

RESOLUTION NO. M-2415

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON, TO
ENGAGE RESIDENTS IN PARK FUNDING DISCUSSIONS IN THE EVENT OF SIGNIFICANT
LOSS OF GENERAL FUND REVENUES**

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia (City) has adopted a series of comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plans, and Capital Improvement Programs that direct municipal investments in the acquisition, development, and maintenance of a variety of new and existing park lands and facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City is committed to maintaining the facilities, programs, and services of the Olympia Parks Arts and Recreation Department (OPARD) so that they are open and accessible to all; and

WHEREAS, the voters of Olympia have twice voted to increase funding for OPARD in order to support the acquisition, development, and maintenance of these parks; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2016, the City of Olympia and the Olympia Metropolitan Park District (OMPD) entered into an Interlocal Agreement (ILA), which among other things, established provisions for the funding of OPARD; and

WHEREAS, the ILA is structured to provide a minimum base percentage of funding of general fund revenues for OPARD to meet the City's adopted plans and policies; and

WHEREAS, the ILA allows the City to exceed the minimum funding from the general fund to provide for stable OPARD funding; and

WHEREAS, funding from the general fund is dependent upon the state of the economy and collection of tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, the ILA also recognized that economic circumstances could impact general fund revenues and create exigent circumstances that may require the City to reduce its percentage of general fund revenues for OPARD; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes that although it cannot predict future economic conditions that could impact general fund revenues from a variety of possible future events, the Council will work with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) to find solutions to significant loss of funding that adversely affects OPARD, including but not limited to placing the ILA on the work plan of the Finance Committee to study solutions that may be available, with the goal of no loss in operating or capital fund levels for OPARD from those levels which would have occurred pursuant to the current ILA; and

WHEREAS, the Council has a variety of sources at its disposal that could alleviate or lessen future adverse impacts from loss of general fund revenues, and the Council will explore all sources available in an effort to find acceptable solutions; and

WHEREAS, the Council will work with PRAC to identify solutions to any possible funding concerns, including but not limited to holding public hearings to gather community input, ideas, and information on solutions;

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

Section 1. The Council shall utilize any or all sources at its disposal that could alleviate or lessen future adverse economic impacts to OPARD funding from loss of general fund revenues. In this effort, the Council will work with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) or a sub-committee of PRAC to find solutions to revenue loss that may adversely affect OPARD, including but not limited to placing the City and OMPD ILA on the work plan of the Finance Committee to study solutions that may be available to ameliorate or lessen any future adverse impacts to OPARD funding.


Section 2. The Council will also work with PRAC or a sub-committee of PRAC to find solutions to any possible funding concerns by holding public hearings to solicit community input, ideas, and information on potential solutions to any possible general fund revenue loss.

Section 3. The City Manager is directed to investigate possible solutions with staff and PRAC to alleviate or lessen adverse impacts on OPARD funding from any future loss of general fund revenues, and report to the City Council with any suggestions and recommendations.


PASSED BY THE OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL this 7th day of February 2023.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


CITY ATTORNEY