



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

November 15, 2016

Ordinance 18406

Proposed No. 2016-0427.3

Sponsors Kohl-Welles

1 An ORDINANCE approving the mental illness and drug
2 dependency service improvement plan to guide the
3 investment of mental illness and drug dependency sales tax
4 revenue, in compliance with Ordinance 17998.

5 PREAMBLE:

6 In 2005, recognizing the need for additional mental health and chemical
7 dependency programs, the state Legislature authorized counties to
8 implement a one-tenth of one percent sales and use tax to support new
9 programs.

10 The one-tenth of one percent sales and use tax supporting new or
11 expanded chemical dependency or mental health treatment programs and
12 services and for the operation of new or expanded therapeutic court
13 programs and services, known as the mental illness and drug dependency
14 ("MIDD") sales and use tax, generates between fifty and sixty-five million
15 dollars annually for King County.

16 King County council levied the one-tenth of one percent MIDD sales and
17 use tax in Ordinance 15949, which was enacted November 26, 2007.

18 The intent of the sales tax is to support new or expanded mental health and
19 substance abuse programs, now referred to as behavioral health programs,

20 reflective of the integration of mental health and substance use disorder
21 programs and services; and the operation of the county's therapeutic court
22 programs.

23 In March 2014, the Washington state Legislature passed Senate Bill 6312, which
24 became Chapter 225, Laws of Washington 2014, calling for the integrated
25 purchasing of mental health and substance abuse treatment services.

26 Implementation of this law has brought about changes to how mental health and
27 substance abuse treatment services are described and administered and delivered
28 in King County. An integrated behavioral health system allows more flexibility
29 to deliver holistic care especially for individuals with co-occurring mental health
30 and substance use disorders. One change initiated by behavioral health
31 integration is the evolution of terminology used to define and describe the mental
32 health and substance use disorder systems. King County uses "behavioral health"
33 when referencing mental health and substance use disorder systems, reflecting the
34 joining of systems through behavioral health integration.

35 The MIDD sales tax-funded initiatives, programs and services supported
36 by revenues levied under K.C.C 4A.500.300 and outlined in the attached
37 service improvement plan, which is Attachment A to this ordinance,
38 continue the county's work to transform the approach to health and human
39 services by improving health and well-being and creating conditions that
40 allow residents of King County to achieve their full potential.

41 Much has changed locally, at the state level and nationally in the realm of
42 behavioral health the eleven years since the state Legislature authorized

43 counties to implement a one-tenth of one percent sales and use tax to
44 support new programs and enhance the state's chemical dependency and
45 mental health treatment services, and in the nine years since King County
46 subsequently authorized the MIDD one-tenth of one percent sales and use
47 tax levied under K.C.C. 4A.500.300: the formerly separate mental health
48 and chemical dependency services are integrated into one behavioral
49 health system; the nation and region experienced a severe economic
50 downturn and recovery; the federal Affordable Care Act was enacted; and
51 there have been several changes in state laws impacting behavioral health
52 services. Throughout all of these change events, King County's MIDD
53 work became a platform for cross system engagement and improvement,
54 collaboration and policy dialogue between the criminal justice and health
55 and human services sectors.

56 Ordinance 17998 called for the King County executive to transmit to the
57 council two reports in preparation for the council's consideration of an
58 ordinance that would continue the MIDD sales and use tax: 1. A
59 comprehensive, historical review and assessment report of the MIDD-
60 funded strategies, services and programs; and 2. A service improvement
61 plan to guide the investment of a renewed MIDD sales tax.

62 The comprehensive, historical review and assessment report transmitted to
63 the Council on June 30, 2016, recognized that in aggregate, MIDD sales
64 tax-funded strategies, services and programs are successful and effective
65 in meeting the established policy goals. Significant reductions in jail and

66 emergency department use and psychiatric hospitalizations are reflected in
67 the report as documented by MIDD evaluation data. The comprehensive,
68 historical review and assessment report of the MIDD sales tax-funded
69 strategies, services and programs was developed with input from, and was
70 reviewed by, the mental illness and drug dependency oversight committee,
71 as required by Ordinance 17998.

72 Ordinance 17998 called for the executive, with input from the MIDD
73 oversight committee and community stakeholders, to review, update and
74 revise the strategies outlined in the MIDD Implementation Plan adopted in
75 Ordinance 16261, and to submit a MIDD service plan to the council for
76 review and approval. The MIDD service improvement plan that is
77 Attachment A to this ordinance is intended to be used to guide investments
78 of taxes levied under K.C.C 4A.500.300 beginning in the 2017/2018
79 biennium should the MIDD sales tax be renewed by the council before the
80 tax expires on January 1, 2017.

81 King County and its behavioral health and community stakeholders
82 embraced the opportunity to review and learn from the MIDD work
83 accomplished between 2008 and 2016, and plan for a robust, forward-
84 looking MIDD for the next service period. The MIDD service
85 improvement plan, Attachment A to this ordinance, represents the
86 collaborative efforts over a nearly two-year period from a wide range of
87 stakeholders including representatives from communities, provider
88 agencies, courts, law enforcement, public health, the prosecuting attorney,

89 public defense, juvenile and adult justice systems, staff and elected
90 officials from jurisdictions in King County, council staff and many others
91 to thoughtfully plan for the use of MIDD revenues for the next service
92 period.

93 Community voices and priorities significantly influenced the development
94 of the funding and programmatic recommendations incorporated in the
95 attached MIDD service improvement plan. MIDD planning was
96 conducted in a clear and straightforward way, involving the MIDD
97 oversight committee at each step. As guided by the MIDD oversight
98 committee, the county turned to citizens and community partners across
99 the region for input and guidance in developing the recommendations.

100 Between October 2015 and February 2016, fourteen MIDD focus groups
101 were held involving specific communities, populations or subregional
102 areas, including a focus group with individuals in the King County jail.

103 Five regional community conversations were also held in partnership with
104 best starts for kids planning efforts. Between in person meetings, an
105 electronic survey and other methods of feedback, close to one thousand
106 two hundred citizens and community members provided direct input into
107 the development of the MIDD recommendations reflected in the attached
108 service improvement plan.

109 The attached MIDD service improvement plan builds on the success of the
110 groundbreaking partnership between health and human services, criminal
111 justice, King County government and community providers during the

112 2008-2016 MIDD funding period. The recommended MIDD initiatives,
113 policies and processes as described in the MIDD service improvement
114 plan and consistent with RCW 82.14.460 have been informed by
115 community and MIDD oversight committee input; are grounded in the
116 county's social justice and equity work; driven by outcomes; guided by the
117 behavioral health continuum of care; and aligned with other county policy
118 initiatives.

119 The recommended MIDD initiatives included in the attached MIDD
120 service improvement plan are based in the theory of change that when
121 people who are living with or who are at risk of behavioral health
122 conditions utilize culturally-relevant prevention and early intervention,
123 crisis diversion, community reentry, treatment and recovery services and
124 have stable housing and income, they will experience wellness and
125 recovery, improve their quality of life, and reduce involvement with crisis,
126 criminal justice and hospital systems.

127 As required by Ordinance 17998, the attached MIDD service improvement
128 plan makes operational, programmatic, funding and policy
129 recommendations for the implementation of the MIDD sales tax from
130 2017 through 2025. The recommendations contained in the MIDD service
131 improvement plan reflect the current and evolving behavioral health needs
132 of King County's citizens, behavioral health workforce challenges and a
133 growing understanding of social justice and equity in the provision of
134 behavioral health services.

135 The county's equity and social justice initiative recognizes many
136 communities within King County face inequities in key educational,
137 economic, and health outcomes. Consequently, equity and social justice
138 considerations are a major component in the initiatives outlined in the
139 attached MIDD service plan and a driving factor for all aspects of
140 implementing the next years of MIDD work. Guided by the understanding
141 that how the work of MIDD is approached and accomplished is as
142 important as what MIDD supported programs and services accomplish, the
143 planning and development of the MIDD service improvement plan was
144 conducted with a deep focus on social justice and equity.

145 The initiatives in the MIDD service improvement plan, Attachment A to
146 this ordinance, build on the successes of MIDD to date; ensure timely,
147 affordable and culturally-appropriate access to behavioral health services
148 that focus on recovery and resilience; improve community-based services
149 and programs; and better meet the behavioral needs of people in need of
150 services, thereby reducing costly incarceration and emergency room
151 utilization.

152 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

153 **SECTION 1. Findings:**

154 A. The initiatives contained in the service improvement plan attached to this
155 ordinance or any future implementation plans may be expanded, revised or eliminated
156 based on, but not limited to, the following reasons: changes to state law or county policy;
157 performance data from the evaluation of sales-tax funded programs and strategies;

158 recommendation from the county executive or the mental illness and drug dependency
159 oversight committee; or county budgetary constraints.

160 B. The county recognizes that the needs of its residents may change over time
161 and that new and innovative behavioral health programs and services are continually
162 being developed and implemented across the country. Therefore, it is the policy of the
163 county that the county's mental illness and drug dependency sales tax-supported
164 programs shall maintain flexibility to respond to the changing needs of the county's
165 population as well as to accommodate new behavioral health services and programs.

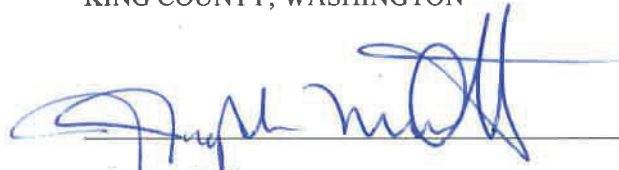
166 SECTION 2. The mental illness and drug dependency service improvement plan,
167 as required in Ordinance 17998 and that is Attachment A to this ordinance, is hereby
168 approved to guide the investment investments of taxes levied under K.C.C 4A.500.300.
169 The mental illness and drug dependency spending plan and financial plan, including the

170 next year's projected initiative allocations, is subject to review and possible modification
171 in the county's budget process.
172

Ordinance 18406 was introduced on 8/29/2016 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/14/2016, by the following vote:

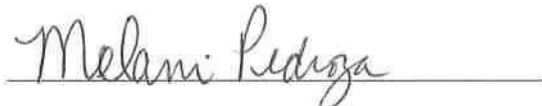
Yes: 9 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn,
Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Upthegrove, Ms. Kohl-Welles
and Ms. Balducci
No: 0
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



J. Joseph McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:



Melani Pedroza, Acting Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 21 day of NOVEMBER, 2016.



Dow Constantine, County Executive

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2016 NOV 22 PM 2:50
CLERK
KING COUNTY COUNCIL

Attachments: A. Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Service Improvement Plan dated November 1, 2016