

RESOLUTION NO. 390

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON URGING THE PROHIBITION OF THE TRANSPORTATION OF COAL VIA RAIL THROUGH THE CITY OF SHORELINE

WHEREAS, the City Council has a responsibility and a duty to protect the health and safety of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Shoreline has committed itself to protecting the environment and natural resources of our community, the State of Washington, the United State of America, and the Earth; and

WHEREAS, the burning of fossil fuels in the production of energy is unsustainable and is in stark contradiction to the goals of Shoreline to mitigate and combat the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, the transportation of coal ore via rail, and the burning of coal and other fossil fuels in the production of energy, threatens both the personal health and safety of Shoreline citizens as well as the health and safety of our natural resources and environment; and

WHEREAS, the coal transported via rail is exposed in open-top rail cars resulting in coal dust contaminating all areas along the rail lines where coal is transported via train; and

WHEREAS, coal dust contamination has the potential to cause serious growth and development conditions in children, cardiovascular and respiratory health problems, as well as, the potential to pose a threat to personal safety and property; and

WHEREAS, estimates indicate a significant increase in the number of coal trains traveling the rail lines that run through Shoreline to export facilities in the State of Washington and British Columbia, Canada; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shoreline should join with other cities, localities, states, and tribal nations in demanding a cessation of the use of fossil fuels for the production of energy and of the transportation of fossil fuels via rail through populated areas; and

WHEREAS, a prior resolution passed by this Council, Resolution No. 339 (2013), opposing facilities that will increase transporting coal across Washington State and through the City of Shoreline, has not been adequately addressed by the State of Washington or the United States of America, has not led to a decrease in the transportation of harmful fossil fuels through our community, and did not account for the recent increases in transportation of fossil fuels via rail through Shoreline;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, HEREBY RESOLVES:

Section 1: The City of Shoreline adamantly supports and urges the transition of energy production away from the consumption of fossil fuels and toward the implementation of a sustainable, renewable, and environmentally friendly system of energy production.

Section 2: The City of Shoreline opposes the transportation of coal via rail through the City of Shoreline, along the Puget Sound, and other populated areas.

Section 3: The City of Shoreline strongly urges the United States Department of Transportation and the United States Congress to prohibit the transportation of coal via rail through the City of Shoreline and all other populated areas.

Section 4: Copies of this resolution shall be transmitted by the City Clerk to the President of the United States; the Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation; the United States Secretary of Energy, each member of the United States Congress elected from this State, including: Senator Patty Murray, Senator Maria Cantwell, and Representative Jim McDermott; Governor Jay Inslee; and each member of the Washington State delegation representing the City of Shoreline, including: Senator Maralyn Chase, Representative Cindy Ryu, and Representative Ruth Kagi.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON AUGUST 1, 2016.


Mayor Christopher Roberts

ATTEST:

Jessica Simulcik Smith
City Clerk