



## Pierce County

Office of the County Council

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RECEIVED  
Pierce County Auditor

JUN 18 2018

June 18, 2018

TO: Mike Rooney, Program Manager  
FROM: Linda Medley, Acting Clerk of the Council  
SUBJECT: **Official Transmittal of Ordinance No. 2018-24**

At the June 12, 2018, Council meeting, the Pierce County Council passed the following Ordinance:

**Ordinance No. 2018-24, An Ordinance of the Pierce County Council Proposing Amendments to Article 6 of the Pierce County Charter to Revise the Annual Budget to a Biennial; Requesting the Auditor to Submit These Amendments to the Voters at the November 2018 General Election; and Requesting the Prosecuting Attorney to Draft an Appropriate Ballot Title.**

A certified copy of the Ordinance is attached for your records.

The Ordinance calls for the proposed amendments to be submitted to the voters at the November 2018 General Election. A certified copy of the Ordinance has been routed to Dave Prather, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, to draft an appropriate ballot title for said election.

If you have question regarding the Ordinance, please contact Susan Long at 253.798.6068 or [susan.long@co.pierce.wa.us](mailto:susan.long@co.pierce.wa.us).

### Attachment

c: Julie Anderson, Pierce County Auditor  
Mark Lindquist, Prosecuting Attorney  
Susan Long, Council Administrator  
Dave Prather, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney  
Damon Townsend, Elections Supervisor







1 Sponsored by: Councilmembers Rick Talbert, Connie Ladenburg, Derek Young,  
2 and Douglas G. Richardson  
3 Requested by: Finance Dept./Executive's Office  
4  
5  
6  
7

8 **ORDINANCE NO. 2018-24**  
9

10  
11  
12 **An Ordinance of the Pierce County Council Proposing Amendments to**  
13 **Article 6 of the Pierce County Charter to Revise the Annual**  
14 **Budget to a Biennial; Requesting the Auditor to Submit**  
15 **These Amendments to the Voters at the November 2018**  
16 **General Election; and Requesting the Prosecuting Attorney**  
17 **to Draft an Appropriate Ballot Title.**  
18

19 **Whereas**, Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 36.40.250 grants any County the  
20 authority by Ordinance or a Resolution to provide for a biennial budget; and  
21

22 **Whereas**, Section 8.50 of the Pierce County Charter (Charter) grants authority to  
23 the County Council (Council) to propose Charter amendments to be submitted to the  
24 voters at the next November General Election occurring at least 90 days after filing; and  
25

26 **Whereas**, Section 8.60 of the Charter requires a minimum of two-thirds  
27 affirmative vote of the Council to enact an Ordinance proposing Charter amendments;  
28 and  
29

30 **Whereas**, an Ordinance proposing Charter amendments is not subject to the  
31 veto power of the Executive; and  
32

33 **Whereas**, pursuant to Section 8.50(1) of the Charter, "...an amendment which  
34 embraces a single or interrelated subject may be submitted as a single proposition even  
35 though it is composed of changes to one or more articles."; and  
36

37 **Whereas**, the Council finds that amendments to Article 6 of the Charter,  
38 providing for a Biennial Budget, will serve the needs and best interests of the citizens of  
39 Pierce County; **Now Therefore**,

40  
41 **BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of Pierce County:**  
42

43 Section 1. The Pierce County Council hereby proposes amendments to Article 6  
44 of the Charter as set forth in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein  
45 by reference, for submittal to the voters at the November 2018 General Election. If  
46 approved, the first biennial budget will be for the period beginning January 1, 2020, and  
47 ending December 31, 2021.  
48  
49



1 Section 2. The Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney is hereby requested to draft  
2 an appropriate ballot title for the proposed Charter amendments set forth in Exhibit A,  
3 which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

4  
5 Section 3. This Ordinance shall be filed with the Auditor immediately upon  
6 adoption for submittal to the voters at the November 2018 General Election.

7  
8 PASSED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2018.

9  
10  
11 ATTEST:

11 **PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
12 Pierce County, Washington

13  
14 Denise D. Johnson  
15 for  
16 **Denise D. Johnson**  
17 Clerk of the Council

14 Douglas G. Richardson  
15 Douglas G. Richardson  
16 **Douglas G. Richardson**  
17 Council Chair

18  
19 Signature not required, per  
20 Section 8.60 Pierce County Charter  
21 **Bruce F. Dammeier**  
22 Pierce County Executive  
23 Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Vetoed \_\_\_\_\_, this  
24 \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
25 2018.

26  
27 Date of Publication of  
28 Notice of Public Hearing: May 30, 2018

29  
30 Effective Date of Ordinance: June 22, 2018  
31  
32  
33





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2  
3 *Only those portions of Article 6 that are proposed to be amended are shown.*  
4 *Remainder of text is unchanged.*  
5

6  
7 **Article 6 -- FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION**  
8

9  
10 **Section 6.10 -- Presentation and Adoption of the Budget**

11 At least 100 days prior to the end of each fiscal-yearbiennial budget, the Executive  
12 shall present to the Council a complete budget and budget message, proposed current  
13 expense, road fund, and capital budget appropriation ordinances, and proposed tax and  
14 revenue ordinances necessary to raise sufficient revenues to balance the budget. At  
15 least 30 days prior to the end of the fiscal-yearbiennial budget, the Council shall adopt  
16 appropriation, tax and revenue ordinances for the next fiscal-yearbiennium.  
17

18 **Section 6.15 -- Presentation of a Six-Year Plan**

19 The Executive shall prepare and present to the Council, within one year of being  
20 installed into office, a 6-year plan which shall be updated annually, and shall include  
21 proposed capital improvement and economic development programs and general  
22 administrative goals. The 6-year plan shall be presented to the Council at least 100  
23 days prior to the end of each fiscal-yearbiennium.  
24

25 **Section 6.20 -- Budget Information**

26 At least 135 days prior to the end of the fiscal-yearbiennium, all agencies of County  
27 government shall submit to the Executive information necessary to prepare the budget.  
28

29 **Section 6.25 -- Contents of the Budget**

30 The budget shall include all funds, revenues and reserves; shall be divided into  
31 categories, projects, and objects of expense; and shall include supporting data deemed  
32 advisable by the Executive or required by ordinance; shall indicate as to each category,  
33 project or object of expense the actual expenditures of the preceding fiscal-year  
34 biennium, the estimated expenditures of the current fiscal-yearbiennium, and requested  
35 appropriations for the next fiscal-yearbiennium. The expenditures included in the budget  
36 for the ensuing yearbiennium shall not exceed the estimated revenues.  
37

38 **Section 6.30 -- Budget Control**

39 At the beginning of each quarterly period during the fiscal-yearbiennium, and more  
40 often if required, the Executive shall submit to the Council a written report showing the  
41 relation between the estimated income and expense and actual income and expenses  
42 to date; and if it shall appear that the income is less than anticipated, the Council may  
43 reduce appropriations, except amounts required to meet contractual obligations and for  
44 debt, interest and other fixed charges, to such a degree as may be necessary to keep  
45 expenditures within the cash income.  
46  
47





1 **Section 6.50 -- Consideration and Adoption of the Budget**

2 (1) Prior to the adoption of any appropriation ordinances for the next fiscal year  
3 biennium, the Council shall hold a public hearing to consider the budget presented by  
4 the Executive, and shall hold any other public hearings on the budget, and any part  
5 thereof, that it deems advisable. The Council, in considering the appropriation  
6 ordinances proposed by the Executive, may delete or add items, may reduce or  
7 increase the proposed appropriation ordinances submitted by the Executive.

8 (2) The appropriation ordinances adopted by the Council shall not exceed the  
9 estimated revenues of the County for the next fiscal year biennium for each fund  
10 including surpluses and reserves, but the Council may increase the amount of the  
11 estimated revenues contained in the budget presented by the Executive by reestimating  
12 the amount by a motion, passed by a minimum of five affirmative votes or by creating  
13 additional sources of revenue which were not included in the proposed tax and revenue  
14 ordinances presented by the Executive.

15  
16 **Section 6.60 -- Contingency Appropriations**

17 The annual biennial budget ordinance shall include contingency funds which shall  
18 not be expended unless the Executive certifies in writing that sufficient funds are  
19 available and the Council adopts an additional appropriation ordinance after being  
20 requested to do so by the Executive.

21  
22 **Section 6.70 -- Additional Capital Budget Appropriations**

23 The Council shall not adopt an additional or amended capital budget appropriation  
24 ordinance during the fiscal year biennium unless requested to do so by the Executive.

25  
26 **Section 6.75 -- Lapses in Appropriations**

27 Unless otherwise provided by the appropriation ordinances, all unexpended and  
28 unencumbered appropriations in the current expense appropriation ordinances shall  
29 lapse at the end of the fiscal year biennium. An appropriation in the capital budget  
30 appropriation ordinances shall lapse when the project has been completed or  
31 abandoned, or when no expenditure or encumbrance has been made for three years.

32  
33 **Section 6.80 -- Illegal Contracts**

34 Except as otherwise provided by ordinance, any contract in excess of an  
35 appropriation shall be null and void; and any officer, agent or employee of the County  
36 knowingly responsible shall be personally liable to anyone damaged by this action. The  
37 Council, when requested to do so by the Executive, may adopt an ordinance permitting  
38 the County to enter into contracts requiring the payment of funds from appropriations of  
39 subsequent fiscal years, but real property shall not be leased to the County for more  
40 than one year, unless it is included in a capital budget appropriation ordinance.

