

RESOLUTION R-3727

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO RETAINING THE MARINERS BASEBALL TEAM IN KING COUNTY, STATING THAT THE CITY OF KIRKLAND SUPPORTS AND ENCOURAGES THE PROPOSED OWNERSHIP STRUCTURE OF THE SEATTLE MARINERS WHICH REFLECTS THE COOPERATIVE NATURE OF AREA BUSINESS AND CITIZEN INTEREST, CONVEYING THE STRONG MESSAGE TO COMMISSIONER FAY VINCENT AND THE MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL OWNERSHIP COMMITTEE THAT THE PROPOSAL OFFERED BY THE BASEBALL CLUB OF SEATTLE SHOULD BE EVALUATED ON ITS MERITS AND CELEBRATED FOR ITS REGIONAL AND PRIVATE SECTOR SOLUTIONS AND ITS INTERNATIONAL APPROACH

WHEREAS, baseball in King County enhances the economy of the entire Puget Sound region, contributes to regional pride, and is strongly supported by Seattle Mariners fans, and

WHEREAS, prior owners of the Seattle Mariners have neither lived in Seattle or the region nor been sufficiently committed to keeping the team in Seattle, and

WHEREAS, Hiroshi Yamauchi, President of Nintendo Co Ltd of Kyoto, has offered to invest in the Seattle Mariners, to manage the investment through his son-in-law Minoru Arakawa, a 15-year Eastside resident, and to cooperate with Christopher Larson, John McCaw, Jr, John Ellis, and Frank Shrontz, all prominent local investors, to keep the team in Seattle, and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of the Mariners by a group including Eastside investors enhances and promotes the regional identity, and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Kirkland recognizes the efforts of the business community to acquire the Seattle Mariners baseball team, and

WHEREAS, the City Council applauds the private sector's efforts to resolve the issue of the ownership of the Mariners without seeking public funding, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Kirkland as follows

Section 1 The City urges Commissioner Fay Vincent and the Major League Baseball Ownership Committee to evaluate any offer to buy the Seattle Mariners on two criteria

- (a) Financial soundness, and
- (b) The commitment to building a strong team, providing assurances of local control, and keeping the team in Seattle


Section 2 The City of Kirkland expresses gratitude to the Baseball Club of Seattle for generously offering to purchase the Mariners and keep the team in Seattle and supports and encourages the proposed ownership structure and celebrates the international approach represented by the Baseball Club's offer

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Kirkland this 3rd day of March, 1992



Mayor

Attest



City Clerk