Summary Proposed Ordinance Relating to School Impact Fees

This summary fulfills the state Growth Management Act and King County Code 20.18.100 requirements for a "plain language summary."

Background

The 1990 Growth Management Act (GMA) passed by the Washington State Legislature authorized the collection of impact fees to help fund school construction. Under the GMA, fees may be collected and spent only for school facilities, which are addressed by a capital facilities element of a comprehensive land use plan. King County incorporates the plans prepared by the school districts into the county's Comprehensive Plan.

The capital facilities plans must include:

- current enrollment and enrollment projections for the next six years;
- standard of service;
- inventory of existing faculties and capacity for the next six years;
- financial plan for achieving the standard of service.

The amount of the impact fee for each district is determined by a formula that was adopted by the King County Council. The school districts annually update the factors used in the formula. Fees only apply to new single-family and multifamily units in unincorporated King County. The fees are paid at either the time of a final plat or building permit.

Fee exemptions are listed in King County Code chapter 21A.43. Fees do not apply to: non-residential development, nursing homes and retirement centers, replacement or remodels of existing structures, temporary and transitional housing, qualified low-income housing, temporary dwellings for medical hardship, accessory dwelling units, units that have been mitigated under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) for school impacts, plat conditions or voluntary agreements, and community residential facilities.

Proposed Ordinance

Section 1. Contains the authority to adopt school impact fees.

Sections 2 through 12. Adopts by reference into the King County Comprehensive Plan the annual six-year capital facilities plan of the Tahoma, Federal Way, Riverview, Issaquah, Snoqualmie Valley, Lake Washington*, Kent, Northshore, Enumclaw, Fife, and Auburn School Districts.

*Lake Washington Capital Facilities Plan to be adopted on August 11, 2008.

Section 13. Adopts the updated school impact fees effective January 1, 2009.

School District	Single-Family Fee	Multifamily Fee
Auburn, No. 408	\$5,375	\$877
Enumclaw	7,783	2,502
Federal Way No. 210	4,017	1,733
Fife, No. 417	4,709	2,899
Highline, No. 401	0	0
Issaquah, No. 411	5,495	806
Kent, No. 415	5,304	3,266
Lake Washington, No. 414	6,492	887
Northshore, No. 417	0	0
Riverview, No. 407	5,676	1,942
Snoqualmie Valley, No.410	9,977	3,364
Tahoma, No. 409	7,294	2,186