

RESOLUTION NO. 06-015

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of SeaTac, Washington, expressing Council support for City of SeaTac Proposition No. 1 authorizing a property tax levy lid lift, and encouraging voter approval at the September 19, 2006 Election.

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2006, voters in the City of SeaTac will decide whether to approve City of SeaTac Proposition No. 1, a measure that will authorize a property tax levy lid lift; and

WHEREAS, City of SeaTac Proposition No. 1 will provide funds to operate, equip and construct facilities for fire protection and emergency services; and

WHEREAS, the City Council authorized a seismic evaluation of all three City fire stations; and

WHEREAS, the seismic evaluation completed by MLA Engineering provided the opinion that all three City fire stations are not structurally sound, and are in danger of significant damage or collapse in the event of major earthquake; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has committed to replacing Fire Station 46 using existing reserve funds; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that in the near future, the two remaining fire stations will need to be rebuilt; and

WHEREAS, since 1996, due to budget shortfalls to the City of SeaTac General Fund, the SeaTac Fire Department has cut a Fire Marshal's and Public Educator's position, and

WHEREAS, the City of SeaTac has responded to an increase of 67% of calls for service since the inception of the department in 1991, causing increased response times to our citizens

while maintaining the same number of personnel on duty daily (10 firefighters on duty at any one time); and

WHEREAS, from 1996 to 2005, since staffing levels were cut, there has been little fire and life safety education, first aid and CPR education, disaster preparedness education, and emergency management planning and training for citizens, and

WHEREAS, an appropriate level of fire service is essential to the goal of keeping the City of SeaTac a safe and livable community, and

WHEREAS, the City previously staffed a ladder truck until 1996, when the ladder truck was taken out of service and declared surplus because the ladder truck failed the ladder truck certification test; and

WHEREAS, the ladder truck was not replaced due to lack of funding, and thus the City relies on mutual aid when a ladder truck is needed, significantly increasing response time; and

WHEREAS, the purchase and staffing of additional Fire Department apparatus, such as a replacement ladder truck, will greatly benefit the community; and

WHEREAS, the funds generated by the passage of Proposition No. 1 will be used to restore and support an essential level of public safety services, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with RCW 42.17.130, notice and invitation to comment was provided; and

WHEREAS, public statements and comments were received by the Council; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that an expression of strong support for City of SeaTac Proposition No. 1 is appropriate;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATAC, WASHINGTON HEREBY RESOLVES as follows:

1. The City Council of the City of SeaTac expresses its strong support for City of SeaTac Proposition No. 1, which will appear on the September 19, 2006 ballot.
2. Proposition No. 1 will ensure continued high quality fire and emergency services to the citizens of the City of SeaTac.
3. The City Council further encourages all SeaTac voters to approve City of SeaTac Proposition No. 1 at the September 19, 2006 election.

PASSED this 27th day of June, 2006 and signed in authentication thereof on this 27th day of June, 2006.

CITY OF SEATAC

Gene Fisher, Mayor

ATTEST:

Judith L. Cary, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

Mary E. Mirante Bartolo, City Attorney

[Levy Lid Lift—Resolution in Support]