State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Non-Project Action Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)

Name of Proposal: Proposed ordinance amending King County Code Title 20 – Amendments to King County Code (K.C.C.) Chapter 20.36 related to policy and administration of King County’s Public Benefit Rating System (PBRS) current use assessment program.

Description of Proposal: This is a non-project action to amend King County Code 20 (planning). The proposal is the legislative adoption of an update to standards regulating the Public Benefit Rating System (PBRS) current use tax assessment program. The program offers an incentive to preserve open space on private property in King County by providing a tax reduction.

The proposed updates would: 1) Create a new ecological enhancement category to encourage additional conservation and protection of open space resources; 2) makes procedural changes in the PBRS application review process for applications from incorporated areas of King County; and 3) make amendments to clarify language and consistency in implementation.

Proponent/Contact: Bill Bernstein, PBRS Program Coordinator
King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks
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Seattle, WA 98104
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Location of Proposal: The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that would apply to all of King County, both incorporated and unincorporated areas.

Lead Agency: King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Public Benefit Rating System (PBRS) & Timberland Programs

Responsible Official: Robin Proebsting
Position/Title: Legislative/Policy Analyst
Address/Phone
Department of Local Services Permitting Division
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Threshold Determination: Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)

The responsible official finds that the above-described proposal does not pose a probable significant adverse impact to the environment. This finding is made pursuant to RCW 43.21C, KCC 20.44 and WAC 197-11, after reviewing the environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency, considering the extent to which the proposed action will cause adverse environmental effects in excess of those addressed by existing regulations, and considering mitigation measures which the agency or the proponent will implement as part of the proposal. The responsible official finds this information reasonably sufficient to evaluate the environmental impact of this proposal and conclude
the proposed action will not have a significant impact to current or continued use of the environment. THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC ON REQUEST (for a nominal copying fee or by email).

THIS DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS) is issued under Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-340(2). The lead agency will not act on this proposal until after October 4, 2022. Comments must be received by King County Department of Local Services – Permitting Division prior to 4:00 PM on that date.

For additional information, please contact the proponent’s contact or the responsible official listed above.

Address for comments: King County Department of Local Services – Permitting Division
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Renton, WA 98057
ATTN: Robin Proebsting
E-mail: rproebsting@kingcounty.gov

Public Hearing: A public hearing on the proposed Ordinance is anticipated, but not yet scheduled before the Metropolitan King County Council. Information on the public hearing and how to submit public comment can be found at this website: https://www.kingcounty.gov/council/committees/full_council.aspx.

Robin Proebsting, SEPA Official 9/9/22 Date