A RESOLUTION directing preparation of an emergency preparedness and response plan for the King County Board of Health.

WHEREAS, Washington State law vests in the King County Board of Health supervision over all matters pertaining to the preservation of the life and health of the people of King County, and

WHEREAS, emergencies, such as influenza pandemics, are inevitable and unpredictable and can result in a public health emergency with high levels of illness and death, societal disruption and economic losses, and

WHEREAS, emergencies such as influenza pandemics, can take place over several weeks or months, and

WHEREAS, emergencies can severely disrupt the continuity of operations for provision of essential community services, including governmental functions, and

WHEREAS, the King County Board of Health authorized the preparation of a county-wide pandemic influenza plan in 2005;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Health of King County:

The Board of Health directs staff to develop a Board of Health emergency preparedness and response plan for its review and approval, with the intent that this plan be integrated into the King County Pandemic Influenza Response Plan and other emergency plans as appropriate. The Board of Health emergency preparedness and response plan shall, at a minimum, reflect the following elements:

A. Continuity of Board of Health operations during an extended emergency. The Board's continuity of operations plan shall address those elements reflected in the pandemic influenza continuity of operations plans for County agencies such as: lines of succession, essential functions, legal authorities, alternate means for holding meetings, and identification of changes needed in Board of Health rules or code to implement these plans and operate during an extended emergency;

B. A communication strategy coordinated with Public Health such that the Board is able to receive information briefings from the Local Health Officer during disasters in order to:

1. Support decisions made by the Local Health Officer during disasters and advocate for Public Health as the lead agency coordinating the health and medical response; and

2. Fulfill a key role in the Public Health Communication Strategy by promoting
health messages to the media, government and private sector partners, as well as the
general public.

Resolution was introduced on and passed by the Board of Health on 6/21/2007, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Ferguson, Ms. Lambert, Ms. Patterson, Mr. Conlin, Mr. Rasmussen, Mr. Hutchinson, Ms. Frisinger, Dr. Nicola and Dr. Counts
No: 0
Excused: 6 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Clark, Ms. Manning, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Sherman

KING COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Julia Patterson, Chair

ATTEST:

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Board

Attachments None