrowski. I thank the member Dombrowski about I Council Member Done. By. Item member Dan Goldstein Council Member Caldwell's High Council Member Caldwell Sports Ion Council Member Lambert I Council Member Lambert voted for Article II Council Member of the group I Council member von right there. I council member gone make the votes I council members all my. High. Council members are the line votes. Mr. Chair. Hi. Mr. Chair. But I the vote is 19 zero noes a vote. We have given a passed recommendation to ordinance 2022 or four as amended. Are we comfortable putting this on consent at full council? We will expedite to next week. Are we putting it on consent? Yes, gentlemen. Yes, I hear. Yes. So, yes, we will put it on consent next week. And colleagues have your attention about consent. Would we be also comfortable putting the previous item ordinance 2022 or three regarding housing consent as well? Yes. Yes. Thank you. Yes. So we will put forth the ordinance we just adopted to a floor and the previous one, two or three consent, and both are expedited to full council. That takes us to the last item in our agenda, proposed ordinance 2020 207 which replacement of member ballot a charter amendment to the anti-discrimination provisions of the charter. We've got some other interesting issues before the committee. Item number seven is proposed ordinance 2020, dash 0224, which would make June 19th or Juneteenth, an annual holiday for King County employees. Juneteenth has historically been celebrated by the African-American community as the date of the end of slavery in the United States. Mike Reed from council staff will give a staff report and executive staff are here as well to answer any questions. It's the first time we've had a chance to look at it. Today is the first day I heard about it. So we'll look forward to maybe a first pass on this and what folks have to say. Mike, go ahead. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And you, this is a proposed ordinance 2020 0224. So you're aware, as you indicated, Mr. Chair, that the enslavement for African-Americans continued through the period of the American Civil War, which was 1861 to 1865, towards the end of that, that war on June 19th of 1865, General Gordon Granger in the company of 2000 federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas. And I should say by way of context that Texas was out of the primary theater of war, and so became a place where those who were interested in retaining their enslaved persons retreated to and as the war came to an end. So General Granger read to the community general order number three, and I won't read the whole order, but the key piece is as follows The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a proclamation from the executive of the United States, all slaves are free. The celebra

tions which ensued are following at that reading are continued on the anniversary of that June 19th date for the coming decades in Texas and extended to African American communities throughout

the nation over the coming coming years. However, formal recognition of that date did not occur on the part of public bodies that is, the county, county and state and federal governments for over 100 years, until the years somewhat after the civil rights movement of the 1960s. So in particular, over the last 20 years, state governments have in state codes provided formal recognition, but not legal paid holiday status to a June 19th as Juneteenth acknowledging the end of slavery in the United States. In at the county level in King County there are ten named holidays in King County code and there are two personal holidays. There is no reference, however, to to Juneteenth as a named or paid holiday. The ordinance before you this afternoon would provide for the extension of the paid holiday status to June, June 19th and designated as Juneteenth. So a proposed ordinance, a 2020 dash or 2 to 4, would provide that extension. It's also noted that the labor agreements are or represented. Employees that are in place in King County do require that modification of language relating to to extension of paid holidays is a bargain item. And so the legislation does does also provide that the executive may enter into or extend existing agreements with labor organizations to extend to representative employees. Those are those that paid holiday status, which by the legislation is extended to the number of employees. The Office of Labor Relations has historically provided cost estimates for these kinds of these kinds of extensions. And in this case, so what they were asked to do that the there is an attachment to your staff report which summarizes this. But in some they've estimated that \$4.8 million would be the cost to extend the the paid holiday status to county employees for the Juneteenth holiday that is primarily for or the cost of overtime. So there will be some services that are likely to continue. Again, transit services, wastewater services, service, and that's what we continue over the course of the holiday. And overtime would be to be paid for those employees with providing those services and again, at a cost of about \$4.8 million. There's also a productivity loss that would be expected for those services, which would not continue. And the equivalent cost is estimated at six. \$3 Million in Productivity Lost To or without those services. Legal review has been completed on this legislation and no amendment was recommended. Matt McCoy did provide for the Office of Labor Relations of the Cost Estimate and he is here to offer to respond to questions. Richard Hayes, also from the Human Resources Department, is here to respond to questions as well. Mr. Chair. Like, thanks for that very fine staff report. I know this is Councilmember Debusk is legislation, I believe. Right?

Right. Yes, sir. Okay. And in in Matt. Rick, at this point, I know him in to let you speak next. I just wanted to see if there was any any any additional comments that either one of you would like to make at this time or if you wanted to wait for questions? No, sir. Okay. One quick comment. The analysis analysis that I did, I regard kind of a high level analysis. We haven't done a deep dove. And so the figures presented are more of a general magnitude of the costs rather than what we a more of a pinpoint estimate. So the four and a half million in the 6.2 million, roughly 10 million, that assumes a paid time off holiday, not just an addition type of holiday. Yes. And let's be clear, those are separate estimates. There's a couple different ways to examine this issue. One way to say, oh, how much productivity are we losing if we give everyone the day off? And that's where the \$6 million estimate comes from. The other thing I think maybe that I kind of lip do is how much more how much extra money is this going to cost the county if we provide this holiday? And that's in the form of overtime costs that people like wastewater or the correctional facility. Well, we'll be paying them overtime almost certainly because of the labor contracts, and that's where the \$4.8 billion figure is coming from. So there's separate it's not 10 million. It's somewhere in the range, I would say between four and 6 million. Understood. Okay. Ron, why don't you want you to kind of orient as to what you're thinking on this and then give us a sense of kind of what you wanted to do. Thank you, Mr.. Appreciate it. What I'd like to do is move adoption with a do pass recommendation. We have some time between now and full council consideration because of the recess and that I'd like to. Give some background and thinking and have some dialog. Okay. Well, that's. She wanted to watch you make the motion, and then we can decide. I do move on to move adoption with a yeah. Doing ascertainment. Go ahead. Go ahead broad. And then she can have a point of order because you sure. Go ahead. Mr.. Move adoption with the do pass recommendation. Okay, great. And Kathy, you had a comment on a point of order. I thought this was on for briefing. I didn't think it was on for briefing the action because this is the first time we've seen it. Right. It's up for discussion and possible action. So I don't see. I mean, look back again. All right. Yeah. How is that listed there, Councilmember Lambert? On the agenda. I thought it was up with possible action. I had not thought of that as an action today. It is an action. Okay. So thank you, Mr. Chair. You know, I've described

the events with respect to the civil rights movement in the last couple of months in this country is a great awakening. And I and I believe that that is the case. And I also think that there's another phrase that might be a great reconciliation that should occur. I think like many of you, I am a strong believer in the principle and valu

e in our country of freedom as a bedrock and foundational principle. And we celebrate that as a country on July 4th, Independence Day. But I don't believe, Mr. Chair, that our nation has fully reconciled itself to the underpinnings of where we are today as a country with respect to the enslavement. Of Africans in our country. And that is what I believe, that this holiday, if we were to declare it an official holiday, is about. It's about freedom for folks that really help build this country, help build the capital, help build the White House, help build the Washington Monument. But did so not by choice, but by their condition as. Slaves, enslaved people and in servitude. Mr. Reed, who I want to say has been an incredible. 12th floor staffer. With respect in particular to equity and social justice issues talked about in the staff report the basics of this and that is following. September 22nd, 1862. The Emancipation Proclamation by President Lincoln. In those days, maybe the word didn't spread as far and as wide and as deep as folks today would have it. And not until June of 1865 did. Word of the Emancipation Proclamation reached Texas when general order number three was read by the Union Army. Your Galveston and Mr. Reed quoted the relevant part there, and that is that all enslaved people or slaves were free, and that it went on to say later their relationship was that of employer and employee. Now, I didn't know when I came onto the council, Mr. Chair, about Juneteenth. We're out here in the West. It's not quite as rooted in our culture, but I learned about it over seven years with our colleague, then colleague, Councilmember Gossett, who each of you will recall brought forth at this time in June of each year, a special proclamation where he invited community leaders in from the African-American community here in King County to tell us about Juneteenth and educate us a little bit. And I need to confess to you all that even then I didn't really understand the importance of this moment in history and this this holiday to the people that helped build our country until the spring and the. Largest civil rights movement in the history of America. Maybe even the world goes has come forward and this has been a key part of it. A number of states, 47 of them recognized in some way Juneteenth as a holiday in Texas. Now, for state government employees, that is actually an official holiday, which is what this legislation would do. A paid official holiday. And the movement is growing to to make it so nationwide. I think in a county name now in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. That this declaration and this move, this legislation, which would make Juneteenth an official paid holiday, is the right thing to do. It's the right thing to do. And you cannot, Mr. Chair, in my view, put a price on it. You cannot put a price on freedom. And that's what Juneteenth is about. It's about recognizing and celebrating liberation, independence and freedom for folks. And in our

country, African-American folks, black folks that have not had historically that independence and freedom. And I think it is worth lifting up and cementing in the culture of our county and providing an opportunity to celebrate it. To advance its cause. And to remember from where we came and the opportunities of where we are and promises are where we can go with a day that's off, that's paid to take the time to do that. So I, I commend this to my colleagues. I thank council members Charlie and Co Wells, I think are the current co-sponsors of it. I think we can afford it on a on a \$4.8 million cost out of 6 million annually or so in our budget. And frankly, I don't think we can afford not to do it. And I respectfully request that we advance it forward today and lead. And I hope that our state will adopt it statewide and that other jurisdictions around the country will follow. Thanks up during Mr. Chair to share some remarks on why I think this is appropriate legislation. Thank you, Councilmember Nevsky. Appreciate those thoughtful words and the words of a mr. Reid staff. It's because it's hitting us quickly. I want to make sure, though, that everyone has a chance to ask the questions to discuss this. You've asked for a do pass recommendation and you've asked for that today. So I think that we should get anyone who ask questions or comments. Let's get them out. I have a couple of myself sitting in front somewhat flat footed. Does anyone have any questions? Grove okay, up to go, followed by Lambert. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and I appreciate my colleagues comments. You can't put a price on freedom, but you can't put a price on a holiday. And so what is the fiscal impact and. If any. I might quickly note that again, there's been reference to the \$4.8 million. So it's about the expectation is that there would be a number of services that would need to continue. Are those, as you heard referenced earlier, would be things like transit, wastewater,

sheriffs, sheriff services right above the services. And those those employees would be paid added overtime rate. The cost of those services is estimated at \$4.8 million. A follow up, if I may, Mr. Chair. I wonder if there's any creative way to provide recognition to the holiday without resulting in having to cut deeper into the services and programs often that benefit the people we're recognizing. And I'm loath to vote against Juneteenth as a holiday and likely to be supportive. I just there's there's a tradeoff there that's an I don't know if there are other ways to structure vacations or annual recognitions or in ways that don't create an overtime cost or I don't know if you explored that at all. As sponsor. If there were, you know, again, I'm likely to support it. I just wonder if there's other ways to achieve the same outcomes without having that fiscal hit at a time when, unfortunately, we know we're digging. So it just means digging a little bit more and having an impact in other programs. And so finding th

at balance, if there's any other creative ways that we do holidays that don't drive a fiscal cost, because I was surprised to see the kids grow up to grow. I guess that's a question to me. First, I acknowledge the cost. It's 4.8 million estimated in overtime to keep costs or keep services going. And the way I looked at it was to say, well, we we pay folks to celebrate President George Washington's birthday. We pay folks to celebrate Veterans Day, Memorial Day, Thanksgiving, and the day after Thanksgiving. We pay folks to celebrate New Year's Day. And we have an MLK holiday, which is about Martin Luther King Jr. I looked at that list and I thought, frankly. That the recognition of the liberation of African-Americans in America warranted the same or better treatment. And that's where I came down. There's there's I didn't want to give it second tier status. I didn't want to treat it as an honorable mention, if you will. I just I just I just thought, you know, it's worth writing the check for, and. You bet it does. Costs some money. And your your recognition of that is real. But that's where I came down. So wg. Madam Chair. Go ahead. Yeah, I have a request for my colleagues. I heard a. Couple of factual questions and policy answers, and it may be that that's where we're at, that that we have all the factual answers to questions. And the answer is to choose to do it or not to do it, given those questions. But I want to make a plea, and I will make this plea on any issue, not just this issue. Since we're having committee meetings and we've been having more committee meetings, I really want to ask that we not forward things that haven't been fully briefed, debated before getting voted on. I'd like to do amendments in committee and committee work in committee. We have all lived through how challenging it is when we get only every other week and we are looking at whether we need to do more council meetings. But at this point it's every other week. It would be great if we could allow folks to have one more meeting with this, to ask their questions, get their answers, and then take a vote here at committee with everybody feeling fully informed before sending it to council. Because I just really want to minimize the amount of committee debate and amendments and things that happen in council. Or as you see, last week we had 8 hours of council meeting. That's more than two meetings worth and it's been like that. So not commenting on the substance of this proposal, but I've heard that there are questions in answer to councilmember up the gross question about whether there are ways that we can rethink how we do holidays. Perhaps that maybe minimizes the overall cost without signaling anyone out. By the way, I was not on the Council when we voted to recognize Thanksgiving as a holiday a little bit before my time. And so I might have had the similar questions back then, but I just really want to ask if we would be willing to make sure that everybody has an opportu

nity with this. This is the first bite of this apple here at the meeting. I would really prefer that we make sure that we get all the work done in committee, and then I'd be very happy to vote it out and vote in full council. But just procedurally, I'm going to be asking that for pretty much everything at every committee. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I. Thanks for the request. I agree with your position, Councilmember Baldacci, but I also have a request from our members. So I think it's up to the member what he wants to do in terms of moving this forward. I think he should probably respond to you and then I have some comments or questions about specific legislation. This is your next cast as soon as we hear from Rod. If he wants to talk. Okay. Kathy, you want to go ahead. Eat? I was feeling the same way as how can we do this? And when I was looking at this the other day, looking at the ten holidays to personal holidays, one of the thoughts I had was, what if we asked our employees if one of the two personal holidays could be dedicated to this? And also in the timing of where this fits in the year is about the time that people would like to have a holiday. So I thought, let's look at maybe using one of the personal favorites, dedicating that out because it is important to

all of us. I was lucky enough to go to a Juneteenth party with Larry, and I learned a lot at the party, and we had a wonderful time with the celebration. So anyway, that was one idea that we had. And the idea that we had is to look at maybe doing three segments in the county so that each year employees to choose what schedule they want to work on. And if we are going to work on this weekend, what we came up with the three different. Schedules. So that people could decide which of the three holiday types they want to be on so that we don't have to pay overtime, that we have a variety of when people are going to work and not work because certain holidays say maybe people are families, not around at Thanksgiving, but they'd rather do it at a different time of year. They could sign up for that. If you look at the ten days we have for holidays right now, the two personal holidays and 21 vacation days after five years, that's 33 days of the year, which is a month and a quarter off for every employee over five years. That is a lot. And so I think we need to look at that overall. We're going to open the door if we need to clean out what's going on and make sure that we are in line with the people who are paying the salaries, but maybe not getting a month and a quarter up every year after they've worked five years. So I think that there's work that needs to be done. I'm happy to help work on this work because I do think it's important and may meet other needs with moms that have daycare issues that some of this might be helpful for. So I think we have lots of work that we can do. And I agree that this opens up a door that maybe we need to be looking at more globally anyway. Okay. Thank you, kase

y, for those comments. Other comments from my colleagues. Okay. Let me just say that. Here's here's that here's some of the issues I have. There's a couple different. I always wondered, how do these holidays get created? Like, how do they come up with Presidents Day or Columbus Day? Nobody likes Columbus Day. They just throw a statute in the water. We don't recognize Columbus Day here. Is that correct? That's my first question. We do not. The federal government does. We don't because I'd be willing to swap that baby out right now. But that isn't an option. So we have holidays that we recognize as special days, but people still come to work. Then we have holidays that we recognize as time off. There is a substantial cost, increased cost for ones that are time off. Not only do you have to, you know, you're paying employees, you're also getting a reduction in productivity because those employees are working one less work day a year. You also have the side effect that the constituency that we serve isn't getting the services presumably for that day, particularly places like deeper encounter operations that we have. And so. That middle that middle ground recognizing is is a special day. I do that in a minute's clearly rise as well beyond the level of special recognition. The issue for me is how do we how do we pay for it? Have we done the proper analysis? At some point you can't just keep adding holidays. I think Canada has a holiday every month. At some point you start to actually see meaningful reduction in the productivity to go to see. So that's that is a concern to me and the costs associated with it are concern to me. I really want to do a deeper dove if I'm comfortable voting for this. On what those costs are loss of productivity. I know we have a rough estimate. I heard 4.9. I heard 6.5. What services are going to be impacted and how we're going to get around those issues before I'm ready to support it? Maybe the majority of counsel wants to support it today. I want to flag I'm not going to speak to this anymore. I'm just going to flag this. We are in very serious Financial Times right now. The likes of which we haven't seen for generations in America. Neither has the county. And we just gave an \$80 million raise to the bus drivers. We're now talking about giving ourselves a free holiday at King County. That's going to cost a lot of money to the taxpayers. I think there's value. I think there's value in thinking through this just a little bit more with a little more process. So the proper amendments can be made to guard and protect all of the interests that have been articulated here. However. I'm not going to get in the way of democratic process. So those are my own views. I sure like to take a chance to look at this more, do some other amendment work here. Give the Chair McDermott a chance to speak and vote in favor of assuming of this. But. But we'll go wherever the maker of the motion, Mr. Ambassador, wants to go. From here. Rod, what would

d you like to do based on the comments you've heard? Well. I have a lot of a lot of thoughts, Mr. Chair, but we're short on time. I introduced legislation on June 19, 40 days ago, so I don't know that it should be a surprise to anybody. But in consideration of colleagues interest in having opportunity to reflect and learn more, although I think it's quite simple. Costs are here. I do need to say I'm not swayed by the cost argument at all. This is about humanity and respecting the dignity of a portion of our population in this country that has frankly been put. Behind and put second and put last for 400

years. So that that does not sway me one bit. But in consideration of members interest. To learn more, I would change my motion or amend it to advance it with or without recommendation. So there are there is time for members to get the questions answered that they want if they want to develop amendments, they can, but that we keep moving forward, that we bring this forward and and get it and get it considered by the full council. So that would be my suggested approach, Mr. Chair, to try and acknowledge some of the concerns by folks today to to but at the same time honor the spirit of the moment and the co-sponsors who have decided that this is a good thing to do. So that would be a suggestion. Okay. Okay. So it sounds like you're comfortable moving it forward without recommendation, which to the viewing audience just means that the council's procedurally moving forward haven't really weighed in on the substance of it. It's kind of our tradition, right, when we want to keep things moving but have our way and then on the merits. Okay. All right. So that's before us. What do you think of that? I think it's a good place to start. And so I think maybe. Is there any other discussion on this if we're going to move it out with a recommendation? Mr. Chair. Yeah? Before you go, Jeannie. Claudia. Claudia. I'm going to hand the gavel magically through the world of whatever this is to you. Because I have to get in the car to drive to my child's 11th birthday party. And I will not miss that for the world, but I will reappear with a different backdrop. So now you have the gavel. Jeannie, you go right now. Go ahead. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And Madam Chair. So I am one of the sponsors of this legislation, and I do so very positively and enthusiastically and look forward to the counsels as soon as whether or not we vote on it without recommendation today or we wait for to, I guess, three weeks. Three or four weeks. Given the recess coming up. That's right. Because the holiday is not until next June. I would just like to do this right where. Everybody. Will feel good about it. I would like to say, though, that I think this is a really critical measure, not only given the backdrop. Of what our society is going through now. The pandemic with addressing racial justice. But I also look at this from the point of view of someone who's been involved in an effort for a very lo

ng time. I cannot help but think of a film I used to show a long time ago when I was teaching at Cal State Long Beach sociology and teaching at the University of Washington for a long time in sociology. The film was called Black. Lost or stolen or stream and it is available. I just checked. I googled it. It's really outstanding. And it was actually released in 1968. And the premise, which is rather obvious by the title, is that we, so many of us do not know about black history and all the contributions that have been made and the significance of black participation in our development of our society and also throughout the whole time of this country since its inception. And I remember one girl growing up, I knew nothing about this. I knew about slavery. But our textbooks in our schools did not portray anything realistically, significantly about the contributions of black Americans in our society throughout all fields of study and all fields in our lives. So I think this is really important and it is a way for our county. King County, Martin Luther King County chairman to be able to say, hey, this is important. It's not only are solely rather about freedom, which is what our country supposedly was founded upon, but it's about what is reflected in our society today. And it's about time that Americans of all stripes, all colors, know about the important contributions and significance of black Americans and and others and our way of life and what we've accomplished as a society. And so I feel very strongly about this, and I think we should pass it. But again, I'm fine with doing it today. With that recommendation, though, that would lead to amendments to the council meeting, which I know the chair is not in favor or we wait until we come back. There's time. Thank you. Thank you. Councilmember others. I'll just say a few words before we move to a vote. I, i, i share the view of those who think this is an important measure and something that we very much ought to do. I, in addition to all the things that have been said, which I won't repeat, I also feel that it is an important opportunity each year for us to reflect upon our progress in moving from where we are with regard to racial freedom, equity, justice, opportunity. The words of the proclamation itself are something that I think automatically upon reading them, they cause me any way to reflect on how far we have come, but also how far we have yet to go. And so I think for that purpose, it is a really valuable holiday to add to our list of holidays, because it marks a time each year when we should we should be reminded to reflect upon and recommit to, to justice. And so I think it's a good idea, and I think we should find a way to do it. My request really isn't met by making it move without recommendation if it's going to move. I would just as soon move it with recommendation because I think that's a stronger statement. My request is if there's still work to be done, that that work be done in commit

tee. I'm really sincerely asking my colleagues to not send things to council that are not fully baked. I hear and am mindful of the length of time that some things have been waiting since introduction and have not had committee time. I think that as we continue to have more access to committee slots like you saw a couple of weeks ago, we're able to move more things forward and and therefore, probably naturally things will move forward faster and not sit in, you know, limbo, unheard. But I'm sincere and serious in that request. I really think that we are going to do better as a body if we do our committee work in committee. And I know as somebody who supports this and is prepared to move towards doing it, that some of us may be ready to vote and go. But some of us have expressed that we are not that we have some questions that we want to look at. And and so I just renew that ask. But if that ask is declined, then we will have a vote. Council member and basket. Want to call on your close? Thank you, Madam Chair. Then I withdraw my floated possible amendment to move it forward with our recommendation and renew my motion to move forward with recommendation. This is simple legislation. It adds an official paid holiday in the county code. To recognize Juneteenth as a paid official holiday. The brief. It was introduced on June 19th. Five weeks ago. There's been plenty of time to review it. It's simple. We have the cost estimates. That seems to be the major concern and we have the answer to that. And so I believe members today can decide whether or not it's worth it, whether it's nice to worth it, whether or not it's worth it to recognize African-Americans in this country. On the day that they were finally announced as fully free following Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, some tune it half years before on September 22nd, 1862, when in Texas . The American Army came to Galveston and read general order number three. And I think it's the right thing to do. I felt very strongly about it as an individual council member, that is my obligation. To use the position and power that has been entrusted to me in the franchise that has been granted to me to bring forward this legislation and to move it now in. Folks can vote how they would like, but these reflect my values and I'm proud to recommend you to the full council. I think more needs to be done. I request my colleagues vote yes. To the extent that statement suggested that members who have questions about what this means and how to implement it are not supportive of racial equity and justice. I think that's unfortunate and I'm sorry if that's the case. I didn't say that at all, ma'am. I spoke from my standard that my strong and my strong feelings and what I heard from the debate today in terms of questions about cost and and I believe it's fairly straightforward legislation, and I think we should move forward. I just want to state as the chair, that to the extent that there was an inference that those who

might think that there's more work to be done don't agree as a policy matter. That is that's unfortunate and really shouldn't be done. There was no. Interinstitutional. Thank you, madam chair. Councilmember Dombrowski. I. Council member dunn. Councilmember Coel's, i. Council member, Lambert. No. For McDermott. Coulson. I found someone on my phone. Councilmember Bond right there. Hi. Hi. Madam Chair. I am chair chair of the vote has five eyes council members dombroski call wells up the graph so high and bounded she council member Lambert Felts now council member Dunn. McDermott and on both our excuse and 1/2 the cast member I'll call on you in a moment. By our vote. We have approved this item with a do pass recommendation. It will not be on consent and it will not be expedited. Councilmember Lambert. Thank you, Madam Chair. I, too, am a little shocked. Whether it was my interpretation or not. I too interpreted the final comments to be. To be very sad. I do have questions about all of the holidays, which is why we did some work in my office on just how many holidays should there be total. I have no problems with this being the holiday. I actually think the better idea. But I also think that we need to be looking at the taxpayers are paying for all these holidays in general, not just this one, but all of them. Member I'm sorry to interrupt you, but we really have voted and it's time to move on. There will be another opportunity. A full council. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. All right. Moving on to item eight. This is discussion and possible action regarding the positive implementation plan. All right, well, send in the regular schedule and we'll place this on consent. And our final three items, we confirm executive appointments to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. The appointments are Leah Tischler, a public interest representative. Wendy Welker. A as a representative of waste management. Waste Management. And. William Louis. As a citizen representative. Application materials were sent out to council members prior to the meeting. Tara Rose from Council South will provide a brief staff report on the purpose and makeup of the committee. Then we'll hear from the potential nominees. Intern Tara Rose. Thank you, Mr. Chair. For the record, Tara Rose, Council staff, as the chair noted,

agenda item seven through nine concern appointments to the King County Solid Waste Advisory Committee, or SWAC. And the materials for these items began on page 29 of your pocket. I'll provide some very, very brief background on the committee and then turn it over to the council members. State law requires each county to establish an advisory committee to assist in the development of programs and policies concerning solid waste handling and disposal, and to review and comment upon. Proposed rules, policies or ordinances. Prior to adoption. King County, SWAC was established in the mid 1980s and per King County Code. The SWAC is composed of at least nine and not more than

20 members representing a balance of interests, including citizens, local elected officials, industry representatives, environmental representatives, among others. Code also required that the committee shall include one representative from each of the two bargaining units representing the greatest number of solid waste division employees, as well as at least one representative who resides within a mile of the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill. Staff have not identified any issues with the proposed appointments and they appear to be consistent with the requirements of King County Code and state law. As the Chair noted, the appointees have been invited today and we also have Pat McLaughlin, Solid Waste Division Director, for questions, and that concludes my remarks. Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Any opening comments, introduction on your part? Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just to say that, as you know, the work ahead for solid waste regional system is significant and we're on an exciting path. Towards zero waste of resources and. The candidates before the Committee for Consideration. Ms. Weicker, Ms. Tischler and Mr. Lui each are uniquely. Qualified to lend experience and expertise that will really help inform and advise the Council, the executive and the division in important policy choices and important exploration of tools, techniques and partnerships. So I'm excited about the prospect of these candidates. And I'll let you and the rest of your council members get to know them more directly. Happy to answer any questions. Should there be any? Thank you. Let's start with Ms. Record. Can you please introduce yourself, share a little bit about your background, your work in the field. Hi. Good morning, everybody. Thank you for your time. It's Wendy Weicker, not Welker. So Weicker, I like your chair. McDermott Thank you very much for remembering that. And to confirm, I work for a public service, not waste management. So I do represent industry and I think most of you are probably familiar with Republic as we serve 19 cities and King County from residential or commercial recycling and solid waste services. We're a national company. We're in 42 states with 36,000 employees. We operate trucks, transfer stations and landfills. We know this business inside and out. We've been doing it for over 30 years as Republic Services, but our big important work that we do is really locally and in our neighborhoods and in our communities. So safety is our number one priority in managing through difficult, challenging times, whether it's national disaster or COVID pandemic. Our employees are essential service employees just like yours. And we do what we have to do to keep the work going. Our motto is, we'll handle it from here. And that is, we're simple solutions. We're good partners in this work. And we appreciate the long term partnership we have with our cities, our unincorporated areas and King County. Part of our core work is also responsibility around the

environment and climate action. So we are committed to that work, as is the county. Our recycling facility center down on third and Lander has been handling recyclable materials for over 30 years. It's the largest mrf west of the Mississippi. We are committed to recycling even though it's challenged with China sword. And now COVID impacts its core to what we do and its core of what we believe as employees. We like to say we work for Earth as well, and part of that work is also tied to being a good employer. So we are a certified great place to work. We are in the Barron's list of most sustainable companies, are on the Forbes list of best employers for women and innovators. And what I'm particularly proud of is Republic recently joined the Washington Employers for Equity Initiative at the Roundtable and Challenge Seattle put together in the last year. So we are proud partners in this. Racial justice and social justice work personally have been working with Pat and his team at the King County, SWAC and Municipal SWAC. For the 18 months I've been at Republic Services, I'm keenly aware of the work we have to do around zero waste and the rate restructuring to make sure that that work is sustainable while we figure out how to do more reduce, reuse and recycle. I understand the county's work also through the sustainability goals and how that has to match with economic realities and the tolerance that our rate payers have in managing this work. And so it's going to take a partnership to navigate through all the challenges that Pat alluded to you

earlier and that maybe some of you who care about this climate action work and materials management that we do for this industry and this partnership. A little bit more about me. I've been doing this public relations work for the last 25 years through public, private and nonprofit sector. I've been at Republic for about 18 months, and before that I worked at Puget Sound Energy. So I understand essential services, I understand utilities, I understand ratepayers, and I understand education, outreach to use carrots and sticks to get consumers to help us understand the balance we need to do in implementing good policy regionally and globally, as well as locally and here in our homes and businesses to do the right thing for everyone in our society. In my spare time, I'm working to get my college kids through their COVID crises and management, working and learning online. And my husband is a Bellevue High School teacher, so helping him get through online and managing all the challenges we have in our education system as well. I also am an elected official in an east side city and part of the SCA board and a b c board in Solid Waste Association of North America Board. I volunteered for k4c before it was public, and now I'm intimately involved with that for my city work in their public work because recycling is a key part of what k4c is trying to do. So I balance both hats and trying to do what we can to keep this partn

ership working in that system, moving forward and adapting to the changes ahead. So with that, I appreciate your consideration and I'm really passionate about this governmental work and happy to bring my public, personal and professional experience and expertise to the table as well as all the expertise the Republic can offering doing this work nationwide. Thank you, Ms.. Like her arm. Questions? Member Council member Lambert. Thank you. Oh, it's good to see you as always. So I have a couple of quick things to my knowledge. Quickly, let me know if this is still not changed, that these meetings are not reported. And over the years, there have been issues with the minutes having some concerns. And when I have called for the tape to reconcile, the two tapes don't exist. And now that we are able to record things on Zoom, I think it would be a good thing for the new members to look into making sure that the meetings are recorded so that if the minutes have some issues that we can get back to what was actually said, I my staff or I have attended most many of them, most actually for at least a decade of these meetings. And I have not seen a lot of forward progression on what the future should look like. The. I'm glad to hear you're talking about re-use and recycling and abuse, which I think is a very exciting thing. I'm very pleased about the abuse commit plan where you go and you can have your things fixed and change them into all kinds of other kinds of useful things around your house. That's been really successful. The last thing is landfill mining. Landfill mining is now something that is useful in Europe. And I would like to see us turn out almost 900 acres of garbage into a mining place where we can get the garbage out and not leave 900 acres of garbage for our children and our great grandchildren. So could you tell me how you will help us to move forward in things like landfill mining and other technologies on this committee? I will do my best to work with Pat and his team on long range planning and working with the comprehensive plan that the county has to optimize that landfill longevity and optimal ability to full resources where we can and extend the life as long as possible, and also look for alternatives when that landfill does fill up. Thank you. I would like to see the. Raptor. Greatly reduced in size because we have technology that won't require that it has with the neighbors yet. Yes. The neighbors would love that if. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you. Councilmember by Mike Bauer. Oh, thank you, Mr. Chair. Just more of. An observation than a question. Yeah. I had the privilege of being in the state Senate and chairing the Joint Solid Waste Committee of the House and the Senate. And when we developed this original legislation and I will say that when you pitch that incredible proposal that we hope to have every county have a person with her commitment, her background or experience, and, quite frankly, her commitment. I don't know how y

ou have time to do all the things you do, but thank you for being willing to do this because you fit the profile of what we need in that in that group. And as someone who works on everybody, she and I and Councilmember Dombrowski with the Argot Committee do a lot with solid waste. And we're blessed in this state and this county with with our director. And I want to thank him for all the service he does. I mean, this is a very tough job, as Councilmember Lambert knows, because of her district. There is nobody's ever happy. Republic has done a great job, in my opinion, and reaching out to people in John King County. You have a lot of good leadership within the agency that are involved in King County, not the least of which is the mayor of Compton. And we appreciate you. And I want to thank you for your commitment and willingness to serve. Thank you. Further further

questions. Say none. Thank you. We'll move to you and Mr. Louis. Good morning. Good morning. Welcome. And we'd welcome an opportunity for you to introduce yourself and share your interest and work in the field. Morning. Yup. My name is William Louis. I go by Bill. Fairly new to the area. I grew up in New Jersey. I went to Tulane University in New Orleans, the Army ROTC. So I graduated and went into the Army. Was going to finish my obligation and leave. But September 11th. Happened and just. Felt wrong to leave. So I ended up doing a whole career in the Army. And I retired in 2017. To this area, to. Redmond, Washington. An Army reservist connected me with the C, the Seattle VA Hospital and the facility section. So I became a general engineer here doing construction projects here at Seattle VA Hospital and American Way campus. My interest in this is primarily just getting involved in the community. Now that I kind of settled down with the family here. I started off by volunteering with the. Northeast Recycling Transfer Station Committee. And then somebody reached out to me about joining Solid Waste. They sound pretty good. I don't really have a lot of experience in that. In one of our deployments. We had to close our base and. I got involved with the closing out of contractors that did the trash, the sewage. And incinerator. So we were kind of water based, so we kind of figure out our own trash schedule, their own stuff, and it's body. I don't have the kind of experience that Wendy had. So that's a tough act to follow. Excited to be here. Thank you. Thank you, Mr.. Then we're very glad to have you here as well. I'm colleagues. Any questions? Councilmember Bellevue Chee. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Lui, I believe I'm your council member in District six. I represent part of Redmond, along with Councilmember Lambert. I think you might be selling yourself short a little bit on the information I have here. It says we also have degrees in chemical engineering and geological engineering. Is that correct? Yes, I graduate a chemical engineering degree, but I never. Used in the army, so I can't talk a

bout it. Too much. And I also says here that you served on the Northeast Recycling and transfer station siting advisory committee. Yeah, I'm a. Volunteer on that. Committee right now. Right. I think that you I think that you bring education and real world experience and familiarity more so than most people who are new to the area would have with our system. And I, I just would not to argue with you, but I think you bring a lot of a lot a lot to the table and appreciate your willingness to serve. Thank you, sir. Thank you, Councilmember Balducci. I'm seeing no more questions. I will ask Ms.. Tessler to introduce herself and speak to your interest in Sabrina, the committee. Yes. Thank you so much for this opportunity. I'm sorry if I'm out of breath. We just had a fire alarm and I had to relocate on very short notice. So sorry. My name is Leah Tischler and I am currently the sustainability manager for SBM on the Microsoft Puget Sound campus in Redmond, Washington. I currently handle all of the waste that's produced on campus and the educational outreach that is produced for the campus, and then also our zero waste certification. My formal background is in environmental management. I have a degree in environmental management from Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, California. And I began my career actually in the county of Hawaii on their solid waste. I'm sorry. I mean, there's always office either recycling office, actually handling the container beverage deposit program for the county here in Washington. I have worked for both Republic. I've worked for Republic Services and now that I'm here are at Microsoft O SBM on the Microsoft campus handling their waste. I am a true zero waste advisor from GB, C.I. and I have. I'm working basically with Microsoft in first and foremost holding their zero waste certification on campus. They have been certified since 2016 and actually through even our low occupancy times, we have been able to increase our diversion here on campus through a number of initiatives that were implemented during this unprecedented times. I also, as a true advisor, have helped certify their largest hackathons, my largest hackathon, which is a yearly event. We were able to certify our gold in 2018 and then in 2019 we're actually platinum. And unfortunately this year it was canceled due to COVID restrictions. But I'm hoping that next year we will definitely be as successful as we have been in further in previous years. So passionate about solid waste and especially in the diversion sector, circular economy and also the ability to work with stakeholders for businesses on reducing their their solid waste production and increasing diversion as much as possible, even during times like we have at these days. Thank you very much. Well, the three seats that are before us today all have different specifications about what qualifications should fill them. It really does lead us to a very diverse and very well qualified group of people to consider nomina

tions today. Are there any questions of Ms.. Tassler in particular? I would entertain emotion. Councilmember Coe Wells. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and I agree with you, all three seem to be

exceptionally well qualified. I've noticed this since the vote in my district, and I'm just wondering what the public said. A public interest group report. Yeah, I will be. I'll be representing true the FBI. Okay. Thank you. And thank you for applying to. Yes. Thank you for the opportunity. Yes. If it is reached with approval from the committee, I would entertain a motion from all four to approve all three in one vote. So she sounds like it's already been moved. All right, then we have before us. Motions 20, 20, 21, 13, 14 and 15 appointments to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. There are no amendments to any one of the three motions, so I see no further discussion. Madam. Madam Clerk, would you please call the. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Councilmember Banducci, I am asking. I. Council member done by Councilmember Cowles. I also member Lambert. High Council member of the CRA. I. Councilmember one right there. I'm. Council members online. Hi. Mr. Chair. Hi. Mr. Chair. The vote is 990 nos. Thank you. By your vote, we were given a do pass recommendation to motions 20, 21, 13, 14 and 15, and we will advance those in the normal course of business to council, to the full council, and place them all on the consent agenda. That concludes our meeting. Madam Clerk, are there any votes that were missed in the technical difficulties we should try to catch? Yes, Mr. Chair. On items 2020 100809 and 11 Council member was excused. Mr. Chair, council member. Up the growth, up the girl votes. I am those items. Thank you very. Much. And with that, I want to thank everyone for their participation in today's meeting. And we will. We hereby adjourn the committee of the hall. Thank you. We will look forward to seeing you two weeks from today. Excellent. Thank you very much. Thank you, colleagues. We're going to move quick for a minute. As I said, we're going to take the Landmarks Commission next item on your agenda, items ten, 11 and 12. I'll turn it over. We have three appointments to the Landmarks Commission to hand over briefly to Ms. Crackles office for a staff report. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good morning, Council members. Leah crackles off the council staff materials for this item for the items ten through 12 begin on page 41 of your packet. The items were confirm appointments to the King County Landmarks Commission. For Adam, also Brooke Deen, alias and Candace Parker, Barbara Brooks, Tucker, me, all of whom are here today. Jennifer Meissner, the King County's historic preservation officer, is also with us. The landmark commission was established to ensure the preservation of King County's historic places, material culture and traditions for future, all future generations. It's a nine member commission comprised of volunteers with broad expertize in areas such as architecture, art, land

use, historic preservation, archeology, education and history. And staff has not identified any issues with these appointments. But there is an amendment and title amendment for item 12, and I will turn it over to the chair for the interviews of the appointees. Thank you, Mr. Buchholz. I'll be with that. I'm going to move to invite Ms.. Brooks Tucker to introduce herself and speak to her background, which would be interested in bringing to the Landmarks Committee. And I want to acknowledge two from my colleagues from the beginning. They know that Ms.. Brooks Tucker has a time constraint. And so if you are brief, we will understand and I acknowledge you will need to leave shortly after you read your introduction. Thank you, Chair. I so appreciate the flexibility here. So so all of you know why my youngest has returned to school this week and it has been an emotional rollercoaster and so exciting for all of us here. So thank you for the flexibility because I have to run to pick him up from his shortened adjusted day. It's a new schedule for all of us. So a little bit about me. I am from Southern California. I moved up here to Washington with my husband as he was active in the Navy. Let's see, gosh, that was about 12 years ago and we lived on Whidbey Island. My background in education is in architecture and historical preservation. I grew up in a small town of Redlands, Redlands, California. It's a significantly historical town. And I, I really do feel like I got a lot of my values from that upbringing. And it's made me extremely interested in how architectural systems and how they relate to strong historical relevance and how that really shapes an economy. I think that's really made me obsessive, possibly about how we how we shape our communities through environment. And that's that's completely what's brought me here to the Landmarks Commission, among a few other things. Do you have any questions for me? Thank you. I would open with a question if in fact I invite the subsequent appointees to address this, as well as the county works to improve our in continuous improvement around equity and social justice, and particularly around Indigenous peoples being on the traditional lands, the Puget Service peoples. And you speak to how the Land Committee can be mindful of a broad set of landmarks and not to one population. My initial response is is advertisement. I don't feel like there's enough knowledge that we exist. And I think that if that putting us more out there to the public, I think is a great start. I think that so I'm also

I'm chair of the Planning Commission of Maple Valley. So it's been a fantastic experience watching you work. And first and foremost, what I have learned from that experience is that we are here to listen to the public. We are their voice and their liaison. And I think that that is also a significant step in bringing about equity. Thank you. Mindful of time. Any colleagues have further questions. Mr. Scheer. Council member. B

elushi Not a question, but since we have the applicant here and you've taken your time to speak to us, I just want to say I really appreciate people bringing their passion, their expertise and their hours and labor to these volunteer positions. It really helps to make so many good things happen in King County to have people like yourself who are willing to volunteer. So thank you very much for your willingness to serve. Thank you. Speaking as the kindergartner who was in a panic, if my grandmother couldn't be seen to pick me up after school from the classroom windows. I want to make sure we look. We let you out in time. Anything else you wish to share with us before stepping out? Not as of right now, but I look forward to coming back to all of you and seeing all of your faces again. Thank you so much for joining us and making today work. Thank you. I'm Mrs. Meisner. I see you've turned your screen and you wanted. Are you just watching? Would you like to make a few introductory comments about the Landmarks Board and the appointees before us today? Yes, thank you. Thank you. Councilor McDermott, I just wanted to chime in to say how thrilled we are to welcome these new members to the King County Landmarks Commission. Each and every one of them brings such a passion for our work for preservation, for equity and vast experience. And I did want to note that that our program is in the middle of an equity and inclusion project in which we are doing additional research into some of our properties that were designated as landmarks many, many years ago. And their nominations did not really tell us an inclusive story. So we are getting ready to basically review those nominations and have they come back before the Landmarks Commission and and basically make sure that the full story of our committee members or community members are told. So we're very excited about that and help to spread the word and and encourage more nominations of properties that represent underrepresented groups. So thank you. Thank you for taking the time to speak with our appointees today. Thank you, Mr. Chelios. Councilmember Dunn, did you have a question or comment? Just a quick. Comment. Jennifer, good to see you. I hope you're well. I just want to let you know and others know, Dana, in particular. I was just at the Black Diamond Historical Museum there along the old railroad tracks, and they were just a Chris was just yesterday, Dave Forester. They were just incredibly complimentary on the work that your group had done and helping them. They I walked through it and they just keep getting better and better. Lots of fantastic leveraging of local resources and it really is quite a facility that they put together. And they were very, very high praise of you, Jennifer. And folks, your work is wanted to say thank you because it's the kind of place that I'm eager to take my my kids to as soon as it opens back up again. So thank you, Jennifer. Oh. Thank you so much, Councilmember

Gunn. And Mr. Chair. Councilmember Tomasky. Well, we're adding thanks. I, too, want to join Councilmember John thank Jennifer for her department's assistance in the city shoreline with helping designate with their landmarks commission the new not the new, but the the old Naval Hospital Chapel, which is tucked in there, a beautiful piece of architectural accomplishment that is now protected. And I know that the expertise and the findings from from our department there really help them. And the community's very excited. So we appreciate the contractual work you do for many of our citizens. And I want to call that out today and thank Jennifer Lamberti. Councilmember, we have two more applicants. Are you very popular? Is very popular. And so I too want to join in and say thank you. The Aurora coffee shop. I'm sorry. The Aroma Coffee shop has brought new life to both city. It is just amazing and beautiful. So thank you for all your work on that and not giving up when there were issues that had to be overcome. And it's definitely worth it. And then I know that there's another bone that is completing the restoration on the Bone Again program. And every time I drive through the valley, these beautiful bones, I think, yay, Jennifer and her team. And then I have a little prayer that I got. I got to get Jennifer out here to see this one. So thank you for all your hard work in that year. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Mr. Chelios. The floor is yours. Good morning. Welcome. If you could offer a few words of introduction and speak to your interest in the Landmarks Board. And now you know what coffee shops bought Barnes and other landmarks with benefit mentioned. Mean if you're trying to secure votes to win confirmation. That's right. Well, good morning, council members. Thank you for having me. My name is Dean Priors. I'm currently a

principal at Smart Architects where I've been there for 21 years. And our focus is design of affordable housing as well as preservation and adaptive reuse of existing structures. My background, I have an undergraduate degree in archeology and my graduate degree from the University of Washington with a minor in historic preservation. So this is definitely a passion project for me as well. I recently served a six year term on the Pioneer Square Preservation Board, where I served as vice chair and chair, and I was looking for kind of a next opportunity to use my skills and interest in applying it to the community. And, you know, I've just been really amazed at the capacity that buildings and places have to be repositories of a community's history and culture and traditions and how they can really serve to activate communities and, you know, just, you know, spark revitalization and interest among the groups of people and to. Chair McDermott's comment about looking at a variety of different landmarks. I think it is true that, you know, historically landmarks have been kind of viewed through a lens of kind of western your E

urocentric perspective, particularly with regard to the architecture itself and kind of looking more at a high architecture style as well as a that's more Western focused. And I know that for culture and the Landmarks Commission and other organizations are currently very active in exploring how other communities, interests and landmarks can be viewed as well. So I'm excited to begin. Thank you. Questions and Mr. Killian's. Thank you. I ask Mr. also, Brooke. Do not offer an introduction and speak to your involvement and interest. You get good points on your background. And those of you who have had an opportunity to read some of my credentials are aware of my experience, my very, very deep experience that I've had with the King County Courthouse, which was launched in two phases during the first several decades of the 20th century. But I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Adam also. I'm a registered architect and also architectural historian, and I'm currently working at Willamette Cultural Resources Associates, which is a cultural resource management firm that has offices in Portland and Seattle. Adam, if I can interrupt, can you maybe move your microphone a little closer to your scratch in little thing? We can hear you, but we can. Can you hear me better now? Yeah. Okay. No, I think that I think there was some noise in the background. I apologize for that. Can you can you hear me better now? Yes, very good. Okay. Thank you. My name is Adam, also Brook. I'm a registered architect and architectural historian, and I'm currently employed by Willamette Cultural Resources Associates, which is an archeology and architectural history cultural resource management firm with offices in both Seattle and Portland, Oregon. And I am a relatively recent transplant to the Puget Sound region. I moved to Seattle in November of 2014 from Texas, and I'm a graduate, 24 graduate of the University of Texas at Austin. And I after my graduation, I work, you know, very traditional architecture firms, you know, designing houses. And then I ended up I ended up working for the Texas Street Design Office, which is a part of the Texas Historical Commission, which is the Texas state and actually the state Historic Preservation Office. The Historic Preservation Office for the state of Texas. And I work in the Main Street Design Office for just over a year, and then I transferred to another division within the Texas Historical Commission, where I reviewed federal projects under Section one or six of the National Historic Preservation Act and also rehabilitation tax credit projects, and also administered a state preservation grant program, and then also applied at Texas State Historic Preservation Regulations, which there are several different varieties. So after working for the Texas Historical Commission, I decided that I wanted to work at the city level and ultimately ended up in Seattle after my. Got a job up here. And so I. I followed. But I my first experience wi

th. King County. And Mark's commission was when I was working on the Logical System Replacement Project at the King County Courthouse, where I was employed with part bonds architects, part design group, and a commission was extremely helpful in reviewing the proposed. Changes, too. In this case, it was a historic fabric in a hallway to make way for that much needed infrastructure replacement project. And so I also have previously served on the Pioneer Square Preservation Board with the you know, so Dean and I know each other from from there. We reviewed a lot of already projects after a while while on that board together. And I look forward to bringing my expertise to the. Mr. also, Brooke, I think you froze. Oh. There we go. Okay. Thank you. Thank you very much. Questions for Mr. Also Brook. I want to thank all three of the nominees for joining us today and for speaking to the interest and truly passion that you bring to landmarks, historic preservation and the cultural identities of our region. Seen no further discussion. I'd entertain a motion. We will take these separately as there is a motion to correct a spelling error in

one of the motions. So the entertainment motion to approve 2020 108. Some of. You. But 2020 108 is before us. See. See new discussion over Zoom. Madam Croke, if I can ask you to please call the roll. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Council member Baluchi I. Council member dombroski. I. Councilmember Dunn II. Councilmember Coles. I remember I. Council member of the growth. Councilmember Bond right there. Council members online. I. Mr. Chair. I. Mr. Chair, the vote is 7i0 no's. Council members on the ground in Penrith are excused. Thank you for your vote. We've given it due to past recommendation two motion 2020 108 and we will send regular schedule to full council in place is not consent. We will do the same if there is a motion for a motion for motion. 2109. More summer. Motion 2109 is before us. No discussion, Madam Clerk. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Councilmember Banducci. Councilmember Hi. Councilmember Done. By. Councilmember Coles. Councilmember Lambert. Councilmember up the ground. Councilmember upon my power. I. And I. For the previous. Thank you, Councilmember. Council members only. By. Mr. Chair. Hi. Mr. Chair. The vote is eight zero now. Council member of the group. Excused. Thank you. And I'd entertain a motion to give a to pass recommendation to motion 2111. Ms.. Brooks. Tucker. Mr. Chair. The nomination of Ms.. Brooks Tucker is before us and in the changing motion to adopt Amendment One, correcting the spelling of her name. Moved. Amendment one is before us. All those in favor please signify by saying I. I am. Opposed. Nay, the ayes have it might entertain a motion to approve total amendment to one. Then moved to one before us. All this favorite. Please say I. I, i. I'm opposed. No, the ayes have it. The title amendment is adopted and final passage on motion 2021 11 as amended. Madam Clerk. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Before I cove

r, if I could just clarify on oh nine, was that to go on the consent agenda? Yes, please. Thank you. Councilmember Belfort, you. I. Councilmember Dombrowski. I. Council member done. By. Councilmember Kowalski. I remember. Linda, I. Council member of the girl. Councilmember Bone right there. All right. Councilmembers Ally. All right. Mr. Chair. Hi. Mr. Chair. The vote is 18 zero inches council member after Grant excused. Thank you. By your vote, we've given a do pass recommendation to Motion 2021 11 as amended, and we'll place that on the consent agenda for Council on regular schedule. Colleagues, you're welcome to give me a call this afternoon and I will share the history of the Smith Tower part of my virtual background right now. We open on July 4th, 1914, just to whet your appetite a little bit. Then we'll go back to item six and today's agenda for this item, we have an ordinance related to the health through housing implementation plan. This past autumn, the Council passed a 1/10 of 1% additional sales tax to fund housing programs and related services known Great. That takes us to items seven and eight on our agenda, proposed motions 2021 to 15 and to 227, which would confirm the executive appointments of one needlessly to Selena Aguilar and Brian Aden to the Immigrant and Refugee Commission. Other application materials were sent out to the council members by email separately yesterday, branded less than ten from the council staff will provide a brief staff report. Then we'll hear from the nominees who were on the zoom call with us. Ms.. Luskin in the line is yours. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And good morning, members of the Committee for the Record, Randle asking the council staff, the combined staff report for these two items, six and seven start on page eight of your packaging materials, as noted by the chair. These two items are proposed motions to confirm the executives appointments of the following persons to the King, LG, Immigrant and Refugee Commission. Juanita Saldana Aguilar, who resides in Council District five. This would be for a partial term expiring at the end of September of next year. And Bylon Aden, who resides in Council District eight for a partial term, expiring at the end of September of this year. Just as a quick bit of background, the Commission was established in 2018 to serve as a central point of contact, communication and coordination, to encourage coordination and efficient intersection of the work of stakeholders serving and engaging immigrant and refugee communities and residents to achieve greater impact. Additionally, the Commission focuses on understanding and addressing challenges faced by immigrant and refugee communities living in suburban cities and unincorporated areas of the county. Currently, code appointments to the Commission are subject to council confirmation. As such, approval of these proposed motions would fulfill that requirement and in step and some staff has not identified any issues with the prop

osed appointments, which appear to be consistent with the requirements of the county code, as noted by the Chair. We are joined by both appointees as well as Renee NASIR, who is the staff liaison for the Council to the Commission. Mr. Chair, at that concludes my remarks. Thank you so

much. Are there any questions of Miss less than two? Great. Then I would like to welcome and introduce Miscellaneous Aguilar and Mr. Adan. Miscellaneous Aguilar Would you like to tell us a little bit about yourself, your background, your interest in serving on the commission? Yes, absolutely. Thank you so much, members of the committee. Thank you so much for having me this morning. I am both humbled and honored to have been invited to join this commission in service of immigrants and refugees in our community. For the record, my name is Juanita, Selena Sila, and my pronouns are she her a little bit about myself. I'm the daughter of Salvadoran immigrants who were one of the first few Salvadoran refugees to come to the Pacific Northwest fleeing the dictatorship in El Salvador during the 1980s. They were both heavily involved in the anti dictatorship movement and did much organizing and their experiences and stories instilled a great sense of justice and social activism. Growing up, I was born and raised here in Seattle and grew up in the South Rainier Valley area and was raised in a very traditional Central American household. Over the years in our community, I've seen the Central American population grow dramatically in our region, and I'm both excited and empowered to bring their voices to the table and ensure that all of our immigrant and refugee populations have equitable and culturally appropriate access to services, supports and voice at the county level. My extended family also lives lives in this region, both undocumented and documented. And these experiences of my community and my people have also helped drive my passion and commitment towards supporting the greater immigrant and refugee communities in our county. I'm also very passionate about access to quality education for families and economic empowerment, especially for women of color. I currently work with the Washington Early Learning Loan Fund, which provides grants and loans for early learning providers in our state. And the early learning field is dominated by mostly women, women of color and immigrant and refugee women. So through this work, I'm really honored to work with many immigrant and refugee women to help grow and expand their businesses in our county and ensure access to quality, culturally competent services for our families. I'll stop there and would like to say thank you once again for having me and I'm very excited to be a part of this important work. Thank you. And Megan, I apologize for my mistake a moment ago. Miss Aiden, if you'd like to also introduce yourself and talk about your experience, background and interest in serving on the commission. Certainly. Thank you so much. I'm bot

h honored and excited to be appointed to the Refugee and Immigrant Commission. I my name is Delilah, Aiden and I was born in Somalia and have lived in the greater Seattle area for the last 20 years. And I consider this city to be my home, even though it's been hard to go. Cities growing up and I have been extremely passionate about the intersection of affordable housing, food, access and economic development in our region. And I've worked in various capacities to bring quality programs from cradle to and serving our elders. And I'm just excited to be here. Thank you very much. Thank you to both of you. If you're interested in serving miscellaneous spoke about being honored and humbled I believe for the nomination and truly I think we are that you're that you're each willing to devote your time and resources to the work of the commission and the people of King County colleagues. Questions of the appointees. Would someone be ready to make the motions to approve motions 2021 to 15 and 227. A move. Mr. Chair. Council Member Lambert has moved and Madam Clerk is all right with you. We will consider that a motion for both 20, 21, two, 15 and 227. Both appointments. That works for me, Mr. Chairman. And both nominations are before us. Councilmember of the Grove. Thank you, Mr. Chair. If comments would be appropriate, please. You noted that Ms.. Hayden lives in District eight, but I'm going to claim her. She works in District five, and because of that, I've had the opportunity to work closely with her as she does her community work. And we are indeed lucky that she's lending her time and talent to King County. She comes from a very civically active family. She puts her heart and soul into the community. She's one of those people that's very easy to work with and gets along with everyone and is solution oriented. So I just wanted to put in a good word and and say, we're claiming her for District five. I'm not going to surrender so easily. Arm wrestle your councilmember up to go. Although she got me to come. Hang out in your district the other day at the Dell Ridge Farmers Market. I missed you by minutes there, I understand, because member of the. City. Councilmember Belushi, they will interrupt this inter-district fight. Briefly. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I can't claim either applicant for District six, but on behalf of all of us, I want to say thank you to both of the applicants for bringing their personal experience, their significant energy experience, and good thinking. We make better policy when we are advised by people who understand the needs and impacts on the community. And so I

really want to just in advance thank you both for your willingness to serve the community in this way. And this is a very active commission. And we we engage with them more directly sometimes than with other boards and commissions. And so I really look forward to working with both of you on this commission to. Continue to improve our services to immigrants and refugees in King

County. Thank you so much. Thank you. Councilmember Lambert. I was going to say that in listening to her priorities, that I will take her and then that we all need to have. An arm wrestle. Nice try. I'm saying no more discussion. Madam Quirke, would you please call the roll? Oh, very, Mr. Somebody. I'm sorry. Now. Go ahead, Madam Clerk. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Councilmember Balaji I Council Member Dombrowski. I am councilmember done. By. Councilmember Cohen's. Councilmember Coleman's. Councilmember Lambert I council member of the girl. I am. Councilmember by my time. I. Council members online. Hi, Mr. Chair. By the vote is 880 now. Councilmember Cole was excused. Thank you. By our vote, we have given a do pass recommendation to motions 2021 to 1527. Oh, well. Councilmember Caldwell's. Sorry. I got cut off on Cowell's votes, so. We will record that vote. And we now have a unanimous nine no vote in favor of a do pass recommendation to appoint both when he was sworn in as Aguilar and Bylon Aden to the Immigrant Refugee Commission. Thank you both for your willingness to serve, your commitment to the community and the work you will continue to enrich our community with. Thank you. Thank you so much, Mr. Chair. I may have missed this, but was that on consent? And yes, we'll put that on consent in regular order at the time. Thank you. So it will be on the consent agenda for council that takes us to our next set of appointments. Proposed motions. 2021 221 222, 223 and 224, which would confirm the executive's appointment of Kelly Carroll, Johnathan Fowler, Temple House convener in one Bernardino Luna to the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Inclusion Task Force application materials were sent out Thank you very much. See you in a couple of weeks. Thanks. In Coex. That takes us to item six. The proposed motion would authorize the Chair of the Council to enter into a contract for services to represent the county before the Washington State Legislature. Jeff Mumm from council staff will provide the staff report. Mr. Mumm, the light is yours. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just count the staff. As you accurately described, proposed motion 0264 would authorize the council chair to enter into the contract prescribing services. An RFP was issued earlier this year, and Amendment One, which is found on page 14 of your packet, would insert foster government relations as the RFP awardee. Also, I just want to point out Mac Nicholson, Council's government relations director, is here as well as Simon Treanor and then also David Foster and Cynthia Jackson from the tax office is also here to answer any questions. But this is the standard lobbying contract that the council members are used to seeing, and they should be used to seeing David Foster as a committee or face who has been awarded the contract in the past. It's a two year contract, and it would also allow the chair, the council chair, to enter into a one year extension if the chair so desires at the time that we can a

answer any questions. Colleagues. Any questions? Councilmember Bell duty. I'm going to make a motion, if you'd like one. I would be happy to have one move approval. For the do pass recommendation. Councilmember Bell, this year's move will give a to pass recommendation to motion 2021 to 64. Councilmember Belushi. I just spoke to this. Well, I thought every now and again it's good to open our contracts and make sure we run a competition. And we did that. And this is the result. You know, it seems that there's not a lot of competition in this industry, or at least not in this way. And we might find a way to get around that at some future point. But we've gotten good service and this is a good contract. So I, I urge it for our continued support. And Councilmember Bellucci, in addition to those eloquent words, I'd also welcome a motion to adopt Amendment One that members will find on page 14 of our packet. Of Amendment One. Amendment one is before us discussion on Amendment one. All those in favor of Amendment one, please signify by saying i. I. I opposed nay. The ayes have it. Further discussion on the motion as amended. Council Member DEMBOSKY. Thanks, Mr. Chair. And last time we this came up, we had some dialog and kind of trying to signal that we did hope to actually get some competition and other proposals. I understand we didn't hear and appreciate Councilmember Du Chair Chair kind of noting that, at least for the record. My question is just on the amount of the contract is that is what we're paying for this the same less or more than the prior contract with this provider? In on this journey on that one. Certainly have an answer for the council members. Magnificent and relations. Councilmember Dombroski. The contract amount is the same as it was awarded last time, which is 11,000 a month.

So last year, at the start of sort of the COVID lockdown pandemic, the council asked the state contractor to take a bit of a haircut on that contract, about four for that last year of the contract. So that was a little bit of a lower amount last year. Otherwise, the contract amount for this new contract is the same as it was for the previous contract, which is 11,001. Okay. Thank you. Further discussion. Madam Clerk, would you please call the roll? Thank you, Mr. Chair. Councilmember Bell Duchin, I. Councilmember Dombrowski. I am. Councilmember done. By. Councilmember kowalski. I councilmember lambert, a councilmember of the ground. I. Councilman Andre Bauer, I. Council members online. Hi. Mr. Chair. Hi. Mr. Chair. The vote is 99 zero notes. Thank you. By your vote, we have given a do pass recommendation in motion 2021 to 64 as amended. We will. We will expedite that to full council. And if there is no objection, I would suggest we put it on consent as well. Thank you. And Mr. Foster and Mr. Shaw will would be disappointed if I didn't note that they are both here, though they did not turn on their video so I could not ascertain whether they were wearing a tie. B

ut I will point out that Mr. Nicholson's tie is overrated and unnecessary. With that, we will move to item seven on today's agenda. Motion 2021 to 89, which would request that the executive provide an assessment report that makes recommendations on roles and responsibilities of the county, city of Seattle and King County Regional Homelessness Authority and other cities Great. Thank you. And with that, we will close public comment. And our first, if you will, business item on today's agenda will make an appointment to fill a judicial vacancy in the Southwest Division of the King County District Court, a process governed by King County Code. For the appointment in front of us today, the Council advertised the vacancy and accepted applications until August 9th of this year. We received two applications from three eligible candidates during the application period. And before we proceed further, I want to provide members and attendees with an overview of how this process today will work. Members should have received the rapid the application materials by email on Thursday in these emails. These materials were sent around again yesterday afternoon and again this morning by email. We will begin today's proceedings with a brief staff report on the motion from Erika Neumann of council staff. And after that, the committee will interview each candidate, one at a time. During the interview, the candidates not being interviewed will be placed in the zoom waiting room as do not get advance on the interview questions or the other candidates responses. Once each candidate has been interviewed, if there is interest among the council members, the committee will go into executive session to evaluate the qualifications of the candidates. We would then rejoin Zoom the Zoom meeting before making any decisions and taking up the motion itself. Are there any questions on how this process would work? Becoming rather frequent. So I am hearing none are Muslim and the line is yours. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Their consuming council central. The items for a proposed motion 2020 10336 begin on each end of your packet. The applicant packet also includes the judicial ratings for each candidate, which start on page 14. A little bit about District Court. District Court is the county's quarter limited jurisdiction and has responsibility for misdemeanor criminal offenses in the county's unincorporated, unincorporated areas. And the court handles approximately 250,000 filings annually throughout the north, south, east and west divisions. The proposed motion is to fill position one in the South Division, and it was made vacant by the retirement of Judge David Christie. Under state law, the King County Council, as the county's legislative authority, is directed to fill district court vacancies by appointment. As you mentioned, there are three eligible candidates to be interviewed in. The selected candidate will fill the remainder of Judge Christie's term, which ends in January of 2023. In

its current form, proposed motion 2020 10336 has a blank for the name of the person being appointed. A verbal amendment will be needed to insert the name of the selected appointee. Mr. Chair. That concludes my remarks. Thank you to the questions from his name and. Thank you then. I expect each interview to take roughly 20 minutes and would ask each candidate to be prepared to provide opening and closing remarks and responses to a set series of questions from council members each to limiting your responses to 2 minutes to the opening. Closing remarks and the questions, please. Members should have received a set of prepared suggested interview questions by email yesterday from my office, which were then reset before the meeting. Today, in accordance with past practice, I would ask for members to volunteer to ask the prepared interview questions and candidates again will be asked to respond in 2 minutes before the meeting. We randomly assign the order of interviews and will begin with Brian Todd, followed by David Vogel and lastly,

Ivie. Vargas unless there are any questions. This would be the time to speak up. I would ask the cleric in a moment to place Mr. Vogel and Ms.. Vargas museum waiting room. Any questions? See none. Madam Couric If you would escort Mr. Vogel and Mrs. Vargas to the waiting room, and as a reminder to members and staff, please let the clerks admit people from the waiting room and avoid the particular technology temptation to click the admit button ourselves. And if we can confirm when the other two are in the waiting room. Not certain. Mr. Chair, what signal has the police give us? Just a moment. Of course. Mr. Chair, do you want to sign? Who's going to ask the questions? I will take you. Eager volunteers. I've had a particular volunteer for question five already. Okay. Well, then, let's see. I would like to take number two then. I will expect you to step up and ask question number two. Then I'll be happy to make. I didn't ask question one, Mr. Chair, unless. You plan on doing that one. It's yours. Mr. Chair, I'm not sure if our host is having technical difficulties and I am unable to move. Our guests to the. Waiting room. So we are. Waiting. If you'll give us just one more moment. I apologize. No worries whatsoever. You have one candidate in the waiting room, Mr. Chair, and are waiting for the other person to enter and wait. No worries whatsoever. Both candidates are now in the waiting room. Great. Meanwhile, I was accidentally trying to print a 92 page document instead of one page document, so I was having my own technical issues as well. With that. Mr. TODD Good morning and welcome. Good morning, Mr. Chair. Thank you. There you might hear my printer finally printing that one page document, and I would invite you to introduce yourself and share your opening remarks. All right. Thank you. I'm sorry. Mr. Tribe and I will claim rustiness because it's been weeks since we've appointed the District Court. Let me more warmly welcom

e you to the interview. Thank you. And let let you know that we do appreciate the time you're spending with us today. The time it's taken to prepare the extensive application materials and your interest in serving in district court. And we look forward to this conversation with you. And with that, I invite you to share your opening remarks. All right. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And likewise, I appreciate the council's time. And in doing this process, I do think it's an important process. So, Mr. Chair, my my opening statement to you this morning is more of an introduction about me and how I came to be here today with you. I know many of you were on the council five years ago. It was approximately May 2016 when I first interviewed for a position in the King County District Court to be appointed by the King County Council. I was an, you know, and an eager attorney that wanted to serve the county as a judge. However, at that time, I had no experience. I had not protested anywhere. I had not had the opportunity to get to experience what it means to be a judge, experience what it means to have people in front of me and experience what it means to make decisions for other people and in disputes. But when I did not get that position, I did not give up. I kept going. I kept trying. And I was thinking, you know, I need to make myself better. As far as having the skills, having the ability to be a judge and to be of the pro town. And so slowly I started reaching out to courts and actually I first reached out to Judge Walden and I took, well, a municipal court and said, hey, you guys accept pro tem, do you, training programs. And thankfully, she. Took me under her wing and I started programing in tech. Well, I still had a practice at that time. And so my, my availability for being a pro tem was a little bit limited. And so I looked deep down within my heart, within my soul, and said, You know what? I want to be committed to the judiciary in the state of Washington, largely in King County. I want to be committed to them. And so I made the hard decision. Oops. All right. So I made the really, really hard decision to give up my practice, start not taking any more clients, and just focus on being a pro tem judge for the state of Washington and for King County. And so from tech, well, I had been approached him in federal way in Renton in the morning in SeaTac and pull up in Lake Forest Park. And it's been an amazing experience and an amazing opportunity. And as a matter of fact, I will add that recently, a month ago, as a matter of fact, I completed the pro tem training for King County District Court. And so I really do feel as though now is the time when I am ready to step in, ready to be a judge for King County District Court judge that would do this council very proud and would do a very good job with being a judge in King County District Court. And so that's kind of how I got here today, started from no experience to being a very experienced, confident, assured j

udge and would be a good judge for King County. Thank you. And I apologize. That buzzer is, in fact, the two minute timer. I'm certainly happy to have you conclude your thought, but that that will be the indication that we've had 2 minutes. Left in these councilmen. When I said that, I didn't know

that was the time for so. You know, quite all right. And if someone would ask the first question, please. Thank you for being here. Judge Todd, always great to see you. First question is, what is it about your particular skills and interests that would make you a good fit for King County District Court? So I think the particular skills that I have is I do have the experience as a pro tem judge. I have experience presiding over any phase of criminal proceedings from arraignments, making decisions with bond hearings, pretrial pleas, sentencing. I have experience presiding over criminal trials. I presided over a civil criminal trials in Renton. I recently presided over two criminal trials in Charlotte, actually last November during the age of COVID, when where we dealing with social distancing and dealing with keeping juries separate. And so I have those skills to be able to do that. I presided over civil code enforcement trials in Des Moines. And so it just I had the experience to be able to make those decisions, to be able to preside over those types of cases and to be able to do well in the job. As far as district court in particular, I do have mediation experience mediating cases in King County District Court. You know, so as sitting as a judge in a small claims trial or in a small claims situation, you know, I know what goes on in small claims. I know how mediation works. And I know, you know, that's the best way for the parties to be able to do that. One other skill that I do have, I am bilingual. I can't speak Spanish. His wife conducted hearings in Spanish for clients who are appreciative of the fact that a judge speaks their language. They feel relaxed, they feel relieved that somebody is actually there and able to really, truly hear them. And so I really do feel, as I do have the experience and the skills and the ability to step right in to work in King County District Court. Thank you so much. Thank you. In here. Thank you for saying that you speak Spanish because I was looking at that. But I was going to start by saying. What is this. Mean? Okay. So my question is, what do you see as the most significant challenge currently facing district court and how do you think it ought to be addressed? So I think one of the biggest challenges facing District three, quite frankly, all the courts in the area is the trial backlog that they're seeing. You know, obviously, we've been on hold for the past 18 months with our trials. And I know from Judge Mahoney presented at the King County District Court program training about a month ago and indicated that the trial backlog is significant. And so, you know, I would be able to step in and I would be able t

o to do that. And so I think but I think Councilmember, I think your question is kind of more broad. You know, how can we address that issue? I think it's focusing on, you know, prioritizing those cases that need to get to trial, get them done. One other thing that is also current right now is just the access to the courts. You know, the buildings are closed and in general, people can and still do need to be able to come in. And so King County District Court's actually done a really good job in moving a lot to the electronic filing. I got a really good job in trying to provide more access. So I think it's just continue to provide that access to people is one of the biggest challenges right now in this current situation. You know, structurally we have the trial backlog, but then also we have just the general access to the courts. And so it's it's what it is. It's an opportunity to really think outside the box. And, you know, we did that at the beginning of this pandemic with allowing court hearings to occur by Zoom, allowing people to appear electronically, allowing them to peer virtually. And it's worked. And so, you know, I think that thinking outside the box led to a lot of innovation. And I think it can only continue to lead to more innovation. And so just making sure people have that access and have the ability to have their their cases heard in court, I think is the biggest challenge the court is currently facing as a as a structure. Thank you. A volunteer for question three. Sure. Sure. I'll ask him. Thank you. Thank you. And welcome back. I remember meeting you some years ago and really glad to hear that you really worked hard at it and getting more experiences then it's good to see you again. You the. Third. Question for you is would you please describe your efforts to implement equity and social justice. Practices. In the criminal justice system? Mm hmm. One thing that I, you know, always had and always had in mind is that, you know, people come from different backgrounds. And I saw people come from different places. And so one thing that I always try to do is listen, you know, I think listening is the first thing to provide that equality and provide that that focus for people. The other thing that we really have to remember as judges is we do all have implicit biases. And so it's always being mindful that there are those biases that I have. And I always make a conscious effort to not let them enter into my decision making. I have been in something as simple as a traffic infraction calendar or excuse me, probably not simple, but, you know, less complex as a traffic infraction calendar. And as I have the participants come in front of me, I have thought in my head, am I making the same decision mistakes that I just made in the case prior? Am I going to be making the same decision, you know, in the future for the exact same

situation? And so it is it's realizing the biases that we have, making sure that we're aware of them, making sure

that we apply the law fairly to everyone because it should be applied fairly. One of the way that I've actually been part of a project to increase that type of access and to increase that inclusivity is in my position at the Office of Administrative Hearings on Chief Administrative Law. Judge Loraine Lee personally asked me to be part of a project to put together to conduct unemployment hearings in Spanish, completely in Spanish, Spanish speaking judge, which would be would have been myself and one other judge. And so that was an amazing opportunity for me to really, truly open up access and inclusivity and in implementing any. We're doing it. Please, you. Welcome. Finish your thought. No, I was. I was saying. It's just it's been an amazing, amazing opportunity to to be part of that project. And, you know, I would look forward to doing similar type projects and keep trying this record as well. I think it'd be incredible. Thank you. Councilmember Dombrowski. Thanks, Mr. Chair. Hi, Brian. Sorry about that buzzer. It's what? It's what customer one right now uses on me when I ask a third question. So we we apologize for that. But I've got the fourth question here today. It's great to see you again and look through your materials. Very impressive. In our question here on number four is how do you approach judicial matters that you're not familiar with? One thing I've done before is I've reached out to two other judges. I was in trial presiding over a trial in Renton, and there was a somewhat novel issue that came up with jury instructions. And so we we were on a normal break. I think it might have been lunch break, but I called I called Judge Murphy Richards, and I said, you know, here's the situation. What's your what's your thought on it? You know, what what's your input on it? You know, knowing that I eventually would have to make that decision. The other thing that I do, if something comes upon me that I'm not familiar with, is I prepare. I definitely make sure that I know what's going on, what's in front of me. One novel situation I had was with code enforcement. I had never dealt with code enforcement in my practice. I've never had to deal with it with any clients. And so when that came in front of the judge, you know, the court had asked me to come in there previous. I was reviewing the calendar days ahead of time and I saw what was going on. And so I went in, I looked up the city code, I looked up the enforcement of the code. I looked at the procedures for civil code enforcement, hearing, that kind of thing. So if I'm not familiar with it, I researched it, I prepare, I consult with other colleagues and get get the best information, knowing that in the end, I'm the one that gets gets to or has to make that decision. And so I'm comfortable if something comes in front of me that I'm going to wear it, I will certainly learn about it really quickly. Awesome. Thank you so much, Brian. Thank you. Chancellor Merkel was. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Brian, ag

ain, thank you for being with us today. And I have a question for you. If you were a judge in the courtroom and an attorney clearly were to display bias in the courtroom, such as calling a female witness by her first name and her male counterpart by his surname. What, if anything, do you think a judge should do? And if that seems like maybe a fairly minor example of a bias. I would appreciate hearing something else that you think would be germane. Sure. So I think the the answer to that is absolutely. A judge has the obligation to step in, to maintain, you know, the proper decorum, the proper respect and the proper confidence in the judicial system. And so if I were to see an attorney exhibiting bias in that manner, probably what I would do would be to remind all parties that we address everybody by their last name. You know, everybody deserves the same respect that needs to be exhibited there. If there's a situation where there's anything more egregious than that, I'm not trying to disrespect it certainly is the judge's obligation to step in, to maintain control of the courtroom and to maintain that there's that appearance of fairness. You know, this is the court system. And in this particular one, it's the King County District Court, you know. And so we need to remember that we represent King County. We need to remember that we represent the judiciary. We need to remember that we represent those that are neutral. And so it's absolutely the obligation of the attorney to step in, you know, if need be a conversation may need to be had with counsel on the record, with opposing counsel there as well, reminding them of the need to always show respect, not show bias if it continues. You know, I judges have certain powers to be able to find somebody, you know, in contempt if that's really what needs to if it's if it's that flagrant. I know that's probably taking it a little bit to the to the extreme in that manner. But Councilman Caldwell's, I think to answer your question, absolutely. The judge has an obligation to step in. I'm confident being able to do that. I'm confident. And in knowing that, I always try to show respect and

trust and confidence to every person that's in front of me. I expect everybody that's in front of me as well to also show that respect and that confidence. So thank you. Thank you. And I would ask you to please share your closing remarks with us. All right. Thank you. Councilman Ross, thank you so much again for this opportunity. And I really feel it. I really feel like this is the time that I'm ready to step in. I'm ready to do this. I have the experience that I have. I've trained with the King County District Court, and I'm ready to step in and ready to do it. You know, I, my story is not necessarily a story of struggle. My story is not a story of it being difficult to do things. As I was growing up, as I was going through school, as I black, that kind of thing. I think it was a little bit of the opposite. But you know what

? That is what sticks in my mind every single time that I'm on the bench is that I know that where I came from is different than where other people came from. I have that in mind every single time, and I care. I care about the people that come in front of me. I care that they are receiving a fair hearing. I care that they feel that they've been heard. I feel obligated to provide that justice to those people that are fair, that is fair, and that they feel that they've received a fair hearing when they come and find me. I do that every single time. You know, that's based on where I come from, what I do, my criminal defense work, my mediation, and just kind of where I grew up and how I grew up. And I know that I would do the King County Council proud in being a King County District Court judge. With the experience that I have with the drive that I have and with the desire that I have to provide fair justice to the citizens of King County when they come before the King County District Court. And I would ask for your appointment to this seat here this morning. Thank you, Councilmember. Thank you very much for talking with us this morning, sharing your experience and really for your interest in serving the people of King County, which are already engaged in doing and wanting to continue in this way. We appreciate that. Well, thank you. Yes, definitely. Madam Couric, if I could ask you to excuse Mr. Time to the waiting room and invite Mr. Vogel to join us. And so with that announcement, I'll go ahead and turn my video off. Thank you. Well, Mr. Longo, let me make sure we have excused Mr. Todd. I believe we have proof. Madam Cook can confirm that for me. Yes, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Todd is in the waiting room. All right. Thank you so much. Mr. Vogel, welcome. Thank you for joining us this morning. And thank you for your interest in serving on the King County District Court. We recognize the investment of time and effort it has taken, particularly to apply to prepare the rather extensive written materials, and to join us today for this conversation. And beyond that, to prepare and be in a position to serve the people of King County in this way. So we really appreciate your interest and desire to participate in the system in this way and serve the people of the county. And we'll invite you to share your opening remarks with us. Thank you very much. I seek this appointment because I want to help people improve their lives and make our community safer. And because this position is well suited to my legal and personal skills, I believe I should be appointed because I've had exceptional training to be a judge because of the breadth and depth of my experience, because I am even tempered, respectful and fair, and because I will work very hard to be a great judge. I was a law clerk for Judge Frank Johnson in Montgomery, Alabama, who protected the constitutional rights of minorities, of immigrants, of women, and of the mentally ill at great personal risk. As

the deputy prosecutor for more than a year in the Burien District Court, I observed Judge Gary, you regard an excellent judge on a daily basis. I would have applied for this position before, but in 2008 I moved to California to accommodate my ex's autoimmune disorder when our children were young. Practicing in California has given me greater appreciation for the laws of Washington, where rehabilitation and restorative justice are emphasized. When my younger child started college in October 2019, I moved back to the ocean. Since my return, I have been trained and appointed as a pro-tem district court judge and I plan to pro tem regularly. I was endorsed by the Puget Sound Police Managers Association and was rated exceptionally well qualified by the Loren Miller Bar Association, the Washington Women Lawyers and the Cardozo Society. When I submitted my application and since then, I have been endorsed by the King County Police Officers Guild and have been rated exceptionally well qualified by the Joint Asian Judicial Evaluation Committee and the Latina Latino Bar Association of Washington. I look forward to answering your questions. Thank you so much, Mr. Vogel. And council members. All I. Thank you for being here, Mr. Vogel. What is it about your particular skills and your particular interests that would make you a good fit for King County District Court? I think I have a breadth of experience that is somewhat unique. I've had 38

years as a lawyer. My experience as a person is, well, I grew up in and around New York City. I've been a cab driver. I, I know people. I like people. And I have an even temperament. And I'm I think I'm balanced. I don't the reason I think I got the endorsement of the police officers and the police managers is that they feel I will be fair to them, just as I will be fair to defendants. I've seen I've worked in the district court for many years, so I have a lot of experience in both criminal and civil litigation. I have had civil litigation in the federal courts as well. But I think it's that large amount of experience that I have that enables me to look at individual cases with better judgment. And so I think my judgment has been refined over the years so that I can handle things better, I can handle them quickly, and I treat people well. I like people. So I think that's those are all good skills for the district court. Thank you very much. Thank you. Good morning. I have a second question. My question is, what do you see as the most significant challenge currently facing district court and how do you think it should be addressed? Well, the most significant challenge for the district court, like with the superior court, is that they're overburdened with cases. It could be that new judges will need to be appointed to accommodate that. But if those judges that aren't appointed, judges just have to work harder and put in the time and work efficiently. And that's something that I've learned over the years to do. The judge that

was my mentor, Judge Johnson, and in Alabama, he decided cases like the Selma to Montgomery march. He decided he allowed Rosa Parks to the back of the bus. So he took these monumental cases. But over 25 years as a district court, he was the most efficient district court judge in the United States. And I could use him as an example for how to do things efficiently. I think in the morning he'd have a stack of papers like this on his desk. By the end of the day, it was cleared out. And so I do think that is the the volume of cases. That is the most significant challenge. There are certainly other challenges as well. Yeah. What are those? Well, another challenge would be to know. Yeah. I'm sorry. That was a member of the public, not a member of the council. I would ask that members of the public. We're certainly here to observe the public meeting, remain on mute, not participate in the meeting. Mr. Vocalist, if you would concluded with your question, that's. Yes, that's that's fine. But if, if council member Lambert would like to hear an answer to that, I think that there are other challenges and one of them is participation by minorities in the court system. I think that a lot of people are scared by the court system and I think that by being respectful and fair, you can take a lot away, a lot of that fear. So that's one of the things that I intend to do. Thank you. Councilmember Belge. Thank you very much. Nice to meet you. And we thank you for being here today. The third question from us is, please describe your efforts to implement equity and social justice practices in our criminal legal system. My practice my legal practice over the years has been doing that. I've taken a lot of pro-bono cases. I've worked for a lot of cases where I reduced my fees so that people could afford to hire me. I had a case recently where my client was in prison for 29 years, since he was 19 years old. Juan Martinez and. His sister could not afford to hire me. She said, I have 1500 dollars. That's all I can afford. I said, That's fine. And I met with him once a month for 13 months before his parole hearing, and I learned as much from one as I did. He learning from me. And by the time we got to that parole hearing, he was magnificent. He just was great. And he was paroled. And we still keep in touch. But that's that's by having lawyers do cases for pro bono and for diminished fees. I think that's that's important. Also, if I don't know an area of law, I will try to find someone who does know that and make referrals. So much of my time on the phone is giving free advice to people and pointing them in the right direction to get help. Thank you. You're welcome. Do you have other questions? We do. Councilmember guideline. When I cued up Mr. Jack. David Wright, Tomasky County. How are you? I've got the fourth question here and that is and you just touched on it briefly there in your last answer, but speed up to expand upon it. But the question is how do you approach judici

al matters with which you're unfamiliar? 30 I don't think that one should try to rule by the seat of one's pants. If I don't know a subject, then I will go home and I will learn it and then I'll rule on it. I'll put it over. I'll continue a case if I don't feel comfortable making a ruling. I've been a quick study through my legal career. I've done medical malpractice cases in very difficult areas of medicine, and I don't know those areas, but I learn them and I work with experts and you keep an open mind and you don't think you don't act as if you know something when you don't know something. So I think humility comes into play and a willingness to work hard and learn. And I have that. Great. Thank you so much. You're very welcome. Thanks for your interest in serving. Sure. Councilmember

Member Wells. Thank you, Mr. Chair. David, also pleased to have you with us today. And my question has to do with bias. If in your courtroom, an attorney were to clearly display bias, such as calling a female witness by your first name and her male counterpart by his surname. Surname. What, if anything, do you believe a judge should do? And there might be some examples you can think of to that may be even more challenging. Well, I can think of a great example of how a judge handled that, and that was Judge Johnson in Montgomery, Alabama, when it was routine for people to treat other people disrespectfully in court. And there was a case involving a black woman who is the plaintiff and the defense attorney who was distinguished, powerful defense attorney, kept referring to her by her first name. And what Judge Johnson did is he banged his gavel and he said, Counsel, unless you are unfamiliar terms with this witness, you will address her as ma'am. And being on familiar terms with a black woman at that time was not something that was taken lightly. And I think Chambers to meet with an attorney in chambers and caution an attorney is is a good way of approaching that. You wouldn't want an ex party communication, but, you know, you could do that and not discuss the case. So there I think setting a good example, you know, of treating everyone the same is helpful. And I don't think it's necessary to come down very hard on people, you know, and embarrass them publicly. But sometimes it is. And I think I would take, you know, lesser measures if I can. But treating people disrespectfully in my court is not something that I will tolerate. Thank you very much. You're welcome. Thank you. And with that, I would invite you to share your closing remarks with us. Okay. Well, thank you. During my 38 years practicing law, I have helped many people through crisis. People have been injured through the fault of others. People who are suffering from alcohol or drug addiction. People who are mentally ill. People who have been the victims of crime. And people who have been accused of crimes. I've developed a broad and balanced perspective on the criminal and civil justice systems, and I wa

nt to use this perspective and the knowledge I have gained over the years as a district court judge. I want to provide a role model by treating everyone who comes into my court respectfully and fairly. I will work hard to handle my cases carefully and efficiently. Because justice delayed is justice denied. I will work with court staff and with other judges to maintain and improve our courts. And I I'm excited to work in the community court system, which can enable defendants to acquire the tools they need to empower themselves. I want to be a district court judge because I like people and I can help many people in this very busy court. I believe that in most cases, rehabilitation and restorative justice can make society safer, and it is in the District Court with the assistance of the probation department that we can help people get the services they need for rehabilitation. Thank you for your time and your consideration. Thank you very much, Mr. Vogl, for sharing with us your experience and skills that you would bring to King County District Court for the time you spent with us today and again, the time it takes to apply, and most importantly, your interest in serving in this role of the people of King County. I'm going to ask the clerk to please excuse Mr. Vogel back to the waiting room and invite Ms.. Vargus to join us. Thank you. And I see Miss Vargas with this. I believe that Mr. Vogel is in the waiting room. And is correct. Mr. Chairman. Thank you. Ms.. Vargas, welcome. And thank you for not only joining us today, but for your interest in Serbian District Court. The service itself, the role itself is vital in our community and the time it takes to apply. Not only joining us for a conversation this morning, but to prepare the extensive application materials is an investment as well for all of that interest and desire to serve, I want to thank you and offer our appreciation and tell you how much how much we look forward to a conversation. Some questions and learn more about you in this interview. I mean, with that, I would invite you to share your opening remarks with us. Thank you so much for that. My name is either Vargas and thank you so much for giving the opportunity to talk to us today about who I am and why you should consider me for the vacant position on the District Court bench. As you have seen from my materials, I have been a public servant for over 17 years in this King County community, and I want to continue to be a public servant for this community in the role of a judge. And I'm very dedicated and loyal to King County specifically because King County has been the community that has welcomed me and nurture me to become the person that I am today. When I arrived as an 18 year old, I was I didn't know who I was, what I was capable of, and what the future held in store for me. And King County. Members of this community nurtured me to help me see myself as a smart, academic, scholar, leader, lawyer, supervisor and attorney, managi

ng attorney of over 100 people. In perfect preparation for my interview today and to even be considered for this position, I thought it was important to put myself to the test to figure out, can I really do this job? Can I sit in judgment of other people and can I do so responsibly and ethically? And so I started to pro-tem. And in those experiences, along with my experiences as a public defender, what I've come to know is that members of this community need lawyers and judges who understand the challenges they face every day, the challenges that make their lives difficult, and the challenges that make their lives rewarding. And though it's been a bit of a struggle as a child to have experienced these experiences, I talk about them today because they're what framed my viewpoint as to what kind of a decision maker I'll be. It's important we have judges that understand poverty, that understand what it feels like to be a foreigner, what it what racism feels like, what sexism feels like. I've experienced those things. What be knocking. It feels like learning English as a second language. Having a family member with addiction, having a family member has been in the and unfortunately domestic violence as well. And these experiences were difficult, but they also were important because they gave me the framework from which to make thoughtful and inclusive decisions that will impact members of our community. It's a huge responsibility to sit in judgment and make decisions about people coming before you every day. Our community needs judges who understand these challenges, so this will have insight into the lives of the members of this community so that thoughtful and inclusive decisions are made. I didn't come to this position with lawyer, family members or judges. I've paid my own path and I've been very proud of what I've been able to accomplish. And I worked hard to build a solid reputation in this legal community as being an open and thoughtful advocate and person, a hardworking and dedicated public servant, and a person who is deeply committed to this community and strongly in this work. I said that BlueBell was the two minute mark, if I'm sorry, if I could ask you to conclude your thoughts. Yes. And I because of the strong reputation, I enjoy the support of prosecutors and defense alike, lawyers from the private bar, state leaders, nonprofit leaders, community leaders, and current and retired district court and superior court judges. If appointed, I will work hard every day to be a thoughtful decision maker and someone who protects the safety of this community . Thank you. Council members are hereby. Thank you so much. For being here, Ms.. Vargas. What is it about your particular skills and your particular interests that would make you a good fit for King County District Court? I think I touched on it in my opening statement, but basically having that first, first hand experience as to what poverty feels like, what not having the resources you need

to live a life without many challenges is an important perspective that currently is not reflected on the District Court bench. I am a person that understands what it what it feels like to not speak English as a first language and to have to figure out who you are on your own, and to not have people in your family that can help you pay your way through life. And that has made me strong. And that's going to make me a thoughtful decision maker capable of sitting on the bench in a way that is inclusive but also protective of our community. Because I'm very, as a parent, interested in making sure that Canton remains safe for all. Thank you. Thank you. I have the next question. Thank you for being here. My question is, what is this? What do you see as the most significant challenge currently facing district court? And how do you think it should be addressed? Well, clearly, I think that this is the most challenging time dealing with a global health pandemic has been has made us all look at how we deliver justice in courtrooms every day. And it's very clear that we need to clear the backlog that exists in our current dockets. And I think what the court is currently doing makes a whole lot of sense, which is doing mitigation by mail, also doing infraction calendars via Zoom and really dedicating the majority of our resources to people facing loss of liberty and loss of, you know, money and other things that come along with having hearings in court. I think it's going to take a bench of judges who are willing to work together to get cases tried. I certainly would open myself up to do everything I can to help people have their day in court in a timely way. And I would look forward to working with this counsel to come up with strategies to to to move forward on that. Thank you very much. It's a memorable duty. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and welcome. It's very nice to meet you and I'm glad that you're. Here. And. Expressing interest in this position. Our third question is please describe your efforts to implement equity and social justice practices in our criminal legal system. Well, I'm very fortunate to be a leader in King County, currently in my my position and in my in my role as a leader. I think what's most important is hiring diverse lawyers, hiring diverse staff, so that members of our community who need our services have lawyers that understand their experiences and understand the challenges that they face every single day. It's

about talking about issues of racial justice. As a leader in my in my own community, I have led those conversations about how do we achieve equity, how how do we achieve justice within our own working communities? It's about showing up in community for community events and showing up as a leader. It's about mentorship. It's about community service. It's about, you know, making your ideals, talking about your ideals openly and encouraging that conversation. But it's also about welcoming others into the conversation and not being o

ff putting, being accusatory. It's about inviting the conversation because that's where the growth happens and that's where, you know, we all belong. We all have a role. And we we should all work together to help make this community inclusive for everyone. Thank you. Council member, Dan Belsky. Mr. Chair, and I thank you so much for being here, and thank you for your current service to King County and our Department of Public Defense. You have a big job there. We appreciate you. I have the fourth question and it's a fairly straightforward one. It's how do you approach judicial matters with which you're unfamiliar? Education and not making impulsive decisions. I don't think a judge should be making decisions off the cuff. There are very important rights at stake for everyone, for victims, for defendants, for everyone. We all deserve judicial decision makers that are thoughtful and careful and measured. We do not need people on the bench that just decide off the cuff. And so if I don't know something, I'm going to take time to educate myself because a wrong decision is never worth it. It's always best to think things through carefully before deciding. Thank you very much. Council member, Lambert. A thinking coalesce, but do. You're right. Yes. And so. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you very much for being with us today. I have a question relating to bias in the courtroom. If an attorney before you in the courtroom work to clearly display bias in your view. An example could be calling a female witness by her first name and calling her male counterpart by his surname. What, if anything, would you do? Or do you believe that a judge should do? And you can come up with other examples as well. Thank you. Well, Judge is responsible for what occurs in your work, and a judge is responsible for ensuring that equity is always at the forefront. And we all play a role in ensuring that bias doesn't play a part in what happens. But it does happen. I've been on my own. I've experienced it myself. And I always approach it from a perspective of, you know, seeing the good in the other person and understanding that a thoughtful conversation with them is probably going to be the best way to address it, but also calling it out and naming it and making sure that it doesn't continue. I don't believe that most people are intentionally trying to be offensive, and I think that we have to recognize our humanity and recognize each other's intent and work with one another. Obviously, if it if it goes to the point of impacting justice and impacting a client or impacting someone, I would most definitely put a stop to it by addressing it head on. I think that's important because if we allow things like that to happen, it's a tacit agreement and approval of it and that that would not be okay with me. Judges are leaders and I would act with leadership in those in those instances. Thank you. And that concludes our prepared questions. We invite you to share your concluding remarks wi

th us. Thank you. I'm so sorry. I'm a little embarrassed and got emotional in the beginning. I'll try not to. As well. Appointing me to the bench would mean that you're going to get a dedicated public servant, that you're going to get someone who's dedicated to meeting thoughtful and inclusive decisions. That you were going to get a public servant that is dedicated to treating all litigants with respect and that will uphold the law and our constitutional protections. I understand that I would carry an enormous responsibility as a judge to act and make decisions that are viewed from the lens of equity, that are grounded in equity and understanding that the decisions I make on a daily basis will impact people's lives. I will show up to the job with the goal of preserving and protecting our constitutional freedoms. My courtroom will be one where people are treated thoughtfully with respect and where they will be heard. And I thank you for your time. Thank you very much for joining us today. As I friend beginning for taking the time to prepare for the conversation and the written materials and for your current and future service to the people of King County. We very much appreciate it and the time you've spent with us today. I would invite Madam Clerk, I would ask you to invite the other two candidates back in from the waiting room. They have been admitted, Mr. Chairman. Thank you. We've concluded the three interviews for the Southwest District Court position in King County, and I believe I'm going to suggest we would like a few minutes in executive session. And so we will the committee members the council members will step into executive session to evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office, will be in

executive session for approximately 15 minutes until about 1050. The committee will be off the zoom calls for the executive session, together with only those 20 employees directly necessary for the discussion. And with that, members should have the, um, zoom link to join the Zoom executive session. Thank you. It's. It's been. You get nothing. They think that you. Go. There are. She? The. She. She. Gutierrez asked me to let the listening public know that the executive session will be an extended and additional 5 minutes to approximately 1055. This man has asked me to let the listening public know that the executive session has been further extended until approximately 1105. I'm King County Council's committee to hold back to order. We are back from executive session, which we were in pursuant to our S.W. 4231 ten H and I would entertain a motion. Chair. I would boost approval of the appointment process without recommendation at this time to all council members. Councilmember Dunn has moved that we advanced motion 2021 336. The placeholder for an appointment to the King County District Court to full council. Any discussion. Mr. Chair, council member did ask. Me just for applicants in the public's knowledge, what I thin

k would be helpful for members to have a little more time to reflect on the materials in the interview today in that I think we would obviously be expecting on Tuesday, if this is expedited, to insert a name and confirm an appointment. Is that your understanding? That would be my impression that my intention was. That I support the motion. Thank you. Then I see no further discussion. Madam Clerk, I ask you to please call the roll. Some everybody achieve. Councilmember Bellucci II. Councilmember DEMBOSKY. I. Councilmember Gunn. I. As a member of Congress, I. Council member, Lambert. Council member of the group I. Councilmember Vaughn right there. I. Council members online. Hi. Mr. Chair. Hi. Mr. Chair. The vote is 99 zero now. Thank you. By your vote, we have an advanced motion 2021 and 336 making an appointment to the South West Division of King County District Court two for Council. Without objection, we will expedite that to Tuesday's County Council meeting. And as was said in discussion, it is the intent, my understanding of the Council to be able to further reflect on the interview conversations and the written materials that have been submitted to the Council and to take action on that motion on Tuesday in full council. I want to thank the applicants for the conversation and the interviews today and would I'm expect to now see you on Tuesday in full council. And with that, we will advance our agenda to motion 2021 to 98 and request that the executive provide an assessment report that makes recommendations on roles and responsibilities of the county, city of Curran Gill is the executive's council liaison. I'd just like to particularly welcome, though it's unusual for me to do so. Mr. Gill to the call because he is spending part of his birthday with us. And with that, we'll move on to item seven on today's agenda. This is a proposed motion, 2021 391, which would express the Council's support for race and gender conscious affirmative action policies at the state and local level. Andrew Kim from council staff is here to provide the staff report. Mr. Kim, if you'd please, go ahead. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I hope I'm coming in. Okay. You are. Thank you, Mr. Chair. For the record and your campaign council central staff. Due to timing of this item, there is no staff report prepared. But the proposed motion language begins on page 323 of your packet. And I will actually go start with the the language starting on page 325. The proposed motion would declare that race and gender conscious affirmative action practices in the county are needed to combat discrimination that race and gender neutral measures have failed to eliminate. And in furtherance of the policy it would, the Council would urge Governor Jay Inslee to immediately sign an executive order rescinding governor's directive 98 or one. This governor's direct and then one was issued by Governor Gary Locke back in 1998 to provide directives on the implementation of 200, which was the 97 ballot measu

re that ended preferences based on protected classes for public employment, public education or public contracting. The proposal proposed motion would also support, including an item in the Council's 2022 2022 legislative agenda to advocate for any legislation necessary to timely and fully implement an executive order that would rescind the Governor's Directive. 94 one. The proposed motion would also support the recommendations included in the county's auditor report entitled Contracting Inequities Persisting Race Neutral Environment to Reduce Racial Disparities and Inequities in Awarding County Contracts. And as members are aware, this was presented to the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee back in in June. The proposed motion would also support county executive order entitled Pro Equity Contracting, which directs the implementation of most of the recommendations included in the County Auditor's report and as brief by some of them from some of the members at the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee

yesterday. There are some budget items in the second omnibus that supports this executive order. The proposed motion would also support exploring the benefits of reestablishing a minority and women business enterprises office or program in the county to ensure consistency in contracting processes and criteria across county agencies and departments, and to also eliminate ambiguities regarding the county's commitment to eliminating racial disparities and inequities in awarding county contracts. And lastly, the proposed motion would support setting measurable countywide goals for spending with minority and women owned business enterprises to further the progress of eliminating racial disparities and inequities in awarding county contracts. Mr.. Cheryl, note that there is a title amendment for this item that was emailed to all members in the title land that would comport with the body of the motion. We also had Brooke Leary with the auditor's office and as you mentioned, Mr. Curran, deal with the Executive Office to answer any questions. And that concludes David Martin Fisher. Thank you, Mr. Kim. And I want to acknowledge and appreciate the cooperation, support and work of an executive, Constantine and his team in bringing us having the county is poised, as we are, to take this action and be as supportive a value of the partnership we have with the executive in doing this work and being where we are. Colleagues questions of Mr. Kim, Mr. Gil as Larry. Mr. Chair. Council members. Hello? Yes, thank you. I'd like to speak to this motion, please, before, Mr. Chair, I want to thank you very much for adding this incredibly important topic to your agenda. I want to thank Andrew Kim for all his excellent work, our King County Executive Branch, as well as the Washington Equity Now Alliance. For all of their advocacy we all know that I 200 and it's related executive order 9801 have had devastating impacts on women and communities of color in the two

decades since they took effect. These laws have funneled billions, billions with a B of dollars out of these groups and also slashed many of their economic and educational opportunities . Some have estimated that prior to 200 state agencies and higher education institutions spent 10% of their contracting and procurement dollars with certified minority and women owned businesses. Since the passage of I 200, however, that rate has plummeted to an average of 3% from 10% to 3%. And this steep decline in economic opportunity at the state level is also felt locally. I think my colleagues remember the report that was released by our King County Auditor's office in June of this year titled Contracting Inequities Persist in Race Neutral Environment. It showed us that our own level of government has felt and dealt the painful consequences of a 290 801. So that's why this motion is before you today. It not only asks the state and our governor to rescind 9801, it also holds up a mirror to our own government and documents our own commitment to advancing contract equity at King County. So I think Andrew did a great job already of documenting what actions it requests that our King County government takes things like supporting the recommendations in the auditor's report, supporting the executive order from executive Constance, entitled Pro Equity Contracting also supports exploring and reestablishing a minority and women owned business enterprise office at King County and supporting and setting measurable countywide goals for spending with will be contractors. So colleagues I 200 and it's related executive order took away many of our tools for bringing about economic justice in our society. Our our region's economy has been booming in the two decades after these laws took effect. But not everyone has felt the surge in prosperity. Let's commit to our stated principles, pass this motion, and continue our work to make sure everyone in King County can thrive. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you. Councilmember. Questions on the presentation. Councilmembers followed. Entertain a motion. So move, Mr. Chair. We have a motion before us to give it to pass. Recommendation to motion 2021 391. Further discussion. Mr. Chandler. Councilmember Belushi, followed by Councilmember Caldwell's. I want to also thank you for finding time on an agenda to move this forward and to have this committee discussion just as a matter of process. It's always, I think, better for us to have the opportunity to consider something and ask questions, even if we don't have all the answers right here, right now. And so I do appreciate your making time for this. The more substantively, I will repeat everything that Councilmember Zaha said, but we know at King County and in other parts of government that when we make an effort, targeted, non neutral effort to improve racial outcomes, we can move the needle. We can we can reduce disparities, we can bring up communities of color and businesses and people gi

ve them good jobs and opportunities that help to close that achievement gap that we see in every aspect of the lives in our communities. And so I think this kind of a step is really important and can

make a really real world difference for people. It can help them get good jobs and economic opportunities that make our whole community better and and fairer. So I really appreciate this step. I look forward to learning more about it, quite frankly, because it's it's pretty it's moving pretty quickly. But I think that the sentiments stated in this motion are things that are absolutely aligned with our values and our stated goals here at King County Council. And I'm happy to be a supporter. Thank you. Thank you, Councilmember Coles. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And I first of all, I want to extend my appreciation of Councilmember San Joaquin for introducing this legislation. And I so say hello to my former colleague in the state legislature, former Representative Jesse White. And as Jesse knows, there was a lot of effort in the legislature to not have to go to the ballot. As I recall, it was an initiative to the legislature. And then when it did go to the ballot, we some of us were very active in trying to defeat it. And I bring this up because I think the history of this is important. And I ended. Up. Debating Ward Connerly, who was the proponent of Initiative 202, was the University of California regent at the time, and this is at Tulane University. There were 100 people in attendance. There were several of us on the panel. And it was one of the more noteworthy events in which I participated in my career. And frankly, I was absolutely appalled and I was very, very disturbed by the language of the ballot measure, which I thought was very deceptive and I think swayed the voters. But that's just a little bit of an aside here. And I, I had one I had been very intrigued about this legislation, and I was thinking about introducing Edmund Burke with our legal counsel, general counsel, Monique Cohen about it, because I wasn't sure whether it was something that we could really take up. And so I was very pleased when it was introduced and signed down, by the way, we worked in the legislature to try to ameliorate when we should have 200. We got some things through, but they did not make a sufficient difference. And I have long thought about, I think, the tragedy of it and should have. 200. For the state and for people in it. But I am very pleased to join in, in supporting this request to the governor to rescind the Governor's directive 90 zero one. I think it can be very helpful. We are the largest county in the state and I'm. Hopeful that. Our support of this would. Be. Influential to the Governor's decision on what to do. And I also believe that with regard to what can happen at the county here, this would. Be. Very helpful. So I'm very. Pleased to support this. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Mr. Kim. I see you turned your camera on. You did that so you can

remind us that we have a panel amendment we need to adopt before we get to final passage. I'll pretend I remembered before I saw your camera. Come on and ask colleagues if there is any more speak cut remarks before we take up the title amendment. Senior nine council members are. Hello. If you would remove adoption of Title Amendment two one, which Mr. Tracy emailed to us at 804 this morning. So moved, Mr. Chair. The title Amendment two one is before a say no discussion. All those in favor of one please signify by saying i. I. Others opposed nay. The ayes have it. The title amendment is adopted. Thank you for your time. The reminder, Mr. Kemp. Further discussion. See no further discussion to close, if you wish. Council members. Hello. I urge your support. Without Madam Clerk. Would you please call the roll? Thank you, Mr. Chair. Councilmember building team. I. Councilmember Sandusky. I. Councilmember John. I. Councilmember calls Councilmember Lambert. I'm sorry. I as a member of the council. I. Councilmember one right there. Council members online. By Mr. Chair. Hi. Mr. Chair. The vote is eight zero announced council member. Voting rights are excused. Thank you. By you. We have given a do pass recommendation through motion 2021 391 and with the committee's permission, we will expedite that to full council this coming Tuesday. Is there interest in speaking to it or might we put it on consent? I'll put it on. I'll suggest we put it on consent and we'll always have the possibility of removing it from consent. All right. That concludes the action items in today's agenda. Before we adjourn, however, we missed a couple of votes due to technical issues. Madam Quirk, can you can we check with council members done in BAN right there for methods that are available? Absolutely. Mr. Chair. Council member. Done. I am missing a vote on 2020 10335. I think we've lost him again. And Councilmember Bond right now. I am missing votes on 2020 1033502880391. All right. We don't seem to have a good connection with either. Did you say done? That's correct. Let's remember. Dun dun. Dun ci. Four 2020 10335. Yes. Thank you. Thank you. And per a Rules Council member of UN right there will be able to vote by email through the rest of the day. With that having no other business to come before us, we are adjourned. Thank you so much. Well, thank you so much. That takes us to the next item on the agenda, which is to consider making an appointment to fill a judicial vacancy in the Southeast District of King County District Court for the appointments in front of us today. The

Council advertised the vacancy and accepted applications through October 4th, 2021. We think the application for one eligible candidate during the application period. Members should have received the application materials by email on Monday. These materials are sent again around this morning. We will begin today's proceedings with a brief staff report on the proposed motion marathon in the Council South Bay

after the Americans report. The committee will interview the candidate and if there's interest among the council members during the executive session to evaluate the qualifications of the candidate. We would if we go into executive session, we would then resume this Zoom meeting to take up actual debate and consideration of the legislation. Are there any questions on how this will work of either members or candidates before we get started? Here in Mountain Monument. The land is yours. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Erika Neumann, Counsel. Central Staff. The item for Proposed Motion 2020 10417. Begin on page nine of your packet. The applicant the applicant packet includes a judicial ratings which start on page 14 as well. No district court is a county court of limited jurisdiction and is responsible for traffic infractions and misdemeanor criminal offenses. The court handles approximately 250,000 filings annually throughout the four divisions, which consist of the north, south, east and West Division. The proposed motion is to fill position of one and the Southeast elected district that was made vacant by the departure of Judge Jason Waitress. Under state law, the King County Council, as a legislative authority, is directed to fill district court vacancies. As you mentioned, there is one applicant to be interviewed and the selected candidate will fill the remainder of the reporter's term, which ends in January of 2023. In its current form, proposed motion 2020 10417 has a blank for the name of the person claiming a verbal meaning that will be needed to insert the name. Mr. Chair, that concludes my remarks. Thank you so much, investor, for the questions. But again, there are questions from staff of staff. We'll proceed with the interview. Seeing no questions. I expect the interview to take roughly 20 minutes and we'll ask Kennedy to provide opening and closing remarks is to be limited to 2 minutes. You'll hear a timer go off, not in the 2 minutes. And members should have received a preferred set of suggested interview questions by email yesterday and again this morning. I'd encourage members to open that email if you don't already have an opening preview in accordance with past practice, I'd ask members to volunteer to read this, to ask the prepared interview questions without. Mr. Gilbert, I want to welcome you and thank you for your interest in serving the people of King County as a member of the district court bench. And thank you so much for joining us today. Can you do the whole we look forward to this conversation. I appreciate the time. It's already taken to complete the application materials. I know that's no small task. I look forward to the chance to be able to visit and get to know you and how you might serve on the bench in this conversation. So with that, I would ask you to say your opening opening remarks. Good morning, everyone, and thank you so very much for this opportunity to be evaluated by this committee today. It is my hope that through

this interview you'll get to know me as a person as well, see all the skills and the attributes I can bring to the bench if appointed. So a little bit about me. I am a product of chain migration and have longstanding roots here in America and in King County, Washington. My great grandfather immigrated from the Philippines and settled here in Seattle in 1924, and as an Asian man, he suffered discrimination and segregation. Yet he persevered. He remained hopeful that his family would still live a better life despite all that he had been through. And fast forward 50 years later, two generations as well. And I was graduating from federal high school. And after college and graduating law school, I returned home to South King County with my husband and son in 2004, where I have lived ever since. And I am forever grateful for my family and all their sacrifices that they have given me, as well as all the opportunities that I've received working at the King County Prosecutor's Office that have led me to sit before you all today. I am seeking a judicial appointment because I have demonstrated commitment to public service and the experiences I have acquired through the years that will benefit the bench. And I believe that the court has the ability to change lives. It can be a place where victim voices can be heard and offenders can be held accountable. It can also be a place where anyone can have equal access to the process in both the civil and criminal realm and be treated fairly and where needs are met. And simply put, I want to be a part of that. In being a King County prosecuting attorney for the last 15 years has been an invaluable preparation for me to do this work. I've been able to participate in the traditional criminal prosecution model, but I've also had the ability to have cases go through the therapeutic and

alternative to traditional prosecution. For example, I've partnered with the Courts and Department of Public Defense in community courts and have developed diversion programs wave justice a criminal justice system altogether. These experiences have inspired me to seek an appointment to help grow these alternatives and therapeutic programs and to ensure that those that do come in contact with the courts are treated with compassion, patience and respect so that disproportionality does not result, but rather justice that reflects equity and fairness. Thank you again and I look forward to answering all your questions. Thank you so much, Howard. First question. Councilmember Bell, did you? Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you so much for being here and putting yourself out for this opportunity. It's really great to have strong candidates. We appreciate all the effort you put into it. The question is, would you please describe an ideal district court judge? Well, an ideal district court judge, I think, is one that is compassionate, one that listens and one that is able to incorporate all of the knowledge through the legal and the lega

I system, as well as concepts of equity and social justice to inform their decisions. I think it's important for that ideal candidate to have those things because it is only through that knowledge and that experience that just outcomes can be made and that equitable outcomes can be made. And frankly, all of the different types of people that come before the court, particularly in district court. Right. I mean, there are it's your everyday folks, your your cousins, your aunts, your pastors, all of those people that are seeking to have their needs fulfilled need to be heard and have to be in front of someone who is willing to listen, to be compassionate, and also willing to make decisions that are based on fairness and in equity. So that would be my hope if I were appointed that I would fulfill those those characteristics. And Q. Thank you so much, colleagues. Question to. Councilmember McDermott. Yes. Thank you so much. Please describe your efforts to implement anti-racist equity and social justice practices in the legal system. And a second part, if I might. What is one change do you think the district court can take to move the institution in this direction? Sure. So this thread your efforts to implement an anti-racist equity and social justice practices in the legal system. And one change you think this report could make the institution in that direction. Thank you. Well, as a prosecutor and what I'm doing now is that I, I, I am the chair of the district court unit for the prosecutor's office. And so I am the introductory unit for all the newest and youngest attorneys that come through our doors. And so part of my function, and in fact, a very important part of my function is teaching them how to pursue justice and how to come to just resolutions, cases that they handle. And one of the things that is part of the training module and something that I take extremely seriously is encouraging and promoting and teaching each of them, you know, equity and social justice concept concepts. And that's through their training, that's through close, but also having one on one conversations about all of the cases that they are seeking to resolve and asking them about. Tell me more about who is coming before you and who is this individual that's in charge. Tell me about their background to the extent that you can. And in that way, when we're talking about a person as a whole, we're able to. Look at them, not just with the incident that has come before us, but also what may have brought them to this to the criminal justice system. And in doing so, we're also having to take into consideration the history of who we are as prosecutors, the authority that we have. And the we're making these decisions, particularly as it relates to communities of color and how disproportionality has, I guess. Resulted at times because of our lack of awareness. And so I think in for us and for prosecutors specifically, it is super important that we learn these concepts so that when

we do make decisions that they are based in equity and knowledge and so that we can be proactively anti-racist in doing so, knowing that our decisions have such great impacts on individuals. So that's one thing. The other thing, Councilmember McDermott, is what can the courts do to do to change that? Well, I think just as prosecutors and I have made collective decisions and learning all of these concepts, so must each of the judges. Just because we are we put on a robe doesn't include somehow that that institutional knowledge or that historical knowledge. We all have to learn how our power and position has affected communities of color. And when we learn those things, I think we're able to make more compassionate and more reasonable and, frankly, more equitable decisions. And if each and every one of us are committed to learning these concepts and learning how our power and decisions can affect communities of color, particularly then I think we will we will over time become less, less, less racist. And, you know, and and we'll have results that are much more equitable and fair to all of those that come before us. Thank you very much.

Question three. I have a volunteer question for somebody to be willing to ask. Question three. I can ask both of you like. Go ahead, please. Thank you, Councilmember Lambert. You're welcome. Okay. Are there any aspects of this role where you feel the need to grow in your knowledge or understanding in an area of the law, policies, procedures, courtroom management or otherwise? How do you approach mastering important and familiar issues like this? Thank you. And that's actually a great question. Obviously, as you've seen in my material, my focus and my experience has primarily been in the criminal realm. So I'm really looking forward to learning the civil parts and the civil practice in district court because it's a big one, you know, through small claims and even in infractions, which I have some experience in. But certainly all of the more civil aspects are the things that I'm interested in learning and excited to learn, actually. So for me, I think just as I have been as curious and voracious in learning the criminal aspect, I must do so for the civil part in order to be a well-balanced and effective judge, because you can't do one, just one end. And so in that regard, my hope is to reach out to my colleagues on a district court bench who have that experience, who understand the civil the civil practice, learn from them, seek out mentorship, and do my own homework. I think that's important because I had to do a lot of it as I was coming up through the ranks in the criminal and the criminal section. But beyond that, even now, as I have prepared for this for this process, I reached out to former and current district court judges who are doing the work to tell me, like, well, how do I do this? Or What is this all about? And it has really piqued my interest. And ultimately what it has done is it has helped me seek out

my own education. So I would read the landlord tenant law, which I know I'll probably do a lot of, you know, I'm going to seek out information on more and attend more hearings between now and the time that, if I'm lucky enough to be appointed, to serve, to watch more anti-harassment hearings, name changes, weddings, all of those wonderful things that I think people seek out on a day to day basis and that I can be a part of. So that's my hope, and I hope that answers your question. Councilmember Lambert, thank you very much. I ask an excellent volume of cases facing the district court judge is significant, as you know. How do you approach managing multiple high priority matters in front of you at the same time? Well, you know, I think. Thinking about what is to come. And based on COVID, the backlog of the civil cases that are going to be our launching over us is a huge, huge obstacle and a big concern. And first of all, I just want to commend the Council for appropriating funds for the district court to hire commissioners. I think we need more, you know, and the more we have, I think the more we can do. But to specifically answer your questions, I think having to prioritize and manage all of these things at the same time is a huge, huge undertaking. And we have to obviously prioritize those who are in most need, you know, or where rights are being so infringed in the moment that we must we must act. So learning how to triage you, you prioritize those with the highest need is going to be learning how to do it, I think, will be a matter of what is the current court culture and what is the capacity. And learning those two things simultaneously will be the best way for me to manage. You know, constantly. I'm doing that with all of the three locations that I that I manage currently in district court. And so, you know, not to be reactive, but certainly you got to go where the fire is at and you have to solve those problems. And then once you're able to deal with those big issues or immediate issues, then you're able to strategically plan and be thoughtful and about how you're going to attack long term. And by doing those two things, I think we'll be able as a bench to tackle all of those massive priorities that are coming between civil and criminal. Thank you. I'll ask the next one. Thank you. Council members. Hello. Thank you so much. What lessons from operating during the pandemic, if any, should the district court carry into the future? And how should they be addressed or implemented? Well, many of the concerns that have come up during COVID time has to do with access, access to justice, access to the courts safely, but also recognizing that, you know, the work doesn't stop and we have to come up with a plan. And so one of the things that I've been very excited about and again commend the Council for in the Technology with Eckhart and moving into the future with CMS for District Court has been a game changer allowing for for people to appear

by Zoom for those who have the means to do it has been incredible to keep the work flowing. But I think one of the challenges to those things as these things advanced technologically is that we also have to, again, be mindful of the fact that those many of those who are seeking that access to justice are of the most marginalized communities and may not have the same kind of access to that technology as others who are more affluent. And so moving that forward and as I think we move

into the future, I think that the district court and the King County Council should think of innovative ways we can provide more access to justice through the technology. Perhaps, you know, an example of that could be what if we had publicly access computer stations, even if it means being in public libraries or other community spaces where folks who don't have access to the technology but want to resolve their cases or want to appear before the court to get a protection order, have the ability to have access for free. It wouldn't cost as much overall versus potentially people not coming to court, having to be booked into jail on a warrant and having to be assessed, you know, a public defender and prosecution. Like, these are ways that we can use the technology to our advantage, but also keep the cases flowing and folks not being potentially incarcerated for failing to appear for their hearings. So it's my hope that with all of the wonderful things that we've been able to accomplish during COVID, that we be mindful of the fact that we don't live in communities of color or marginalized people behind. Thank you so much. And I ask the final question as well, which is what about the district court? Interests you the most? This is an easy one. You know, actually, since I've been working in district court for five years, it has become more and more interesting to me. You'd think it would be the opposite. Like it'd be like, get me out of here. Like this is, you know. But in reality, no. You know, what I have come to find is that the district court is one of the common people. It's the everyday people that have basic, basic needs that need to be met. And for many of these is their first time being in contact with the criminal justice system, or for that or for that matter, in the civil realm, for infractions, for, you know, name changes, anti-harassment and those things. And these are the folks that I see every day. And because of that, it's caused me to be so much more interested in the outcomes. It causes me to be more interested in that in the process and looking towards ways in which we can improve that access to justice or that process so that their everyday person can feel like, I trust the system, I trust the people that I'm working. When I look to the bench, I know that my needs will be met and that the people who are helping me navigate through this, what could be the most important thing in their lives at the moment, that they are being taken care of and

being there, being the thought of as human beings, because it's the felony courts and all of those things which are very important and frankly, with very serious crimes. The vast majority of the community that we serve come through district court. And I believe that it's my calling really, to serve those people and to make sure that their needs are met. So, you know, that's why I want to stay. That's why I have thrived in district court as as in the prosecutor's office and why I've applied. Thank you. You bet. Thank you so much. Are there any additional questions from colleagues before closing comments? See none. I've been very keen to share your closing remarks with us. Okay. Well, I want to thank this committee again and would like to leave the committee with these last thoughts. I believe I'd be a positive addition to the King County District Court bench. I say that not only because I've been a prosecutor in the courts for many years, but for the last five I have solely practiced in district court. I'm consistently supervising and managing up to 30 attorneys and students and a dozen staff in our three main courts in the area, making sure that all the calendars are covered. The newest of attorneys are learning how to seek justice and do the right thing in each and every case. My understanding of equity and social justice is infused into the work that I do and what I teach. I know how the courts work. I know the clerks. I know the attorneys. I know the workload issues. And I know how to work with the stakeholders in order to manage a smooth running court. These years in District Court have prepared me to do the work. And yes, to be honest, becoming a judge I know will be a transition and with many things to learn. But that transition would not be such a departure that I know I could not do it successfully. I am passionate about serving this court and being the kind of judge this committee would want to see on the bench. I would strive to serve with the highest level of ethics and seek to treat all that come before me with compassion and dignity. I promise to always remain curious and be willing to admit what I don't know and seek advice and help from others to ensure that it sound, equitable and reasonable decisions. All of these things that I aspire to do will hopefully result in the community's trust. And like I mentioned in my opening, a place that can change lives in a positive way. Thank you again for all of your time and your consideration for my appointment. Thank you and thank you again for sharing your vision, your intent and serving on the council we on the bench and what you would bring to the people of King County if you were to serve on the court. We want to thank you for spending time with us today. And colleagues, would you like a few minutes in executive session? No. I'd be prepared to move. Wonderful. Then I would be. I would entertain a motion regarding motion 2021

for 17. So move, Mr. Chair. In motion. I believe what Councilm

ember Ismail I just did was motion 2021 for 17 before us and we would need an amendment. A verbal amendment to the motion. Mr. Chair, I would like to add a verbal amendment, including Leah Taguba's name, into into the motion. The motion before it is too late to give a name to motion 2021 for 17. Any discussion? All those in favor of the verbal learning. Councilmember Balaji. I'm sorry. It's the amendment. I'll hold off. But others in favor of the amendment please signify by saying i. I. I. Opposed nay. The ayes have it. Motion 2021 417 as amended. Final passage, Councilmember Balaji. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I didn't mean to jump to the front of the line. I just wanted to make sure somebody said something. This has been obviously a very important opportunity to get to meet you and hear from you virtually, at least about the your your qualifications to sort of see your passion and your heart. But based on the application materials, to borrow a phrase from our friends at the Bar Association, we obviously have an an applicant here who is exceptionally well qualified for this position. And I'm happy to not waste any time and get her started as soon as we can because we know they need help their district court. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Councilmember Dombroski. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And I wanted to thank Mr. Gruber for her willingness to serve. Your application materials were outstanding. I think I've sat in on about 50 of these views on my time on the council from building she has as well. Thank you for the table of contents on the materials. It was very helpful and I wanted to say that Judge Casey, for we just Casey's letter was particularly helpful to me, particularly where he remarked about your treatment of court staff and the clerks and those that really make the courtroom work. I always think that that is a terrific indicator of the quality of a lawyer, but also the humanity of a person when the court staff recognizes you and appreciate you for how you treat them. And also, I don't think hurts to get a good decision from a judge when you're good to the bailiff and clerk. But that tells me a lot about you. And the interview today was one of the very best I've seen. I don't think you're going to stay on the district court bench for very long, and we look forward to watching you grow in your service and appreciate your willingness to do this part of it. Happy to support it. And I. So the discussion. Madam, could you please call the roll? Thank you, Mr. Chair. Councilmember Buttigieg, I. Councilmember DEMBOSKY. I. Councilmember Dunn. Councilmember Cole once. I'm Councilmember Lambert. I council of the girl I. Councilmember one regular. I. Council members online. I. Mr. Chair. I. Mr. Chair, the vote is 18 seven as Councilmember Dunning excused. Thank you. By our vote we have voted to a point. We are on to the district court bench. We will move the motion 2021 for 17 to full council. With without objection, we will put it on consent and perhaps expedite as

well. An update to Tuesday's full council meeting will be on the consent agenda. Mr. Gupta, thank you so much and congratulations. Thank you also very much. I am overwhelmed. Thank you. Congratulations. One more step to becoming an official judge. Thank you so very much. And our next four items are appointments to the county's gender identity and Sexual Orientation Inclusion Task Force. Sam Porter of Council Staff is here to provide a staff report. Then we'll hear from potential appointees whose partner you please provide a boost.