

CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 6304

AN ORDINANCE providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the City of Bellevue at an election to be held on November 8, 2016, of a proposition authorizing the City to increase its regular property tax levy above the limit established in RCW 84.55.010 to fund transportation neighborhood safety, connectivity and congestion improvements.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bellevue, Washington (the "City") identified priorities in 2014 that include the "establishment of a transportation capital plan for future growth and mobility of the city, and determining a long term capital funding mechanism(s) to support the plan;" and

WHEREAS, research into and development of a long-term funding mechanism for transportation planning identified an approximately \$800,000,000 gap between available revenue and potential projects; and

WHEREAS, the City's Transportation Department faces a backlog of new neighborhood projects and congestion management projects, as well as maintenance projects, and new sources of sustained funding are needed to reduce this backlog and build future projects; and

WHEREAS, two primary areas with clear funding gaps where additional investments could allow for accelerated implementation of transportation projects are (1) mobility in the BelRed Corridor and (2) neighborhood safety and connectivity projects that will reduce congestion and improve safety and connectivity for pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers across the city; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has directed staff to pursue a federal low-interest TIFIA (Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act) loan that would allow the City to accelerate certain mobility projects in the BelRed Corridor, facilitating the redevelopment that is anticipated in that area; and

WHEREAS, neighborhood connectivity is the term used to describe projects that connect residents from their neighborhoods to the places they want to go, thereby improving connections across the City including reducing congestion and allowing for a comprehensive approach to enhancing Bellevue's mobility through the use of streets, sidewalks, trails and technology for all users; and

WHEREAS, the people of Bellevue have expressed their desire to see a mix of projects to improve multi-modal transportation in Bellevue, including placing high priority on congestion relief projects along with safety improvements in neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the City Council also wishes to undertake neighborhood safety projects that include roadway improvements, traffic calming, new and enhanced crosswalks, local sidewalk installation and repair, and trail and bike projects, which will provide safer routes to connect people to schools, parks, transit and other services; and

WHEREAS, supplementing existing neighborhood safety and maintenance programs with additional revenue would enhance transportation safety and advance City progress in the direction of the Vision Zero objectives; and

WHEREAS, technology improvements in transportation can provide enhanced traveler information and improve safety and mobility for all users; and,

WHEREAS, the City's current regular property tax levy is below the rate per \$1,000 of assessed value permitted by statute; and

WHEREAS, RCW 84.55.050 authorizes the voters of a City to permit the levy of taxes in excess of the levy limitations established in RCW 84.55.010 pursuant to a "levy lid lift"; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the issue of whether to fund transportation neighborhood safety, connectivity and congestion improvements with the proceeds of a levy lid lift should be placed before the voters of the City pursuant to this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, to fund certain transportation neighborhood safety, connectivity and congestion improvements set forth in the Plan and identified in Section 1 hereof (the "Transportation Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Improvements"), the City Council proposes to present a ballot proposition to the City's voters to increase the City's regular property tax levy by up to 15 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for collection in 2017 and increase the levy as allowed by chapter 84.55 RCW for each of the 19 succeeding years for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the issue of whether to fund certain improvements to the City's fire facilities with the proceeds of a separate levy lid lift also should be placed before the voters of the City pursuant to Ordinance No. 6303; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to continue to "bank capacity" under RCW 84.55.092, and therefore the proposition, if this is the only proposition approved, would authorize the City to increase its regular property tax levy to an aggregate rate of \$1.280 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, permitting the City to thereafter reduce its tax levy below this authorized level and bank the amount of the reduction; and

WHEREAS, if both the levy lid lift described in this Ordinance and the fire facilities levy lid lift described in Ordinance No. 6303 are approved by the voters, the City would be authorized to increase its regular property tax levy to a total aggregate rate of \$1.405 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation; and

WHEREAS, the conditions here and above set forth require the holding of a special election in the City; now, therefore

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council hereby finds that the best interests of Bellevue's residents require the City to undertake the Transportation Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Improvements identified below, at the time and in the order and in the manner deemed most necessary and advisable by the Council.

1. Neighborhood safety projects. Provide traffic calming, the reduction of speeds and non-local traffic; reduce the potential of vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian collisions in neighborhoods and around schools; add mid-block and other crosswalks with enhanced safety features such as flashing lights; and other projects.
2. Reduce neighborhood congestion. Projects to address and ease congestion for motor vehicles within, near and/or connecting neighborhoods to services to improve access and mobility.
3. New Sidewalks/Trails/Paths. Add sidewalks that provide walking access to neighborhoods, schools, parks, shopping and other local neighborhood destinations.
4. Technology for Safety and Traffic Management. Improve the City's capability to implement and respond to technology that improves safety, traffic flow, and traveler information, and other emerging technology such as connected and autonomous vehicles.
5. Sidewalk and Trail Maintenance Enhancement. Repairs and improvements to existing transportation facilities with outstanding maintenance needs such as sidewalks, trails, slopes, walls, poles, lighting, wiring, and street cleaning/sweeping.
6. New Bike Facilities. Add additional facilities to create a safe and connected bike network for commuting, recreation, and family activities.

The cost of all necessary appraisals, negotiation, closing, architectural, engineering, financial, legal and other consulting services, inspection and testing, staffing, ongoing maintenance and operations costs, administrative and relocation expenses and other costs incurred in connection with the foregoing Transportation Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Improvements shall be deemed a part of the costs of such Transportation Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Improvements.

The City Council reserves the right to determine the exact project descriptions and specifications for the Transportation Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Improvements, as well as the timing, order and manner of completing the Transportation Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Improvements, as well as the

right to delegate these decisions from time to time to the appropriate City staff. By ordinance of the City, the Council may alter, make substitutions to and amend the description of any Transportation Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Improvements as it determines is in the best interests of the City and consistent with the general descriptions provided herein. By ordinance, the City Council shall determine the application of moneys available for the Transportation Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Improvements set forth above, including the final funding amount for each, so as to accomplish, as nearly as may be, all of the Transportation Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Improvements described.

If the City Council, by ordinance, shall determine that it has become impractical to acquire, construct or equip all or any portion of the Transportation Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Improvements by reason of changed conditions, incompatible development, costs substantially in excess of the amount of tax levies and other City funds estimated to be available, or acquisition by a superior governmental authority, the City shall not be required to acquire, construct or equip such portions. If all of the Transportation Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Improvements have been constructed or acquired or duly provided for, or found to be impractical, the City may apply the levy proceeds (including earnings thereon) or any portion thereof to other Transportation Department purposes as the Council, by ordinance and in its discretion, shall determine.

Section 2. It is hereby found that the best interests of the inhabitants of the City require the submission to the qualified electors of the City of a proposition whether the City shall levy regular property taxes above the limitations established in RCW 84.55.010 for approval or rejection at an election to be held on November 8, 2016, a proposition to increase the City's regular property tax levy by up to 15 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation (to a total rate not to exceed \$1.280 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation if only this proposition is approved) for collection in 2017 and increase the levy as allowed by chapter 84.55 RCW for each of the 19 succeeding years for the purposes described herein. The Director of Records, Elections and Licensing Services Division, as *ex officio* supervisor of elections in King County, Washington, is hereby requested to assume jurisdiction of and to call and conduct said special election to be held within the City and to submit to the qualified electors of the City the proposition hereinafter set forth.

The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed, no later than the primary election date (August 2, 2016), to certify the proposition to the King County Records, Elections and Licensing Services Division in the following form:

CITY OF BELLEVUE
PROPOSITION NO. _____

LEVY FOR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AND CONNECTIVITY

The Bellevue City Council adopted Ordinance No. 6304 concerning a proposition to fund transportation neighborhood safety, connectivity and congestion improvements. To improve

neighborhood safety, reduce neighborhood congestion, install sidewalk, trail and bicycle facilities, provide safe routes to connect people to schools, parks, transit and other services, and enhance maintenance and technology, this proposition would increase the City's regular property tax levy by \$0.150 to a total authorized rate of \$1.280 (if only this proposition passes) per \$1,000 of assessed value for collection in 2017 and for 19 years thereafter as allowed by chapter 84.55 RCW. Should this proposition be:

APPROVED? ☐

REJECTED? ☐

Section 3. The City Attorney and City Clerk are hereby authorized to make such minor adjustments to the wording of such proposition as may be recommended by the King County Director of Records, Elections and Licensing Services Division, as long as the intent of the proposition remains clear and consistent with the intent of this Ordinance as approved by the City Council.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force five days after publication.

Passed by the City Council this 25th day of July, 2016 and signed in authentication of its passage this _____ day of July, 2016.

(SEAL)

John Stokes, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Lori M. Riordan, City Attorney

Robert A. Hyde, Deputy City Attorney

Attest:

Kyle Stannert, City Clerk

Published: _____

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Bellevue, Washington (the "City"), and keeper of the records of the City Council (the "Council"), DO HEREBY CERTIFY:

1. That the attached ordinance is a true and correct copy of Ordinance No. 6304 of the Council (the "Ordinance"), duly passed at a regular meeting thereof held on the ____ day of July, 2016.

2. That said meeting was duly convened and held in all respects in accordance with law, and to the extent required by law, due and proper notice of such meeting was given; that a legal quorum was present throughout the meeting and a legally sufficient number of members of the Council voted in the proper manner for the adoption of said Ordinance; that all other requirements and proceedings incident to the proper adoption of said Ordinance have been duly fulfilled, carried out and otherwise observed; and that I am authorized to execute this certificate.

Dated this _____ day of July, 2016.

Kyle Stannert, City Clerk

CITY OF BELLEVUE

OFFICIAL BALLOT

LEVY FOR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AND CONNECTIVITY

November 8, 2016

INSTRUCTION TO VOTERS: To vote in favor of the following proposition, place a cross (X) in the square opposite the word "APPROVED?"; to vote against the following proposition, place a cross (X) in the square opposite the word "REJECTED?."

CITY OF BELLEVUE
PROPOSITION NO. _____

LEVY FOR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AND CONNECTIVITY

The Bellevue City Council adopted Ordinance No. 6304 concerning a proposition to fund transportation neighborhood safety, connectivity and congestion improvements. To improve neighborhood safety, reduce neighborhood congestion, install sidewalk, trail and bicycle facilities, provide safe routes to connect people to schools, parks, transit and other services, and enhance maintenance and technology, this proposition would increase the City's regular property tax levy by \$0.150 to a total authorized rate of \$1.280 (if only this proposition passes) per \$1,000 of assessed value for collection in 2017 and for 19 years thereafter as allowed by chapter 84.55 RCW. Should this proposition be:

APPROVED? ☐

REJECTED? ☐

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

CITY OF BELLEVUE
LEVY FOR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AND CONNECTIVITY

November 8, 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, a special election will be held in the above-named city for the submission to the qualified electors of said city of the following proposition:

CITY OF BELLEVUE
PROPOSITION NO. _____

LEVY FOR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AND CONNECTIVITY

The Bellevue City Council adopted Ordinance No. 6304 concerning a proposition to fund transportation neighborhood safety, connectivity and congestion improvements. To improve neighborhood safety, reduce neighborhood congestion, install sidewalk, trail and bicycle facilities, provide safe routes to connect people to schools, parks, transit and other services, and enhance maintenance and technology, this proposition would increase the City's regular property tax levy by \$0.150 to a total authorized rate of \$1.280 (if only this proposition passes) per \$1,000 of assessed value for collection in 2017 and for 19 years thereafter as allowed by chapter 84.55 RCW. Should this proposition be:

APPROVED? ☐

REJECTED? ☐

The polling places for all precincts wholly or partially within the district shall be as follows:

Precincts

Polling Places

Said polling places shall be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Director - King County Records,
Elections and Licensing Services Division