

RESOLUTION R-5386

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY GROUP TO RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL THE CAPITAL AND OPERATING ELEMENTS AND FUNDING STRUCTURES INCLUDED IN THE ENHANCED COMMUNITY SAFETY FIRE/EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES MEASURE TO BE PLACED ON THE NOVEMBER 2020 BALLOT.

1 WHEREAS, the construction of the City's five fire stations has
2 been historically funded through bonds placed on the ballot and voted
3 on by Kirkland residents; and
4

5 WHEREAS, in 2011, the City Council ("Council") engaged the
6 services of Emergency Services Consulting International ("ESCI") to
7 conduct an organizational review of the Fire Department of the City of
8 Kirkland ("City"); and
9

10 WHEREAS, since 2012, Fire Department staff has worked with
11 other City departments and the City Manager's Office to implement
12 certain ESCI recommendations, including through the budget process;
13 and
14

15 WHEREAS, as one key component of keeping the community
16 safe, the Council completed a Fire Strategic Plan in 2012 to identify
17 needed investments in staffing, equipment and technology to provide
18 for better response times for Fire and Emergency Medical Services
19 ("EMS"), as well as the needed renovation and expansion of existing fire
20 stations, the construction of a new Fire Station 24, and the construction
21 of a new, relocated Fire Station 27 east of I-405; and
22

23 WHEREAS, on October 20, 2015, the Council adopted Resolution
24 R-5163 approving a plan that outlined short and long-term strategies
25 for improving Fire and EMS in the City and fire stations throughout the
26 City; and
27

28 WHEREAS, on February 21, 2017, the Council approved
29 Resolution R-5239 adopting the City's 2017-2018 Work Program to
30 "explore potential ballot measures for fire station modernization and
31 public safety operations to further the goals of Public Safety,
32 Dependable Infrastructure, and Financial Stability"; and
33

34 WHEREAS, the Council adopted Resolution R-5290 on December
35 12, 2017, revising the 2017-2018 City Work Program to defer
36 exploration of a fire facilities and operations ballot measure to at least
37 2020 due to public concerns about the cumulative financial impact of
38 property tax increases due to state and regional actions; and
39

40 WHEREAS, on August 6, 2018, The Council adopted Resolution
41 R-5324 sending Proposition 1 – Enhanced Police Services and
42 Community Safety to Kirkland voters; and

43 WHEREAS, Proposition 1 was a public safety measure that
44 anticipated a two-phased approach to public safety enhancements that
45 included a fire/EMS ballot measure as the second phase in 2020; and
46

47 WHEREAS, on February 19, 2019, the Council adopted the 2019-
48 2020 City Work Program which ranked "exploring a potential ballot
49 measure in 2020 to fund Fire Station modernization and enhanced
50 operations to further the goal of Public Safety" as its number one
51 priority; and
52

53 WHEREAS, the City is experiencing unprecedented growth and
54 redevelopment, with new types of commercial and residential structures
55 that need Fire/EMS services; and
56

57 WHEREAS, providing Fire/EMS services that match this economic
58 growth and redevelopment are further challenged by the expiration of
59 the annexation sales tax credit in 2021, resulting in the loss of nearly
60 four million dollars annually from the City's general fund; and
61

62 WHEREAS, to sustainably fund these potential Fire and EMS
63 investments, the City must either identify new revenues or significantly
64 reprioritize existing general fund programs such as parks maintenance
65 and street maintenance that also rank as high priorities with Kirkland
66 residents; and
67

68 WHEREAS, the City has a AAA credit rating, allowing it to borrow
69 money at lower interest rates; and
70

71 WHEREAS, the City Manager recommends engaging a
72 Community Safety Advisory Group ("CSAG") to meet for the duration of
73 October 2019 through March 2020 to recommend to the Council ballot
74 measure options; and
75

76 WHEREAS, the Council will consider the Community Safety
77 Advisory Groups recommendations no later than March 2020 and may
78 take action to place a measure on the November ballot at any
79 subsequent Council meeting but no later than July 21, 2020.
80

81 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Kirkland do
82 ordain as follows:
83


84 Section 1. The City Manager is authorized and directed to
85 establish a Community Safety Advisory Group with representatives from
86 each of the stakeholder groups listed in Exhibit A to this Resolution. The
87 Community Safety Advisory Group shall recommend to the Council
88 capital and operating elements and funding mechanisms to be placed
89 on the Fire/EMS November 2020 ballot measure no later than March 17,
90 2020.
91

92 Section 2. To maximize the effectiveness of the Community
93 Safety Advisory Group, the City Manager is authorized to appoint a
94 limited number of additional CSAG members until the first CSAG meeting
95 is convened. Prior to making such an appointment, the City Manager

96 shall notify the Council of the pending appointment and provide an
97 explanation of why the appointment will be beneficial to the CSAG
98 process.
99

100 Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open
101 meeting this 17th day of September, 2019.
102

103 Signed in authentication thereof this 17th day of September,
104 2019.


Penny Sweet, Mayor

Attest:


Kathi Anderson, City Clerk

Community Safety Advisory Group	
Delegate from each of the 12* neighborhood associations	Chair/Convener - Mayor Penny Sweet
Kirkland Downtown Association	Rotary
Kirkland Chamber of Commerce	Kirkland Safe
Northwest University	Kirkland Indivisible
Lake WA Institute of Tech	Google
Lake WA School District	Realtor
Kirkland Interfaith Network	Builder/Developer
Merrill Gardens	Aegis Living Kirkland
Kiwanis	Sophia's Way
Eastside Business Association	Kirkland Business Roundtable
Evergreen Hospital	Hopelink
Houghton Community Council	Planning Commission
Senior Council	Youth Council
Two Community Members at Large	

*Of the 13 neighborhood boundaries, only 12 have active neighborhood associations. (Totem Lake)

Date	Curriculum/Timeline
--	2019
September 3	Council provides direction on draft resolution and workplan
September 17	Council adopts resolution
--	Community Safety Advisory Group Begins
October 29	Fire/EMS 101 – What do we do and how - facilities, staffing
November 7	Tour of Facilities
November 21	Potential capital and operating ballot measure elements and costs
December 5	Kirkland budget overview/How property tax works, funding options
December 19	Evaluate Options 1 – Needed investments and how to pay for them
--	2020
January 16	Evaluate Options 2
January 30	Draft Recommendations
February 20	Final Recommendation
March 5	If Needed
--	City Council Involvement Begins
March 3 or 17	Council to Hear Recommendations from CSAG
July 7 or 21	Ballot Measure Public Hearing
July 7	Pro/Con Committee Appointments Authorized
July 21	Pro/Con Committee Appointments Confirmed
July 21	Last Council Meeting to Approve Ballot Measure Ordinance
August 4	Ballot Measure Resolution due to King County
August 7	Explanatory Statement Due
August 11	Pro/Con Statements Due
November 3	General Election