

King County Councilmember

Kathy Lambert

District 3

Spring 2006



Thank you to all of you who participated in my recent Town Hall meetings in North Bend, Issaquah and Sammamish. I appreciate your input on the topics important to our communities.

In my new role as Policy Chair for Human Services, I will be focusing on affordable housing and hosting a Housing Availability Summit this spring. As Vice Chair of the Operating Budget Committee, I will be looking at more ways to be proactive in controlling criminal justice expenses, which use nearly three-quarters of the operating budget. Our work this year also includes efficiently prioritizing the Veterans and Human Services Levy funding that voters so generously approved last November.

Although my new district is the largest in the county, I aim to visit every community as frequently as possible. I serve on many committees and boards with meetings throughout the county and in Olympia. With so much happening in our district, I try to use time on the road productively with two cell phones (hands-free), to remain accessible between events and meetings!



Farmers markets are beginning!

With the advent of spring comes a whole new crop of farmers markets, some returning and some making their first debut. More information about farmers markets and local produce is available from Puget Sound Fresh, <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wlr/farms/> or 206-296-7824. Here are some local markets:

Carnation Farmers Market – Opens May 2; Tuesdays, 3 to 7 pm; Highway 203 at Tolt Avenue & Bird Street; 425-880-6681

Duvall Farmers Market – Opens May 3; Wednesdays, 3 to 7 pm; McCormick Park parking lot; www.cityofduvall.com

Issaquah Public Market – Opens April 15; Saturdays, 9 am to 2 pm; Pickering Barn, 1730 - 10th Avenue NE; 425-837-3311

Kirkland Wednesday Market – Opens May 3; Wednesdays, 11 am to 4 pm; Park Lane East; 425-485-1042

North Bend Farmers Market – Opens June 29; Thursdays, 4 to 8 pm; Si View Park, SE Orchard Drive; 425-831-1900

Redmond Saturday Market – Opens May 6; Saturdays, 9 am to 3 pm; 7730 Leary Way at Bear Creek Parkway; 425-556-0636

Woodinville Farmers Market – Opens May 6; Saturdays, 9 am to 3 pm; Old City Hall at NE 175th Street; 425-585-1042

King County activates 211 phone service

Washington now joins 32 other states with 211 service. This free phone network using an easy-to-remember three-digit number connects callers with community social service resources through the Crisis Clinic. The staff is trained to refer callers to the appropriate service providers for housing, health, medical and other needs.

Artrain USA coming to Skykomish April 29 & 30

Artrain USA is an art museum housed in vintage rail cars bringing world class art exhibitions and education programs to communities and their residents. The Town of Skykomish is delighted to host Artrain's Native Views: Influences of Modern Culture, a collection of contemporary Native American artworks April 29 to May 2. This powerful exhibition is open to school groups, clubs, organizations and the general public. The public is welcome April 29 & 30. Other days are reserved for school groups. Please call Skykomish Town Hall, 360-677-2388, for more information or for school group tours.

August primary elections begin in 2007

More changes are coming to elections following the numerous problems revealed during the 2004 governor's race. Here are a couple of changes to watch for:

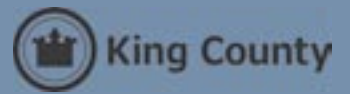
Earlier Primary: The state Legislature moved the primary election four weeks earlier, to the third Tuesday in August, starting in 2007.

All-Mail Elections? The County Council soon will consider a proposal to make all elections vote-by-mail only, as 70% of our voters already vote this way. However, as a poll voter myself, I have some concerns. Public hearings will be conducted.

Remember that King County still needs poll workers to help run our elections. For additional information, call 206-296-VOTE, or toll-free 1-800-325-6165.



We appreciate your suggestions as we strive to make county government more efficient and accountable. I invite you to contact my office anytime you need information or assistance with King County issues. You can find out about future district meetings on my website at www.metrokc.gov/lambert or by subscribing to my e-mail update list at kathy.lambert@metrokc.gov, or call my office anytime at 206-296-1003.



Kathy Lambert

King County Councilmember - District 3

King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue, Room 1200
Seattle, WA 98104-3272

Committee Assignments

Law, Justice & Human Services - Policy Chair, Human Services
Operations Budget - Vice Chair
Legislative Steering
Employment
Regional Transit
Regional Policy
Regional Water
Board of Health

PRSRT STD
US Postage

PAID

Seattle, WA
Permit No. 1788

Explaining the 2006 King County Budget



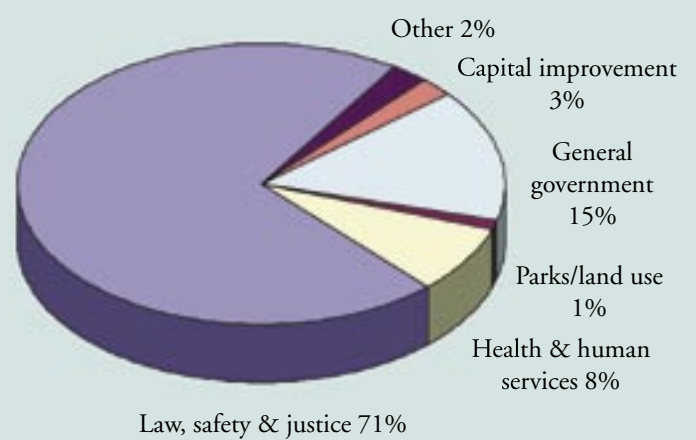
More than three-fourths of the \$3.46-billion county budget is dedicated by law to specific funds. These “dedicated funds” must be used for certain capital improvements, solid waste disposal, public transportation, wastewater treatment, mental health services, veterans’ services, employee benefits, and other special levy services. Dedicated funds total

approximately \$2.9 billion of the budget.

The county’s General Fund, which is the remaining \$580 million, supports the day-to-day operations of county services that are largely unsupported by dedicated revenues. Over 70%

of the General Fund is devoted to law, safety and justice services. The rest of the budget is directed toward human service programs, parks, and the operation of county government (see pie-chart).

Summary of General Fund expenditures



New consumer protection law

As a member of the Legislative Steering Committee and a former state legislator, I continue to follow the work being done in Olympia. I am proud to report that a new consumer protection law was passed this session. Senator Bill Finkbeiner’s bill makes it a felony to sell private cell phone and telephone numbers and records to a third party without the owner’s permission. I brought this issue to his attention, and I appreciate his successful work on this bill.

Senior softball champions



On March 27, I had the honor to congratulate the members of the Eastside 70s, a senior softball team that won this year’s Men’s 70-plus AA Division of the Senior Softball World Championships in Phoenix, Arizona. Team captain Don Newman and seven other team members, aged 70 to 76, joined me for an official recognition from the King County Council. We appreciate their stamina and dedication to physical fitness and the sport of softball.

On our front page: a view of the Snoqualmie River Valley



Transportation update on Highway 202

Work on Phase I of the widening project from Redmond to Sahalee Way is progressing this year. It will be completed this spring. The project includes landscaped medians, utility work, paving and striping. Phase II work will continue for approximately four years. For more information about this Washington State Department of Transportation project, please visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR202/SR520_Sahalee

Watch for information about my upcoming town hall meeting in Redmond with Sheriff Rahr
www.metrokc.gov/lambert