

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON, EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 976 (I-976) WHICH SEEKS TO REPEAL AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE CERTAIN MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES AND FEES, CHANGE VEHICLE VALUATION LAWS, AND TO LIMIT MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE FEES TO \$30.00.

WHEREAS, Washington Initiative Measure No. 976 (I-976) will be presented to the voters at the General Election on November 5, 2019, with the following official Ballot title:

Initiative Measure No. 976 concerns motor vehicle taxes and fees.

This measure would repeal, reduce, or remove authority to impose certain vehicle taxes and fees; limit annual motor-vehicle-license fees to \$30, except voter-approved charges; and base vehicle taxes on Kelley Blue Book value.

Should this measure be enacted into law?

- Yes
- No

and

WHEREAS, I-976 would reduce funding for state and local transportation projects by repealing, reducing, or removing state and local authority to impose certain vehicle taxes and fees; and

WHEREAS, the fiscal impact statement for I-976, prepared by the Washington Office of Financial Management, estimates that the initiative would result in a revenue loss to the state of \$1.9 billion and a loss to local governments of \$2.3 billion over the next six years following implementation; and

WHEREAS, as provided in Chapter 36.73 RCW, the City of Olympia formed a city-wide transportation benefit district (TBD) in 2009 to protect the City's long-term investments in its street infrastructure, reduce the risk of transportation facility failures and improve safety, continue optimal performance of the street infrastructure over time, and to avoid more expensive street infrastructure replacements or repairs in the future; and

WHEREAS, I-976 if passed by the voters at the November 2019 General Election would repeal and eliminate the authority for city transportation benefit districts to impose a car tab fee for the purposes of acquiring, constructing, providing, and funding transportation improvements and repairs; and

WHEREAS, if passed by the voters in the November 2019 General Election, I-976 would eliminate the Olympia TBD's authority to impose vehicle license fees and repeal the vehicle license fees already imposed by the Olympia TBD of \$40.00 per year, resulting in a funding loss of at least \$1.5 million annually; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the adverse financial impact to the City, I-976 would reduce state transportation funding along with voter-approved funding for Sound Transit; and

WHEREAS, RCW 42.17A.555 permits the City Council to take a position on a ballot measure at an open public meeting so long as notice of the meeting includes the ballot title and number of the ballot measure, and that those expressing an opposing view are afforded an approximately equal opportunity to express an opinion at a public hearing prior to action by the City Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Olympia City Council hereby expresses its opposition to Initiative No. 976, concerning the repeal of certain motor vehicle taxes and fees, to be presented to the electorate at the General Election on November 5, 2019.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect and be in full force immediately upon passage by the City Council.

PASSED BY THE OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL this _____ day of _____ 2019.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



CITY ATTORNEY