

**CITY OF KIRKLAND**

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**CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**  
**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Dave Ramsay, City Manager  
**From:** Robin S. Jenkinson, City Attorney  
**Date:** August 29, 2006  
**Subject:** Resolution Supporting AFIS Levy

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council consider the attached resolution following a public hearing.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

On September 19, 2006, King County voters will be asked to vote on a ballot measure for the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) Levy.

King County Proposition No. 1, a regular property tax levy for AFIS services, would fund the continued operation and enhancement of the AFIS program which assists law enforcement agencies in identifying and convicting criminals. It would authorize King County to levy an additional regular property tax of not more than \$0.0568 (5.68 cents) per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for collection in 2007 and levy the tax each year thereafter for each of the five succeeding years.

The last AFIS property tax levy was approved by the voters of King County on September 19, 2000, at a rate of \$0.05874 (5.87 cents) per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for five years.

The attached resolution expresses the Council's support for the AFIS ballot measure. Under RCW 42.17.130, the Council may vote on a resolution to support or oppose a ballot proposition "so long as (a) any required notice of the meeting includes the title and number of the ballot proposition, and (b) members of the legislative body or members of the public are afforded an approximately equal opportunity for the expression of any opposing view..."

The City Clerk published notice of the public hearing and included the ballot title and proposition number in the notice.

RESOLUTION R- 4590

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND STATING THE CITY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR KING COUNTY PROPOSITION NO. 1, THE AUTOMATED FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (AFIS) LEVY.

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2006, voters in the King County will decide whether to approve King County Proposition No. 1, the AFIS Levy; and

WHEREAS, the AFIS program is a valuable public safety tool that quickly assists criminal justice agencies to fingerprint and identify arrested individuals or suspects of crimes; and

WHEREAS, the primary functions of the AFIS program are to capture fingerprints and palm prints from suspects, to store fingerprints in databases, to search and identify individuals from fingerprints in order to solve crimes by identifying prints left at crime scenes and to share fingerprint and arrest data with other jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of AFIS, more crimes with unidentified suspects have been solved; capturing finger and palm prints from every subject booked into jail, storing those fingerprints in an electronic database, and using those prints to match against prints left behind at crime scenes have enabled police detectives to solve many crimes where the detectives have had no known suspects; and

WHEREAS, AFIS has assisted in solving 17,141 crimes without a known suspect based on the evidence of a fingerprint left behind at a crime scene through 2005 and in that same year, 100 percent of inmates at King County jails were fingerprinted for positive identification at time of entry to the jail; AFIS identified 1,058 individuals in 2005 alone who gave false names at the time of arrest and over 300 of those had outstanding warrants for other crimes; and

WHEREAS, the levy rate of \$0.0568 (5.68 cents) per \$1,000 assessed property value is less than the last period's levy rate and will provide enhanced further outreach to suburban communities; and

WHEREAS, the Kirkland Police Department has benefited from the placement and use of AFIS equipment in the Department; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 42.17.130, the City Council of the City of Kirkland desires to show its support for the AFIS levy;

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

Section 1. The City Council, after considering testimony at a duly noticed public hearing, hereby supports King County Proposition No. 1, the King County AFIS levy.

Section 2. The City Council hereby urges citizens to vote yes on King County Proposition No. 1, the King County AFIS levy, on September 19, 2006.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

Signed in authentication thereof this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk