

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELLENSBURG supporting Kittitas County Ballot Proposition No. 1, which would authorize a two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) sales tax in Kittitas County, Washington, to fund costs associated with KITTCOM's emergency communications systems and facilities, pursuant to RCW 82.14.420, as proposed in the April 23, 2024 special election.

WHEREAS, Section 82.14.420 Revised Code of Washington (RCW) authorizes county legislative authorities to adopt a Resolution providing for the submission of a proposal to county voters for the imposition of a sales and use tax up to two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) for financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, re-equipping, and improvement of countywide emergency communication systems and facilities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 38.52.510, Kittitas County must provide or participate in countywide emergency communications systems so that "9-1-1" service is available throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, Kittitas County is a party to an Interlocal Agreement titled "KITTCOM's Governing Agreement" establishing KITTCOM, a separate public agency and consolidated public safety communications center created for the purpose of providing communication and dispatch services for public safety and emergencies in the participating incorporated and unincorporated areas of Kittitas County; and

WHEREAS, a Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency ("CISA") review by the United States Department of Homeland Security has determined that the countywide emergency communication systems and facilities which KITTCOM maintains, and which Kittitas County relies upon to meet its obligations under RCW 38.52.510, and which county residents rely upon for public safety and emergency assistance, have significantly aged and been subjected to wear and tear; and

WHEREAS, based in part on the CISA review, KITTCOM identified a need for major investment and continued funding for ongoing maintenance of communications and dispatch infrastructure, systems, and facilities; and

WHEREAS, KITTCOM Administrative Board therefore established a Citizen Advisory Committee to review the need for and potentially recommend to the KITTCOM Board that it request the Board of County Commissioners submit a proposition to the voters for the adoption of the two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) sales and use tax authorized by RCW 82.14.420, to fund costs associated with the financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, re-equipping, and improvement of emergency communication systems and facilities in Kittitas County; and

WHEREAS, by KITTCOM Administrative Board Resolution 2023-7, which is attached hereto and hereby incorporated by reference, KITTCOM has requested that the Board of County Commissioners submit a ballot proposition at the April 23, 2024 Special Election to the voters of

Kittitas County proposing the adoption of the two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) sales and use tax for emergency communication systems and facilities authorized by RCW 82.14.420; and

WHEREAS, KITTCOM and its participating agencies, including Kittitas County, the City of Ellensburg, KVFR, and other stakeholders, affirm the need to maintain and improve the emergency communications systems and facilities in Kittitas County; and

WHEREAS, after public hearing, the Board of Commissioners of Kittitas County deems it to be in the best interest of the County and its constituents to submit such a proposition to the voters; and

WHEREAS, a passing vote must be recorded by the Kittitas County Auditor in order for the tax to be enacted; and

WHEREAS, the tax, if approved, shall be imposed commencing January 1, 2025, by operation of further ordinance; and

WHEREAS, equal time to receive public comment from citizens in support of, or opposition to, Ballot Proposition No. 1 was made available at the City Council's regularly scheduled meeting on March 18, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Kittitas County Commissioners adopted Resolution 2023-24 to place on the April 23, 2024 Special Election a ballot measure which would authorize the two-tenths of one percent sales and use tax to be used by KITTCOM to pay for costs associated with financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, re-equipping, and improvement of emergency communications systems and facilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Ellensburg, Washington, as follows:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Ellensburg do hereby declare its support for, and encourages approval of, Ballot Measure, entitled, "KITTCOM Emergency Communications and Facilities Sales and Use Tax," which will be presented to the voters at the April 23, 2024 Special Election.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Ellensburg this 18th day of March, 2024.

Attest:



Mayor


City Clerk

KITTCOM Administrative Board Resolution 2023-7

**A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SUBMIT A PROPOSITION TO THE VOTERS OF KITTITAS COUNTY AUTHORIZING A TWO-TENTHS
OF 1% COUNTY SALES AND USE TAX TO FUND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FINANCING,
DESIGN, ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPPING, OPERATING,
MAINTAINING, REMODELING, REPAIRING, REEQUIPPING, AND IMPROVEMENT
OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES PURSUANT TO**

RCW 82.14.420

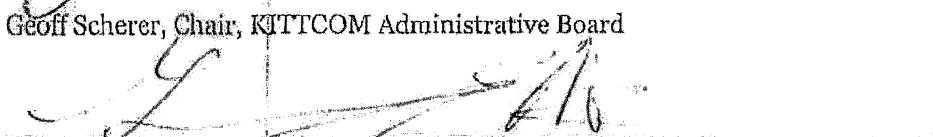
Whereas: RCW 82.14.420 authorizes county legislative authorities to adopt a Resolution providing for the submission of a proposal to county voters for the imposition of a sales and use tax for emergency communication systems and facilities at the April 23, 2024 Special Election; and

Whereas: a Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency review by the United States Department of Homeland Security has determined the need for major investment and continued funding for ongoing maintenance, and based in part on the age of the communication systems in Kittitas County; and

Now, therefore be it resolved: the KITTCOM Board is authorized to request the Kittitas County Board of County Commissioners submit a ballot proposition to the voters of Kittitas County, Washington at the April 23, 2024 Special Election for the adoption of a two tenths of 1% Sales and Use Tax for the purpose of emergency communication funding.

Adopted by the Administrative Board of KITTCOM on this 10th day of November 2023.


Geoff Scherer, Chair, KITTCOM Administrative Board


ATTEST: George Long, Secretary, KITTCOM Administrative Board