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Drafted by:	ALR/SB
Sponsors:	
Attachments:	

1 ..Title

2 A MOTION proposing the allocation of future lodging tax
3 collections to support arts, culture and heritage programs,
4 workforce housing and youth services, and capital or
5 operating programs that promote tourism.

6 ..Body

7 WHEREAS, rapid population growth in King County will necessitate building
8 affordable and market rate housing near improved public transportation options, and

9 WHEREAS, equally important are: the building of new gathering places, sites
10 where our diverse histories can be interpreted and shared and public cultural spaces; and
11 the preservation of historic structures that create community identity, encourage strong
12 social connections and further opportunity for entertainment, education and interactions,
13 and

14 WHEREAS, civic institutions, such as history and art museums, public galleries,
15 community cultural organizations, performing art centers, sports venues and historic
16 structures, play a central role in our economy, and benefit local businesses, residents and
17 tourists, and

18 WHEREAS, arts, culture and heritage make this region an attractive place for new
19 businesses that bring with them new jobs, as arts and heritage businesses add two billion
20 dollars in business activity, eight hundred eighty-two million dollars in payroll and thirty-
21 two thousand five hundred jobs to the central Puget Sound region, and

22 WHEREAS, the Washington State Major League Baseball Stadium Public
23 Facilities District operates Safeco Field, which is a gathering place providing an array of
24 public benefits and employs over two thousand full and part time employees, in addition
25 to being a venue for the Seattle Mariners, and

26 WHEREAS, the Seattle Mariners attendance between 2012 and 2017 exceeded
27 12,100,000, with many coming from out of state and supporting the local tourist industry,
28 and over 45,000,000 people have attended baseball games since Safeco Field opened, and

29 WHEREAS, the attendance at Kent's accesso ShoWare Center exceeded 400,000
30 in 2017, and the Center is home to sports and cultural events in south King County, and

31 WHEREAS, the county acknowledged with motion 14987 the Transit Oriented
32 Development Bond Allocation Plan in 2016 with a goal of financing up to eighty-seven
33 million dollars of housing projects, and

34 WHEREAS, as authorized by the state Legislature through RCW 67.28.180,
35 beginning in 2021 thirty-seven and one-half percent of the lodging taxes generated every
36 year in King County will be used to support art museums, cultural museums, heritage
37 museums, the arts and the performing arts, and

38 WHEREAS, as authorized by the state Legislature through RCW 67.28.180,
39 beginning in 2021 thirty-seven and one-half percent of the lodging taxes generated every
40 year in King County will be used to support affordable workforce housing within one-
41 half mile of a transit station and to provide services for homeless youth, and

42 WHEREAS, as authorized by the state Legislature through RCW 67.28.180,
43 beginning in 2021 twenty-five percent of the lodging taxes generated every year in King
44 County will be used to support tourism-related facilities, enabling the county to pay debt

45 service on the Building For Culture Program bonds beginning in 2021 and funding new
46 programs to support tourism;

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

48 A. Beginning in 2021, King County intends to allocate lodging tax revenues for
49 the following programs and to the following organizations:

50 1. Thirty-seven and one half percent shall be transferred to 4Culture to support
51 art museums, cultural museums, heritage museums, the arts and the performing arts;

52 2. Thirty-seven and one half percent shall be allocated to the department of
53 community and human services to support transit oriented development including
54 projects that preserve or develop workforce housing and ongoing services or projects that
55 support homeless youth;

56 3. twenty-five percent shall be allocated by the county for the following
57 purposes that promote tourism and attract tourists to the county:

58 a. debt service paid for the original Building 4 Culture bonds;

59 b. a transfer of sixty percent of the remaining amount to the Washington State
60 Major League Baseball Stadium Public Facilities District for twenty-three years for
61 capital projects that will help to sustain the long-term viability of the facility; and

62 c. a transfer of three percent of the remaining amount to the Kent Special
63 Events Center Public Facilities District from 2021 to 2029 to support capital maintenance
64 of the accesso ShoWare Center facility.

65 B. The executive, in consultation with the council, will develop a countywide
66 strategic arts, heritage, historic preservation, and culture plan for the allocation of the
67 lodging tax revenues in section A.1. of this motion. The proposed strategic plan should

68 be forwarded to the council by December 31, 2019, in order to inform the budget process
69 for the 2021 - 2022 budget.

70 C. The council, the executive and county visitor and tourism organizations will
71 work in collaboration to set up a tourism promotion fund in order to encourage visitors in
72 all parts of the county.

73 D. The executive is requested to develop and transmit legislation to support the
74 identified planned allocations including appropriation requests, and any necessary
75 agreements with the Washington State Major League Baseball Stadium Public Facilities
76 District, the Kent Special Events Center Public Facilities District or 4Culture.