Summary of Proposed Ordinance relating to 2025 School Impact Fees

This summary fulfills Washington State Growth Management Act and King County Code (K.C.C.) 20.18.100 requirements for a "plain language summary."

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 needed to accommodate new student growth, and 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 facilities and capacity for the next six years; and,
- a 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 multi-family units in unincorporated King County. The fees are paid at either the time of a final plat approval or building permit issuance.

| Ordinance Section | King County Code Section | Current Code | Proposed Change | Intent/Rationale |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | n/a | n/a | n/a | Explains reasons for adopting the ordinance and where the authority to impose school impact fees comes from. |
| 2 | K.C.C. 20.12.473 | Lists adoption dates of school district plans referenced in King County's code. | Adopts updated school district capital facility plans. | The County is required to have an updated capital facility plan adopted as a subelement of its GMA comprehensive plan to collect impact fees on behalf of a school district. |
| 3 | K.C.C. 27.44.010 | Lists the school impact fee dollar amounts for each school district. | Adopts updated school impact fee amounts to be consistent with the identified impact fee calculations provide for a school district's current capital facility plan. | The impact fee amount collected by the County is to be consistent with the fee amount calculated in a district's approved capital facility plan. Updating the listed impact fee amounts brings the code into consistency with school districts' plans. |