

RESOLUTION NO. 142

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE APPROVING WITH CONDITIONS A COUNTYWIDE BALLOT PROPOSITION FOR FUNDING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PURSUANT TO RCW 84.52.069, AS AMENDED

WHEREAS, on August 11, 1997 the Shoreline City Council passed Resolution No. 136 approving a countywide ballot proposition for funding emergency medical services pursuant to RCW 84.52.069, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shoreline (the "City") supports EMS as a regional service that requires a continuing leadership role for the County; and

WHEREAS, the King County Council on September 8, 1997, as a companion to the Ordinance authorizing the November 4, 1997, election on EMS, passed Ordinance No. 12849, the Preamble of which states "[T]he current, near total reliance on a six-year voter-approved levy puts the [emergency medical services] program's funding in regular jeopardy and connotes that the County considers it an optional program . . . [T]he County Council is committed to researching more secure, permanent funding sources for this important program"; and

WHEREAS, the City supports the foregoing statement in County Ordinance No. 12849, agrees that a voter-approved property tax is not a preferable funding mechanism, and is committed to finding a new, permanent funding source for the EMS system in partnership with the County; and

WHEREAS, on November 4, 1997, the King County voters rejected a six-year 29 cent per \$1,000 of assessed valuation levy proposal; and

WHEREAS, on December 4, 1997, representatives from around the region agreed to placement of an interim, three-year 29 cent levy before the voters at a special election to be held on February 3, 1998; and

WHEREAS, the City supports the proposed three-year, 29 cent/\$1,000 assessed value EMS levy and other actions described herein as a bridge to a new financing structure for the EMS system that is more secure and more permanent, and which establishes an immediate departure from "business as usual" in the funding of the EMS system; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue funding for emergency medical services for three years, beginning in 1999, King County Council must receive the consent of all of the cities with a population in excess of 50,000 to place the EMS levy before the voters; and

WHEREAS, Shoreline has a population in excess of 50,000; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interests of the City that such a countywide levy again be placed on the ballot;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

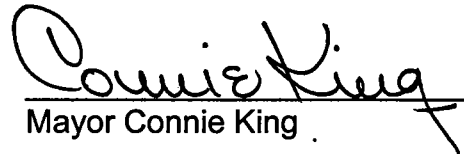
Section 1. The City of Shoreline hereby approves resubmission to the voters of a ballot proposition for a countywide additional regular property tax levy of not more than 29 cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation each year for a period of three consecutive years for funding countywide emergency medical services pursuant to RCW 84.52.069, as amended, at a special countywide election to be held on February 3, 1998.

Section 2. The City supports the levy with the understanding that the County agrees by appropriate amendment to Ordinance No. 12489 to create the EMS Financial Planning Task Force no later than February 15, 1998; provided, however, that:

- a. City representatives on the Task Force shall be appointed directly by each jurisdiction so represented (in the case of Seattle, Bellevue, Federal Way, Kent and Shoreline) and the Suburban Cities Association (in the case of the two smaller city representatives);
- b. In preparing its "analysis of long-term funding alternatives that would allow the County to reduce its reliance on property tax levies to support emergency medical services" as required by Ordinance No. 12849, the Task Force shall (1) explore all reasonable operational models for financing and delivering EMS service; (2) identify and recommend possible efficiencies and operational models that could reduce or otherwise contain long-term as well as interim costs of the EMS system; and (3) focus its long-term recommendations on alternatives to financing EMS through means other than periodically voter-approved property tax levies.
- c. The members of the EMS Financial Planning Task Force called for by Ordinance No. 12489 shall be amended to consist of the King County Executive, two representatives from the County Council, one representative from each city within the County with a population over 50,000, two representatives from small cities appointed by the Suburban Cities Association, two fire district commissioners and two citizens-at-large from the unincorporated area. The Task Force shall be supported by an interjurisdictional staff team.

- d. The County will direct the EMS Advisory Committee recommended by the 1998-2003 Emergency Medical Services Strategic Plan, dated June 1997, to work in cooperation with the EMS Financial Planning Task Force, and that the EMS Advisory Committee place its highest priority on implementing cost containment strategies identified in said Strategic Plan that can reduce the cost of the EMS system as soon as possible.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 8, 1997.


Mayor Connie King

ATTEST:



Sharon Mattioli, CMC
City Clerk