

RESOLUTION R-5602

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND EXPRESSING THE CITY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR PROPOSITION NO. 1, A LEVY LID LIFT FOR EXPANDED AQUATICS, RECREATION, AND PARKS FACILITIES, OPERATIONS, AND PROGRAMS.

- 1 WHEREAS, on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, voters in the city of
- 2 Kirkland will decide whether to approve Proposition No. 1, the Levy Lid
- 3 Lift for Expanded Aquatics, Recreation, and Parks Facilities,
- 4 Operations, and Programs; and
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- 6 WHEREAS, the Kirkland City Council has consistently
- 7 expressed support for parks and recreation in biennial Council goals,
- 8 most recently with the 2021-2022 goal of Abundant Parks, Open Spaces
- 9 & Recreation Services, which seeks to provide and maintain natural
- 10 areas and recreational facilities and opportunities that enhance the
- 11 health and wellbeing of the Kirkland community; and
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- 13 WHEREAS, the Kirkland Park Board (the "Board"), together with
- 14 the Department of Parks and Community Services (the "Department"),
- 15 conducted an in-depth study and review of City programs, policies, and
- 16 planning for parks, recreation, and open space, a process which
- 17 included extensive outreach and a statistically valid survey to gather the
- 18 opinions and desires of community members; and
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- 20 WHEREAS, on the basis of the study and review and with
- 21 additional input from over 4,700 community members, the Board and
- 22 Department completed the 2022 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space
- 23 Plan ("PROS Plan"), which was adopted by Council on September 20,
- 24 2022, through Resolution No. R-5555; and
- 25
- 26 WHEREAS, the 2022 PROS Plan provides a vision of the City's
- 27 parks and recreation system, proposes changes to the City's park level
- 28 of service methodology, includes updates to service guidelines, and
- 29 addresses goals, objectives, actions, and other management
- 30 considerations for the provision of high-quality recreation opportunities
- 31 to benefit community members and visitors to the city of Kirkland; and
- 32
- 33 WHEREAS, the 2022 PROS plan identifies an indoor aquatic
- 34 and recreation center(s) as a top community need, and other top
- 35 interests include trails and trail networks, restrooms in parks, park safety
- 36 and security, accessibility and sustainability measures, aquatics
- 37 programs, environmental and outdoor education, sports programs,
- 38 fitness and wellness programs, and community events; and
- 39
- 40 WHEREAS, the Council adopted Resolution R-5551 authorizing
- 41 the City Manager to convene a Parks Funding Exploratory Committee

42 (“PFEC”) to meet from September 2022 through March 2023 and to
43 recommend to the Council capital and operating elements and funding
44 mechanisms that could be included in one or more potential parks and
45 recreation ballot measures; and

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47 WHEREAS, PFEC included 45 community members who
48 studied Kirkland community needs and priorities based on the 2022
49 PROS Plan and reviewed potential ballot measure elements to meet
50 those needs; and

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52 WHEREAS, PFEC highlighted that thousands of Kirkland
53 residents of all ages are on waitlists each year for swim lessons and
54 other aquatic programs, and indoor recreation programs such as
55 basketball, volleyball and camps and classes because the City does not
56 have enough existing facility capacity to serve the growing community
57 needs; and

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59 WHEREAS, PFEC recommended that the Council place a
60 measure on the November 7, 2023 ballot that included an 86,000 square
61 foot indoor aquatic and recreation center, more year-round restrooms in
62 parks, green loop trail networks, new sports courts, expanded teen
63 programming and expanded beach lifeguard hours; and

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65 WHEREAS, based on thoughtful recommendations from PFEC
66 and after receiving additional input from the Board and the Youth
67 Council and reviewing community survey feedback, Council passed
68 Ordinance O-4857 placing Kirkland Proposition No. 1 on the November
69 7, 2023 ballot; and

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71 WHEREAS, Ordinance O-4857 also states the City's intent to
72 construct an 86,000 square foot indoor aquatic, recreation and
73 community center at the former Houghton Park and Ride at NE 70th
74 Place just off I-405, using City general fund dollars for construction and
75 Proposition No. 1 ballot measure revenues for operating and
76 maintenance of the facility; and

77
78 WHEREAS, Proposition No. 1 will provide funding for aquatic
79 and recreation center operations, more year-round restrooms in parks
80 across Kirkland, additional park rangers and automated gates to
81 enhance park safety, increased beach lifeguard hours, a new water
82 safety program, new sports courts, Kirkland Teen Union Building
83 operations and expanded teen services, green loop trail networks, and
84 ongoing related parks maintenance; and

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86 WHEREAS, abundant parks, open spaces, aquatic and
87 recreation services are important elements of the quality of life enjoyed
88 by the community; and

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92 WHEREAS, Proposition No. 1 would authorize an increase in
93 Kirkland's regular property tax levy by approximately \$0.28054/\$1,000
94 of assessed valuation, generating approximately \$10,800,000 in 2024,
95 and Ordinance O-4857 commits the City to only collect the property tax
96 rate needed to generate the \$10,800,000; and
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98 WHEREAS, the 2024 levy amount would be the basis to
99 calculate subsequent levies; and
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101 WHEREAS, qualifying seniors, disabled veterans, and other
102 people with disabilities (as defined in RCW 84.36.381) would be exempt
103 from the tax increase resulting from Proposition No. 1; and
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105 WHEREAS, consistent with state law (RCW 42.17A.555), the
106 City Council desires to express its support for Proposition No. 1.
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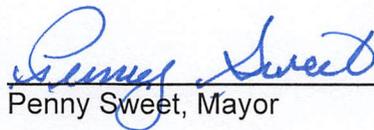
108 NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the
109 City of Kirkland as follows:
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111 Section 1. The City Council supports Proposition No. 1, the Levy
112 Lid Lift for Expanded Aquatics, Recreation, and Parks Facilities,
113 Operations, and Programs.
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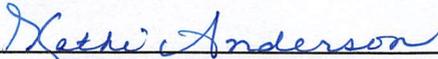
115 Section 2. The City Council urges Kirkland voters to vote yes on
116 Proposition No. 1.
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118 Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open
119 meeting this 19th day of September, 2023.
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121 Signed in authentication thereof this 19th day of September,
122 2023.


Penny Sweet, Mayor

Attest:


Kathi Anderson, City Clerk