Motion

Proposed No. 2019-0245.2  Sponsors McDermott and Kohl-Welles

A MOTION relating to identifying the future allocation of Puget Sound Taxpayers Accountability Account proceeds to priority educational areas and requesting the executive to develop plans to allocate proceeds within the priority educational areas.

WHEREAS, the Washington state Legislature amended chapter 81.112 RCW via Chapter 44, Laws of Washington 2015 3rd Special Session, to create the Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account, and

WHEREAS, the Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account is to be funded by a sales and use tax offset fee of three and twenty-five one-hundredths percent of the total payments made by a regional transit authority to construction contractors on construction projects that are:

1. For new projects identified in the system plan funded by any proposition approved by voters after January 1, 2015; and

2. Excluded from the definition of retail sales under RCW 82.04.050(10), and

WHEREAS, between 2018 and 2035, King County is projected to receive approximately three hundred fifteen million dollars from the account, and

WHEREAS, the King County council adopted Motion 15029, which identified three priority areas to invest Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account proceeds,
which included:

1. Early learning;
2. K-12 education for vulnerable and underserved children and youth; and
3. College, career, and technical education, and

WHEREAS, Motion 15029 also included goals and principles to guide investment of Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account proceeds, and

WHEREAS, Motion 15029 also directed council staff to work with a consultant, executive staff and stakeholders to develop an implementation plan for Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account proceeds and to explore the educational needs for students in King County and the impacts of different strategies to meet those educational needs as well as a financial analysis of those strategies, and

WHEREAS, the educational needs assessment and impact assessment of nine different strategies were completed on November 5, 2018, and the financial analysis was completed on May 20, 2019, and

WHEREAS, council staff conducted further community engagement work with executive staff and a consultant by conducting fourteen subject matter expert interviews and facilitating twenty-one community listening sessions throughout King County from March 14, 2019, to May 17, 2019, and

WHEREAS, it is estimated by Sound Transit that nearly ten million dollars in Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account proceeds will be available to King County during the 2020 calendar year, and

WHEREAS, the state Legislature clarified during the 2019 legislative session that the Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account could be used for investments in
facilities, and

WHEREAS, state law requires that, to the greatest extent practicable, the expenditures of the counties must follow the requirements of any transportation subarea equity element used by the regional transit authority;

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

A. It is the intent of the council to equitably invest Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account proceeds as described in this motion in programs and facilities designed to improve educational outcomes for students in vulnerable and underserved populations, including: children and youth of color; children and youth from families at or below two hundred percent of the federal poverty level; children and youth who are homeless, in the foster care system, in the child welfare system, are involved in the juvenile justice system; children and youth with disabilities; children and youth who identify as LGBTQ; or otherwise vulnerable children and youth.

B. To ensure the long-term efficacy and accountability of future investments of Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account proceeds, it is the intent of the council to direct up to seven and one-half percent of Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account proceeds to evaluate funded strategies and to provide for administrative costs incurred by the county over the life of the account. Funded strategies will be evaluated based on improving kindergarten readiness, increasing high school graduation rates, and increasing postsecondary degree or certification completion. Up to ten percent of each year's evaluation and administration funds will be used to fund technical assistance and capacity building for small organizations, partnerships and groups to provide services to include but not limited to providing or funding legal, accounting, human resources and leadership
development services and support.

C. It is the intent of the council to direct the remaining Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account proceeds as follows:

1.a. Fifty-five percent of Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account proceeds over the estimated fifteen-year life of the account to be dedicated to investments for facilities that support early learning and early interventions for children in King County. To the greatest extent possible, proceeds invested in early learning facilities will go to facilities where at least seventy percent of children served come from families that are at or below two hundred percent of the federal poverty level, or children of color; children who are homeless, in the foster care system or in the child welfare system; children who are involved in the juvenile justice system; children with disabilities; children who identify as LGBTQ; or otherwise vulnerable children.

b. The investments will focus on increased access to inclusive and culturally responsive early education programs in child care access deserts. The investments will include early learning programs with staff and leadership that reflect the community served. The investments may also be used for renovation, expansion, purchase, long-term lease or construction of early learning facilities or early intervention facilities, including associated activities such as planning, feasibility and predesign work.

c. At least twenty percent of the proceeds identified in section C.1.a. of this motion will be spent on support services, training and other enhancements to improve kindergarten readiness for children in home-based child-care facilities that serve the vulnerable populations identified in section A. of this motion; and

2.a. Forty-five percent of Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account
proceeds over the estimated fifteen-year life of the account should be invested in helping historically underserved students successfully advance through the K-12 educational system, complete high school, navigate from high school to college and complete a postsecondary credential, including through King County Promise activities such as high school advising, college advising and system navigation. The proceeds will be spent to improve support services at high poverty schools, local community and technical colleges and equity focused community based organizations that serve populations identified in section A. of this motion. The proceeds may also be used to support programs that align with and supplement county priorities and investments for target populations identified in section A. of this motion, including the youth action plan, best starts for kids and zero youth detention.

b.(1) Forty percent of the funding identified in section C.2.a. of this motion will be focused on K-12 aged children and youth through the King County Promise, including:

(a) systems-level improvements that will result in greater student success in educational outcomes, specifically for those populations listed in section A. of this motion. The efforts should improve alignment across systems that affect educational outcomes, enhance student supports, and make systems-level improvements to ensure that K-12 systems address barriers experienced by students. The investments may include training educators on the effects of economic status and institutional racism, adverse childhood experiences, cultural competency, and the use of restorative practices in schools; and

(b) high school advising, college admissions and career advising, including
through trade and apprenticeship programs, and navigation to help historically
underserved students navigate from high school to college and complete a postsecondary
credential.

(2) Programs funded to meet the requirements of section C.2.b.(1)(a) and (b) of this motion will require matching funding from other organizations, institutions or
governments.

c.(1) Forty percent of the funding identified in section C.2.a. of this motion will be focused on higher education through the King County Promise, including:

   (a) systems-level improvements that will result in more equitable access to
opportunities and greater student success in educational outcomes, specifically for those
populations listed in section A. of this motion. The efforts should improve alignment
across systems that affect educational outcomes, enhance student supports, and make
systems-level improvements to ensure that postsecondary systems address barriers
experienced by students; and

   (b) college advising and navigation, including through trade and
apprenticeship programs, to support students from the populations identified in section A.
of this motion to attain a postsecondary credential.

(2) Programs funded to meet the requirements of section C.2.c.(1)(a) and (b) of
this motion will require matching funding from other organizations, institutions or
governments.

d.(1) Twenty percent of the proceeds identified in section C.2.a. of this motion
will be spent on programming provided by community-based organizations that are
integrated with the K-12 system to help close the educational opportunity gap for
children and youth of color, to reduce youth involvement in the criminal justice system,
increase life skills education and to help out-of-school students who reenter school earn a
postsecondary credential.

(2) The resources dedicated under section C.2.d.(1) of this motion will be
provided to community based organizations that provide intensive support and that work
directly with target populations defined in section A. Proceeds may go to fund programs
that develop positive cultural identity via ethnic-based organizations, that provide
mentoring and out-of-school times, or that provide equitable access to physical education.
The community based supports will be integrated with the K-12 and postsecondary
systems in order to provide a coordinated pathway for the students being served. The
resources will be spent to improve support services at high poverty schools through
equity-focused community based organizations that serve low-income students,
specifically focused on the most underserved and those populations listed in section A. of
this motion.

D. In order to ensure predictability, accountability and transparency for future
distribution of Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account proceeds, executive staff
will work in consultation with council staff, a representative from each council district
office, service providers and stakeholders representing each of the priority educational
areas and the community to develop a draft implementation plan for investment of Puget
Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account proceeds as identified in this motion. The draft
implementation plan will reflect the priorities identified in this motion and should include
recommendations for:

1. A governance structure to include but not be limited to identifying an
advisory group with expertise in early learning, K-12 education and postsecondary education to inform the council on ongoing and changing educational needs in King County throughout the life of the Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account. The advisory group shall have particular expertise in areas including race, systemic racism, multicultural curriculum, childhood trauma and best practices in corrective action/restorative justice;

2. Processes for allocating funds, including criteria and duration of grant awards;

3. Strategies to ensure funded programs are culturally appropriate and trauma informed;

4. A financial plan based on the most recent revenue estimates from Sound Transit for the life of the account and that identifies opportunities for matching or supplemental funds from public, private or philanthropic sources;

5. Policies for funding early learning facilities, early intervention facilities and mixed-use facilities where services are provided that prioritize creating increased access to inclusive and culturally appropriate early learning services where such services are inadequate to meet need, and that utilize a lens of geographic equity. The policies will include a definition of "access desert" to guide the future placement of early learning facilities. The policies will also include guidance for funding home based care facilities, standalone facilities, mixed-use facilities and facilities collocated with affordable housing, identify appropriate outcome measures, set appropriate target enrollment figures based on income level, local cost of living and payment mix and strategies to sustainably maximize services to children identified in section A. of this motion. The policies will
also include strategies to ensure facilities are built with project labor agreements or other
labor friendly practices;

6. Policies for funding services for students aged K-12 that enhance and
supplement county priorities and investments such as reducing youth involvement justice
system and that provide for greater systems alignment, student supports and reduction
barriers to high-school completion. The polices will identify appropriate outcomes
measures and recommend strategies that would enhance the success of specific K-12
aged populations of vulnerable and underserved youth named in section A. of this
motion, as appropriate;

7. Policies for funding services for students pursuing postsecondary educational
opportunities that include higher education and careers in the trades and apprenticeships,
and that provide for greater system alignment, student supports and reduction in barriers
to completing a postsecondary degree or credential, identify appropriate outcomes
measures and identify strategies and opportunities to leverage relevant local, state and
federal funds; and

8. Periodic evaluation of outcomes, equity and efficacy of Puget Sound
Taxpayer Accountability Account proceed investments, including a review of overall
strategies funded five years after the first grant is awarded. The executive will set
outcome targets for improving kindergarten readiness, increasing high school graduation
rates, and increasing postsecondary degree or certification completion to eliminate or
dramatically reduce outcome gaps for target populations. The periodic reviews will
evaluate each funded strategy's ability to reach those outcome targets.

E. The draft implementation plan requested by this motion should be transmitted
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by the executive to the council no later than eight months after the effective date of this motion. The draft implementation plan should be filed in the form of a paper original and an electronic copy with the clerk of the council, who shall retain the original and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers, the council chief of staff and the lead staff to committee of the whole, or its successor.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

________________________________________
Rod Dembowski, Chair

ATTEST:

________________________________________
Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this _____ day of ________________, ______.

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Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None