RESOLUTION R-5687

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND SUPPORTING PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 2 (EVERGREENHEALTH) PROPOSITION NO. 1 CONCERNING A LEVY LID LIFT FOR HEALTHCARE SERVICES ON THE AUGUST 5, 2025 PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT.

WHEREAS, EvergreenHealth is a publicly accountable health care system serving over 330,000 residents of King County Public Hospital District No. 2, including a significant number of Kirkland residents; and

WHEREAS, EvergreenHealth's Kirkland hospital campus is located in the Totem Lake neighborhood of Kirkland, and it serves as the largest employer in Kirkland, with over 4,700 employees in 2022; and

WHEREAS, EvergreenHealth has not increased its property tax levy rate since its founding in 1972 and is now seeking its first levy lid lift through Proposition 1 on the August 5, 2025 ballot: and

WHEREAS, Proposition 1 would increase the current levy rate from \$0.14382 to \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value, reflecting an increase of roughly \$0.36 per \$1,000 to fund critical healthcare improvements; and

WHEREAS, this proposed levy would increase the annual cost for the median Kirkland home, valued at \$1,180,000, from \$169.71 to \$590, resulting in a net increase tax payment of an estimated \$420.29 per year; and

WHEREAS, the levy funds will be used to expand access to care, including primary, emergency, urgent, and specialty services, to enhance behavioral health programs for youth and seniors, to modernize clinical facilities and technology, to support the recruitment and retention of healthcare providers, and to invest in essential community-based wellness and home health programs; and

WHEREAS, the Kirkland City Council recognizes the importance of a strong, modern, and accessible public health care system in supporting the well-being of Kirkland residents and the broader Eastside community.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:

<u>Section 1.</u> The Kirkland City Council expresses its support for Public Hospital District No. 2 (EvergreenHealth) Proposition No. 1, Levy Lid Lift for Healthcare Services, which would represent the District's first levy lid lift since 1972.

<u>Section 2.</u> The City Council encourages Kirkland voters to vote yes on Public Hospital District No. 2's Proposition No. 1 on the August 5, 2025 primary election ballot.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this 15th day of July, 2025.

Signed in authentication thereof this 15th day of July, 2025.

Kelli Curtis, Mayor

Attest:

Emilee Fergyson, Acting City Clerk