

RESOLUTION NO. M-2562

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON,  
OPPOSING THE PASSAGE OF WASHINGTON STATE BALLOT INITIATIVE NO. 2117  
CONCERNING CARBON TAX CREDIT TRADING**

**WHEREAS**, Initiative No. 2117 concerning carbon tax credit trading will be before Washington State voters at the General Election on November 5, 2024. This measure, if approved by voters, would prohibit state agencies from imposing any type of carbon tax credit trading, and repeal legislation establishing a cap and invest program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This measure would decrease funding for investments in transportation, clean air, renewable energy, conservation, and emissions-reduction; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021, the Washington State Legislature adopted Senate Bill 5216, a law known as the Washington Climate Commitment Act, which sets annual emission limits for major emitters such as oil refineries and utilities, and establishes a market-based program (a cap and invest program) to reduce carbon pollution and achieve greenhouse gas limits set in Washington State law; and

**WHEREAS**, Initiative No. 2117 seeks to repeal sections of the 2021 Washington Climate Commitment Act and seeks to bar state agencies from imposing any type of program involving the trading of carbon tax credits; and

**WHEREAS**, passage of Initiative No. 2117 by Washington voters would limit the City of Olympia's access to grants funded by the Climate Commitment Act which assist with new infrastructure for pedestrians, bicycles, and electric vehicles and, without such infrastructure, the City's goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address impacts from climate change would be adversely impacted; and

**WHEREAS**, Initiative No. 2117 will be presented to the voters at the November 5, 2024, General Election with the following official ballot title:

BALLOT TITLE

Statement of Subject: Initiative Measure No. 2117 concerns carbon tax credit trading.

Concise Description: This measure would prohibit state agencies from imposing any type of carbon tax credit trading, and repeal legislation establishing a cap and invest program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Should this measure be enacted into law?      Yes [ ] No [ ]

and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 42.17A. 555(1) authorizes the City Council to take action to express a collective decision, or to actually vote upon a motion, proposal, or ordinance, or to support or oppose a ballot measure so long as (a) the agenda item includes the title and number of the ballot proposition, and (b)

members of the public and councilmembers are afforded an approximately equal opportunity to express an opposing view; and

**WHEREAS**, consistent with RCW 42.17A.555(1), the Olympia City Council considered Initiative No. 2117 at its October 8, 2024, Regular Meeting, and during said meeting, the City Council afforded members of the public and Council an approximately equal opportunity for expression of a supporting or opposing view on Initiative No. 2117;

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL DOES HEREBY RESOLVE** as follows:

1. **Statement in Opposition to Initiative No. 2117.** The Olympia City Council hereby expresses its opposition to Initiative No. 2117, a measure seeking to repeal sections of the 2021 Washington Climate Commitment Act and to bar state agencies from imposing any type of program involving the trading of carbon tax credits at the November 5, 2024 General Election.
2. This Resolution shall take effect and be in full force immediately upon passage of by the City Council.

**PASSED BY THE OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL** this 8th day of October 2024.

  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Sean Keier  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Mark Barber  
CITY ATTORNEY