



RESOLUTION NO. 1005

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE  
AUTHORIZING A LEVY LID LIFT TO BE PLACED ON THE APRIL 2023 SPECIAL  
ELECTION BALLOT FOR SUPPORT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES**

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 84.55.050, the City of University Place may levy regular property taxes in any calendar year in excess of limitations specified in chapter 84.55 RCW when such levy has been authorized by a proposition approved by a majority of the voters of the City voting on the proposition at a general or special election within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined the current level of funding is not adequate to meet community demands for law enforcement services and additional funding is necessary to secure a solution that would provide stable funding; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue to provide meaningful law enforcement services to the residents of University Place, it is deemed necessary that the City increase its regular property tax levy rate to \$1.01 per \$1,000 of assessed value for collection in 2024 and thereafter to use the resulting levy amount for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies as allowed by RCW 84.55; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of University Place deems it necessary to submit to the voters of the City of University Place the proposition of whether or not the City shall levy regular property taxes for collection in 2024 in excess of the limit factor provided for in chapter 84.55 RCW;

**NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE RESOLVES  
AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Incorporation. The above recitals are hereby incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Section 2. Call for Election. The University Place City Council requests that Pierce County Auditor call and conduct a special election on April 25, 2023, in the manner provided by law, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the City of University Place, with such additions, deletions or modifications as may be required, the ballot proposition set forth in Section 3.

Section 3. Official Ballot Proposition. The University Place City Clerk is hereby directed to certify, no later than February 24, 2023, to Pierce County Auditor, the following proposition:

CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE – Proposition 1  
Levy Lid Lift for Dedicated Law Enforcement Funding

The University Place City Council adopted Resolution No. 1005, authorizing a proposition funding eight additional patrol and traffic officers, and a specialist addressing homelessness, park safety and crime prevention. The proposition increases the City's current property tax levy from \$0.660672963 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation to \$1.01 per \$1,000 in 2024. This levy would be used to compute limitations for subsequent levies. Taxpayers qualifying for an exemption under RCW 84.36.381 would be exempt from the increase.

Should this proposition be approved?

YES.....

NO.....

Section 4. Ballot Measure Submission Cover Sheet. The University Place City Clerk is directed to file a ballot measure submission cover sheet at the same time the proposition is certified in accordance with this Resolution.

Section 5. Explanatory Statement. The City Attorney is hereby directed to prepare and/or approve an explanatory statement in accordance with RCW 29A.32.241, and shall submit the explanatory statement to Pierce County Elections no later than 4:30 p.m. on February 23, 2023.

Section 6. Request for Inclusion in Voters' Pamphlet and Pro/Con Committee Appointments. The University Place City Council requests that Pierce County Elections include the proposition referenced herein as well as information related to the proposition in the voters' pamphlet distributed for the April 25, 2023 election. The City Council hereby authorizes the use of City funds to pay for publication of the voters' pamphlet and the costs of the election regarding this proposition.

No later than February 24, 2023, a council subcommittee, consisting of the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Chair of the Finance Committee is authorized to exercise the City's right to appoint a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' approval of the measure ("Pro Committee") and a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' rejection of the measure ("Con Committee"). The committee advocating approval of the advisory proposition shall be composed of persons known to favor the ballot proposition, and the committee advocating disapproval shall be composed of persons known to oppose the ballot proposition.

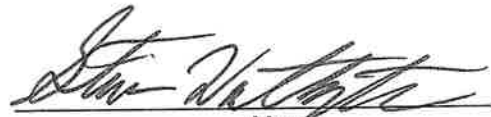
Section 7. Certified Copies of Resolution to be Filed. The University Place City Clerk is directed to file certified copies of this Resolution with the Pierce County Council and the Pierce County Elections.

Section 8. Supplemental Grant of Authority. The City Council directs the proper officials of the City to take any other and further actions deemed necessary to implement the policies and determinations of the Council consistent with the language of this Resolution. Any actions taken consistent with the authority granted by, but before the effective date of this Resolution, is ratified, approved, and confirmed.


Section 9. Severability. If any portion of this Resolution shall be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, then such provision shall be null and void and shall be severable from the remaining provisions and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions, or of the levy or collection of the taxes authorized herein.

Section 10. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

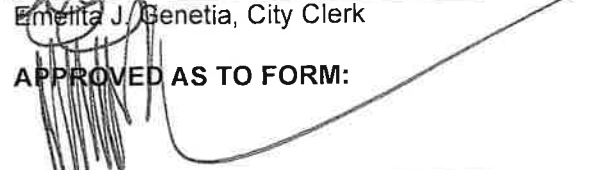
**ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON FEBRUARY 21, 2023.**


  
Steve Worthington, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Emelita J. Genetia, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Matthew S. Kaser, City Attorney

I, Emelita J. Genetia, City Clerk of the City of University Place, Washington, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of <u>RESOLUTION NO. 1005</u>
Approved by the City Council at its meeting of <u>FEBRUARY 21, 2023</u>
Dated this <u>2/22/23</u>
City Clerk 

## **Explanatory Statement**

The City of University Place is seeking voter approval for a levy lid lift to provide funding for additional public safety staffing, including eight additional patrol and traffic officers, and a specialist to address homelessness, park safety and crime prevention.

The City currently receives about six cents for every dollar taxpayers pay in property tax, and the City dedicates all of it to public safety. State law generally limits the City's property tax revenue growth to 1% annually, even if property values increase by more than 1%. Because this additional revenue is less than the annual increase in the City's public safety costs, the City lacks funding to add staff to patrol neighborhoods or to address increases in property crimes and speeding.

This proposal increases the City's levy rate by approximately \$0.35 per \$1000 of assessed value for collection in 2024 and would be used to calculate the statutory limitation for future levy increases. For a home assessed at \$652,240 (the average assessed home value as determined by the Pierce County Assessor Treasurer), this levy would increase a homeowner's property tax by approximately \$19 per month. Low-income seniors and low-income disabled homeowners may qualify for an exemption from this increase.