

King County Councilmember

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Jane Hague

District 6

Winter 2007

County budgets for people’s

priorities

I was honored to be the minority leader on the Council’s Budget Leadership Team for the Fiscal Year 2007 budget. This budget, which was unanimously passed by the County Council, was \$28 million less than the budget proposed by the County Executive.

The three major themes prioritizing the budget were earning public trust, enhancing quality of life, and protecting public health and safety.

In order to make our government more efficient, accountable and accessible, I sponsored legislation that creates a citizen process to provide feedback on setting FY 2008 county priorities. The final priorities will then be measured through the new countywide performance management system.

This legislation will be a significant addition to my existing efforts to establish performance measurements of county agencies by the County Auditor’s office.



Dear Neighbor,

Late 2006 was filled with challenging weather that limited resources and paralyzed our region. I would like to extend my sympathy to those families who suffered personal injuries or property damages during our recent wave of devastating storms. Like many of you, my own family was without power for nearly a week, but we were lucky to escape the storm with limited structural damage. I would like to express my pride in our community for the kindness you displayed during this difficult time. While facing shortages in gasoline, food, and heating materials, you were there with many gestures of generosity and philanthropy, which softened the impact of this emergency for many of our region’s vulnerable citizens.

Sincerely,

Jane Hague

Denny Creek sees salmon return

After eight years of hard work with the Denny Creek Neighborhood Alliance, we are proud that salmon have returned to Denny Creek! Today, this abandoned creek is once again a spawning ground for salmon.

The innovative fish ladder, responsible for the salmon’s return, has been recognized by the National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association.

The Denny Creek Fish Ladder and the Juanita Woodlands are projects on Lake Washington’s North shore that demonstrate successful private-public partnerships in our region. Thousands of hours of volunteer work, along with private donations and county project management, have created innovate models of environmental restoration and natural preservation

The Denny Creek Fish ladder is a reflection of our community’s dedication to environmental preservation.



The new flood plan will strengthen levies and increase the width of water paths to control water flow during storms.

Council awarded highest ratings

for flood preparednesss

The County Council has unanimously approved a county-wide Flood Hazard Management Plan to provide a comprehensive assessment of needed improvements to protect citizens from flooding.

This plan is the County’s best course of action to help residents avoid catastrophic flooding like that seen in New Orleans.

The proposal would update a levy plan/project list that allows us to acquire critical federal funding to address flooding issues in King County. By implementing these measures, we will improve our Community Rating System for flooding to the highest level in the country. **This increased rating will save county residents 40 percent off of the cost of flood insurance.**

Jane receives Eastside Alliance Award for “Legislator of the Year”

“King County Councilmember Jane Hague has been a tireless supporter of human services in our community, and specifically of Youth Eastside Services. It is inspiring that a community leader like Jane has taken the time to personally invest in the lives of young people living in our community.” – Elizabeth Westburg, Chair of the Alliance of Eastside Agencies



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To find out more about transit improvements to your area, click on www.metrokc.gov/kcdot/transitnow.

Legislation focuses on improving healthcare

Working with the King County Executive, I sponsored legislation that created the Puget Sound Health Alliance. The Alliance was formed to provide a database of ratings for you to examine when choosing your healthcare provider. By logging on to www.wsha.org and looking under hospital transparency, you can check to see the ratings of your healthcare provider.

The Puget Sound Health Alliance was recently named a community leader for value-driven health care by Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt. This honor makes the Alliance the first organization in the country to become a part of a national network aimed at providing affordable health care and improving patient care.

As a direct result of legislative efforts since 2004, for the first time, Puget Sound residents will be able to use public report cards to locate health providers with the best health outcomes.

For more information about my work in achieveing healthy communities, please visit my website, www.metrokc.gov/hague.



Your “yes” vote increases Eastside transit service

Your response to Transit Now was a resounding “yes” to improvements for our bus systems. Some key improvements fincluded in this measure are:

- Implementing new service hours proportionately between the Eastside (40%), South (40%), and Seattle (20%).
- Expanding Metro service 15 to 20 percent over the next ten years,
- Using buses that run on clean fuels like bio-diesel and electricity
- Implementing bus rapid transit (BRT) between Bellevue and Redmond, with a targeted frequency of 10 minutes or less between buses.
- Creating new all-day routes that connect Crossroads, Overlake, Kirkland, Redmond, Bellevue, Bellevue Community College, Eastgate, and Factoria.
- Providing dollars for public private partnerships to support short, customized routes.

Given our growing community, we must implement effective solutions for our traffic problems. Transit Now is a major step towards better connectivity in our transportation network.



Are you ready?

Please visit the website 3days3ways.org provided by King County government, to ensure you are aware of how to prepare for emergency situations. Following our recent wave of destructive storms, it is imperative that the residents of the Eastside take measures to protect themselves and their families in case of emergency. Through organization and preparation, we can ensure our safety during any future emergency conditions.

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