PORT OF OLYMPIA COMMISSION
Resolution 2019-09

A Resolution of the Port Commission for the Port of Olympia, Thurston County, Washington, in support of Proposition 1, which seeks voter approval on the November 5, 2019 ballot to increase sales and use tax by 1/10th of one percent (0.1%), or one cent on a $10 taxable purchase, for emergency communication systems and facilities.

WHEREAS, Thurston County Emergency Communication Systems and Facilities Proposition No. 1 Sales and Use Tax, (“Proposition I”) will be presented to the voters at the general election to be held on November 5, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Thurston 911 Communications (hereinafter referred to as “TCOMM 911”), a 501(c)(3) organization, is a countywide enhanced 911 answering point and dispatch center for all law enforcement, fire services, and Medic One departments; and

WHEREAS, TCOMM 911 provides a state-of-the-art 24/7 x 365 operation, answering both 911 and 10 digit emergency calls as well as texts from the public and dispatching an appropriate level of response based on protocols provided by and agreed to by law enforcement, fire services, and Medic One; and

WHEREAS, Thurston County, the cities of Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater, Yelm, Tenino; the towns of Bucoda and Rainier; SE Thurston Regional Fire Authority, West Thurston Regional Fire Authority and the Thurston County Fire Protection District Nos. 3, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13, and 17 contracts with TCOMM 911 for provision of emergency communication services; and

WHEREAS, the Thurston County Public Safety Radio system operated by TCOMM 911 has reached its end of life and needs replacement; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Washington State Legislature modified RCW 82.14.420 by increasing the limitations for emergency communications sales/use tax from 1/10th of one percent to 2/10th of one percent, effective July 28, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the TCOMM 911 Administration Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2019-11 requesting the Thurston County Board of County Commissioners place a measure on the November 2019 ballot to increase the emergency communications sales and use tax to 2/10th of one percent; and

WHEREAS, the Thurston County Board of County Commissioners adopted Ordinance No. 15802 and found that it is in the best interests of the County to submit to the qualified voters of the County, at a special election to be held on November 5, 2019, a proposition authorizing the County to impose an additional 1/10th of one percent sales and use tax (Proposition No. 1); and
WHEREAS, Proposition No. 1 would authorize Thurston County to increase the emergency communications sales/use tax from 1/10th of one percent to 2/10th of one percent; and

WHEREAS, funds from Proposition No. 1 would be used for the sole purpose of funding costs associated with financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, reequipping, and improvement of the emergency communication systems and facilities provided by TCOMM 911; and

WHEREAS, approval of Proposition No. 1 by the qualified voters of Thurston County would replace TCOMM 911's current antiquated 40-year-old analog radio system with a new digital emergency communications system, which will increase coverage, provide more capacity and allow better communications between and among first responders and dispatchers; and

WHEREAS, on September, 23, 2019, the Port Commission for the Port of Olympia held a public meeting pursuant to the provisions of RCW42.17A.555(l), at which members of the public were afforded an equal opportunity for the expression of an opposing view of Proposition No. 1.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, after due consideration it is the determination of the Port Commission for the Port of Olympia is in support of the Thurston County Emergency Communication Systems and Facilities Proposition No. 1 - Sales and Use Tax and encourages voters to approve this Proposition on November 5, 2019.

ADOPTED by a majority of the members of the Port Commission for the Port of Olympia, a majority being present and voting on this Resolution at a regular Commission meeting on, 9/23, 2019, as attested to by the signatures below of the Commissioners physically present this 23rd day of Sept., 2019.

PORT OF OLYMPIA COMMISSION

By: [Signature]
President

By: [Signature]
Vice President

By: [Signature]
Secretary