

RESOLUTION NO. 301

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A COUNTY PUBLIC
WORKS DEPARTMENT FOR MASON COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Legislature for the State of Washington through the enactment of Chapter 72, Laws of 1967, authorized counties to construct and operate sewage, water and drainage systems, and

WHEREAS, there are areas in Mason County where the need for these facilities is urgent, and

WHEREAS, Mason County has agreed, beginning on or about July 1, 1973, to assume ownership and operation of certain sewer and water systems now operating or under construction, and

WHEREAS, it is deemed appropriate, desirable and necessary that the County initiate and effect a procedure for meeting these initial requirements and to formulate a plan for the orderly development of said sewer, water and drainage systems, throughout Mason County, and

WHEREAS, Chapter 72, Laws of 1967, State of Washington, require the establishment of a Public Works Department to operate and maintain said sewer, water and drainage systems, said department to be operated under a personnel merit system, and

WHEREAS, the County General Fund does not presently have available except on a loan basis from the County Road Fund the monies necessary to accomplish the necessary plan and preliminary engineering, and

WHEREAS, it will not be feasible or necessary at this time to employ full-time personnel to staff said Public Works Department until one or more of the systems are operating and collecting revenues,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners, Mason County, State of Washington, that a Public Works Department be and is hereby established. The organization of such department is to be as follows:

1. The department will function under a Public Works Director, reporting directly to the Board of County Commissioners. Initially, the department will be composed of an Engineering Division and a Utilities Division. Such organization will be subject to reorganization as warranted by changed needs and conditions.

2. The present County Engineer is assigned additional temporary duties as Public Works Director.

3. All work by the Public Works Department including initial planning, preliminary engineering, maintenance and operation of sewer, water, and drainage works will be done by the County Engineer's staff and County Road Department personnel or by other municipalities or private entities by contract.

4. The initial funding for said Public Works Department shall be obtained as a loan from the County Road Fund, shall bear interest at 5% per annum, and shall not exceed \$10,000.00 in the aggregate.

5. All county road funds loaned to the Public Works Department which are not repaid due to the inability of any particular project or district to repay such shall be repaid to the County Road Fund from the Current Expense Fund of the county.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners of Mason County to adopt the merit system of personnel employment for the Department of Public Works as required in Chapter 72, Laws of 1967. No permanent staffing of the Public Works Department shall be made until the required merit system is adopted and implemented; and

FURTHER, the County Engineer in his temporary additional assignment as Public Works Director, is authorized to use members of the present County Engineering staff to perform preliminary engineering studies on a part-time basis on public works projects initiated through the Board of County Commissioners or upon a petition; and to use Road Department equipment, materials, and personnel for the maintenance and operation of facilities in the Public Works Department on a reimbursable basis; and

THAT the Mason County Auditor is authorized to issue warrants on the Public Works Fund upon the presentation and certification by the Public Works Director of properly executed vouchers; and

THAT the Public Works Director is authorized to proceed on preliminary engineering studies for public works projects and the operation and maintenance of such sewer, water and drainage works as may be built or acquired by Mason County all as may be directed by the Board of County Commissioners; and

THAT the Public Works Director is authorized to obtain further engineering assistance from consultants in the event authorization is first obtained from the Board of County Commissioners; and

THAT any maintenance or operation of a sewer, water or drainage system that may be required shall be done under directions of the Public Works Director and this shall be accomplished by contracts or by means of contractual services with other County Departments or other municipal corporations or by contractual arrangements with non-public persons or agencies provided said contractual arrangement is authorized in advance by the Board of County Commissioners.

PASSED by the Board of County Commissioners, Mason County, Washington, this 26th day of February, 1973.

Martin Ruyter
CHAIRMAN

William O. Hunter

John Barkman

ATTEST:

Ruth E. Boyden
AUDITOR & CLERK OF THE BOARD

APPROVED:

J. Brody
MASON COUNTY ENGINEER

APPROVED:

Byron E. McLaughlin
MASON COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

✓ Auditor
cc: Cmmrs.
Engineer
Prosecutor
Bk. Publ. Co.