



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**January 29, 2003**

**Ordinance 14505**

**Proposed No.** 2002-0505.2

**Sponsors** Lambert

1 AN ORDINANCE establishing February 4, 2003, as the  
2 date for an election on the question of the formation of a  
3 metropolitan park district within the city of North Bend and  
4 portions of unincorporated King County, and on the  
5 election of the five initial metropolitan park commissioners  
6 and declaring an emergency.

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9 **STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

- 10 1. RCW 35.61.010 provides that "[a] metropolitan park district may be  
11 created for the management, control, improvement, maintenance, and  
12 acquisition of parks, parkways, boulevards, and recreational facilities."  
13 2. King County is facing a fiscal crisis that is forcing major cuts in all  
14 non-mandated government services funded by the county current expense  
15 fund and as a result does not have a sufficient, stable source of revenue to  
16 continue to operate and maintain the Si View community center, pool and  
17 park.

18           3. King County and the city of North Bend strongly agree that it would be  
19           in the best interests of the public to continue to operate and maintain the Si  
20           View community center, pool and park.

21           4. The city of North Bend assembled a blue ribbon task force to  
22           investigate options for the continued operation of the Si View community  
23           center, pool and park for the benefit of all users of these facilities,  
24           including both those who reside in the city and those who reside in  
25           unincorporated King County.

26           5. After consideration of various alternatives, the blue ribbon task force  
27           has recommended formation of a metropolitan park district organized  
28           under chapter 35.61 RCW to own and operate the Si View community  
29           center, pool and park.

30           6. Subject to the concurrence of the city of North Bend, which is expected  
31           to take action on this issue on October 16, 2002, King County is prepared  
32           to support the blue ribbon task force recommendation by taking such steps  
33           as necessary to ensure that communities served by these facilities can vote  
34           on a timely basis to create a taxing district that would assume  
35           responsibility for the ownership and operation of these facilities.

36           7. In order to place a proposition for the creation of a metropolitan park  
37           district on the ballot on February 4, 2003, it is necessary that both the King  
38           County council and the city of North Bend adopt ordinances calling for  
39           such an election and the creation of such a district no later than October

40 21, 2002, and submit a notice of intention to create the metropolitan park  
41 district to the Boundary Review Board no later than October 22, 2002.

42 8. This ordinance has been drafted in consultation with the city of North  
43 Bend, but if the city should ultimately not enact the necessary ordinance to  
44 create the proposed metropolitan park district and place it before the  
45 voters on February 4, 2003, then the county would neither wish to, nor  
46 could it, proceed on its own with such a proposition and election, because  
47 by law the city must concur to be included within the proposed district.

48 9. In order to accommodate the city's interests, and to provide all  
49 reasonable opportunity for a solution that will enable the Mount Si  
50 facilities to remain open next year and beyond, the council is willing to  
51 take action in advance of the city's final decision.

52 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:**

53 SECTION 1. The name of the proposed metropolitan park district shall be the Si  
54 View Metropolitan Park District.

55 SECTION 2. A special election shall be held on February 4, 2003, in accordance  
56 with chapter 35.61 RCW within the territory of the proposed metropolitan park district,  
57 for the purpose of submitting the question of the formation of a park district to the  
58 qualified electors within the proposed district described in section 4 of this ordinance.

59 SECTION 3. The King County manager of the records, elections and licensing  
60 services division is hereby requested to assume jurisdiction to call and conduct a special  
61 election and submit to the registered voters within the subject area the proposition set  
62 forth in section 3 of this ordinance. The clerk of the council is hereby authorized and

63 directed to transmit the proposition to the manager of the records, elections and licensing  
64 division in substantially the following form, with such additions, deletions or  
65 modifications in the ballot title as may be required for the proposition listed below by the  
66 King County prosecutor:

67         PROPOSITION 1: King County Ordinance No. 14505 and City of North Bend  
68 Resolution No. \_\_\_\_ jointly propose the creation of the Si View Metropolitan Park  
69 District with boundaries coterminous with the combined area of the city of North Bend  
70 and Fire District 38, excluding that portion of Fire District 38 within the city of  
71 Snoqualmie. If approved, this proposition would create a metropolitan park district with  
72 all the powers provided in chapter 35.61 RCW, including, but not limited to, the authority  
73 to levy a general tax on all property located in the District each year not to exceed  
74 seventy-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. The District shall be  
75 governed by a five member board of commissioners to be elected at large.

76          For the formation of a metropolitan park district to be governed by a five  
77 member board of commissioners to be elected at large.

78          Against the formation of a metropolitan park district.

79         SECTION 4. The boundaries of the proposed metropolitan park district are  
80 coterminous with the combined area of the city of North Bend and Fire District 38,  
81 excluding that portion of Fire District 38 within the city of Snoqualmie, as fully described  
82 in Exhibit A.

83         SECTION 5. The manager of the records, elections and licensing services  
84 division, is hereby authorized and requested to prepare and distribute a local voters'

85 pamphlet, in accordance with K.C.C. 1.10.010, for the special election called for in this  
86 ordinance, the cost of the pamphlet to be included as part of the cost of the election.

87 SECTION 6. The manger of the records, elections and licensing division is  
88 requested to include a ballot measure that shall elect five park commissioners of the  
89 district, as set forth in RCW 35.61.050, and to set, announce and hold a special filing  
90 period for those positions.

91 SECTION 7. The council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency exists  
92 and that the enactment of this ordinance as an emergency ordinance is necessary for the  
93 immediate preservation of public peace, health or safety or for the support of county  
94 government and its existing public institutions. This emergency arises as a result of the  
95 fiscal crisis that is forcing the county to make major cuts in non-mandated government  
96 services such as parks that are funded by the county current expense fund. To address  
97 this challenge with regard to continuing the uninterrupted operation and maintenance of  
98 the Si View community center, pool and park it is necessary to immediately approve the  
99 presentation to the voters of the proposition set forth in this ordinance for the creation of  
100 the Si View Metropolitan Park District. Immediate approval is necessary to meet the  
101 deadlines in chapter 35.61 RCW and to allow this proposition to be on the ballot for a  
102 special election on the earliest possible date, which is February 4, 2003.

103 SECTION 8. This ordinance is contingent upon and will not become effective  
104 unless, on or before October 21, 2002, the city of North Bend adopts a resolution  
105 requesting that a proposition in substantially the same form as that authorized by this  
106 ordinance be placed on the ballot of a special election on February 4, 2003. This

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107 ordinance will become effective when the city of North Bend adopts such a resolution,  
108 provided that the resolution is adopted on or before October 21, 2002.  
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Ordinance 14505 was introduced on 10/14/2002 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 10/14/2002, by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Ms. Sullivan, Ms. Edmonds, Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Pelz, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Constantine, Mr. Pullen, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague and Ms. Patterson  
No: 0  
Excused: 1 - Mr. Irons

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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ATTEST:

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APPROVED this 21st day of October, 2002.

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**Attachments**      A. Legal Description for the proposed Si View Metropolitan Park District