

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution supporting King County Proposition No. 1, Regular Property Tax Levy for Children, Youth, Families and Communities.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Resolution expresses support for King County Proposition No. 1, Regular Property Tax Levy for Children, Youth, Families and Communities on the August 3, 2021 primary and special election ballot.

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

At the June 21 Regular Session, Council directed staff to draft a resolution taking a position on King County Proposition No. 1, Regular Property Tax Levy for Children, Youth, Families and Communities, to be considered under Agenda Item 11, *Other Ordinances, Resolutions and Motions*.

If approved, King County Proposition No. 1 would authorize an additional regular property tax for six years with a maximum first-year rate in 2022 of \$0.19 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, equal to \$114 for a property with an assessed value of \$600,000. Increases in the following five years (2023 – 2027) would be limited to 3 percent of the dollar amount of the prior year's levy.

Levy proceeds would support programs and services to improve the health and well-being of children, youth, families and communities through capital investments, services and supports related to a broad range of issues including: access to safe and healthy food, developmental screening, care for children and youth, social and emotional well-being and mental health, academic support, and prevention and early intervention related to poor birth outcomes, developmental delays, chronic disease, substance use disorders, homelessness, domestic violence and effects of systematic racism and incarceration.

A set amount of levy proceeds would be allocated annually to a youth and family homelessness prevention initiative, a childcare subsidy program, a childcare workforce demonstration project and technical assistance and capacity building activities. If levy proceeds exceed a threshold amount, funding would be applied to grants for repair and expansion of facilities that serve children and youth.

Two advisory boards would provide oversight: a children and youth advisory board and an advisory board designed to improve equity by addressing race and place-based inequities in health and well-being outcomes.

To meet the requirements of RCW 42.17A.555, representatives of the pro campaign have been invited to make a 10-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. Electronic sign-up forms will be published in the online agenda and available 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 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.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution supporting King County Proposition No. 1, Regular Property Tax Levy for Children, Youth, Families and Communities.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

- A. Official ballot title language contained in King County Proposition No. 1, Regular Property Tax Levy for Children, Youth, Families and Communities
Proposed Resolution No. 9966

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A