

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISSAQUAH, WASHINGTON, OPPOSING INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 976, CONCERNING MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES AND FEES.

WHEREAS, Initiative Measure No. 976 (I-976) will be presented to the voters of the state of Washington at the general election on November 5, 2019; and

WHEREAS, this statewide measure proposes to change vehicle taxes and fees by lowering motor vehicle and light duty truck weight fees to \$30; and

WHEREAS, this measure proposes to eliminate the 0.3 percent sales tax on vehicle purchases; and

WHEREAS, this measure proposes to lower electric vehicle and snowmobile fees; and

WHEREAS, this measure proposes to modify and reduce Sound Transit motor vehicle excise tax provisions; and

WHEREAS, this measure proposes to remove authority for transportation benefit districts to impose a vehicle fee; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) estimates that the total revenue losses to the State will exceed \$1.9 billion over the next six years, including \$1.4 billion in less revenue for the Multimodal Account; and

WHEREAS, King County estimates approximately \$119 million in cuts to Metro services between 2020 and 2025 due to reductions in the State's Multimodal Account including cuts to RapidRide services, paratransit services, vanpools, and \$4 million in cuts to services for County-maintained roads; and

WHEREAS, the City of Issaquah has transportation projects in the adopted 2020-2025 Capital Improvement Plan that are funded by over \$1.7 million in grants from the State that would be jeopardized by the revenue losses to the State transportation accounts; and

WHEREAS, based on OFM analysis, Sound Transit would experience budget cutbacks of \$328 million per year, with an overall estimated impact of \$20 billion through 2041; and

WHEREAS, Issaquah residents voted in favor of the 2016 Sound Transit ballot measure to include the delivery of light rail to Issaquah, which will provide transit for residents and workers to points throughout the Puget Sound region; and

WHEREAS, passage of I-976 would put delivery of light rail to Issaquah at grave risk of delay or cancellation; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to State law, RCW 42.17A.555, the City Council desires to show its opposition to I-976;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISSAQUAH, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council opposes Initiative No. 976, concerning motor vehicle taxes and fees.

Section 2. The City Council urges Issaquah voters to vote no on Initiative No. 976.

PASSED by the City Council this 14th day of October, 2019.



TOLA MARTS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED by the Mayor this 14th day of October, 2019.

Mary Lou Pauly

MARY LOU PAULY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Christine L. Eggers

CHRISTINE L. EGGERS, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

James E. Haney

JAMES E. HANEY, CITY ATTORNEY

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AGENDA BILL NO. 7862