

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution supporting King County Proposition 1, Medic One – Emergency Medical Services Replacement of Existing Levy

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Resolution expresses support for King County Proposition 1, Medic One – Emergency Medical Services Replacement of Existing Levy on the general election ballot on November 5, 2019.

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

If approved, effective date: 10/07/2019

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

At the September 23 Extended Study Session, Council directed staff to draft a Resolution taking a position on King County Proposition 1, Medic One – Emergency Medical Services Replacement of Existing Levy, to be considered under Agenda Item 11, *Other Ordinances, Resolutions and Motions*.

If passed, King County Proposition 1 would authorize King County to levy a regular property tax at a rate not to exceed \$0.265 per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation on all taxable property within the county. For a property with an assessed valuation of \$500,000, the maximum rate would be approximately \$133 in the first year. According to King County, the levy proceeds would be used to fund county-wide Medic One emergency medical services and emergency medical care as more fully described in Ordinance No. 18931 and RCW 84.52.069. The levy would be authorized for a six-year period, with collection beginning in 2020. The levy would be exempt from rate limitations in RCW 84.52.043, but would be subject to the chapter 84.55 limitations on levy increases in years two through six.

To meet the requirements of RCW 42.17A.555, representatives of the pro campaign have been invited to make a ten-minute presentation. No con campaign has been identified as of the writing of this memo, but if one is found to exist it will be given equal time to present. Presentations will be followed by additional time for public comment consisting of 15 minutes per side. Time will be allocated for up to five speakers, three minutes per speaker, on each side of the issue. Sign-up sheets will be posted outside of Council Chambers for members of the public to sign up for public comment.

Chapter 42.17A RCW generally prohibits the use of public resources in support or in opposition of a ballot proposition. However, RCW 42.17A.555 provides that local legislative bodies may take an official position on a ballot proposition if the following requirements are met:

- The action must be taken in an open public meeting.
- The intention to take action is listed on the meeting agenda and the agenda includes the title and number of the ballot proposition.
- Prior to taking action, “members of the legislative body, members of the board, council, or commission of the special purpose district, or members of the public are afforded an approximately equal opportunity for the expression of an opposing view.”

Once any presentations and public comment is complete, Council may take an action on the attached Resolution.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

RCW 42.17A.555 Use of public office or agency facilities in campaigns – Prohibition – Exceptions:

- (1) Action taken at an open public meeting by members of an elected legislative body or by an elected board, council, or commission... to express a collective decision, or to actually vote upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance, or to support or oppose a ballot proposition so long as (a) any required notice of the meeting includes the title and number of the ballot proposition, and (b) members of the legislative body, members of the board, council, or commission of the special purpose district, or members of the public are afforded an approximately equal opportunity for the expression of an opposing view.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with implementing these changes.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution supporting King County Proposition 1, Medic One – Emergency Medical Services Replacement of Existing Levy.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

- A. Official ballot title language contained in King County Proposition 1, Medic One – Emergency Medical Services Replacement of Existing Levy
Proposed Resolution No. 9664

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N/A