

JUN 18 2014

RESOLUTION NO. 749

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY IN THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 4, 2014, A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO LEVY AN ADDITIONAL 3.5% TAX ON THE PRIVILEGE OF CONDUCTING UTILITY BUSINESS WITHIN THE CITY FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY IN THE CITY; SETTING FORTH THE BALLOT PROPOSITION AND EXPLANATORY STATEMENT; AND PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSMISSION OF A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE PIERCE COUNTY AUDITOR**

WHEREAS, maintaining and enhancing police services within the City is essential in keeping the City of University Place a safe and livable community; and

WHEREAS, efficient and effective police services that support community safety are a prerequisite to a vibrant local economy; and

WHEREAS, the City cannot maintain existing police staffing levels without additional revenue; and

WHEREAS, Washington State law permits the City to levy a tax on the privilege of conducting utility businesses within the City; and

WHEREAS the City's current utility tax revenue is needed to meet existing debt service obligations and for the continuation of existing city services; and

WHEREAS, State law authorizes an additional utility tax increase when approved by the City's voters; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it is in the best interest of the residents and businesses of the City to ask the City's voters to consider approving an additional 3.5% tax on utility providers, to the extent allowed by law, to generate revenue for the sole purpose of maintaining and enhancing police services in the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON:**

Section 1. That the Pierce County Auditor, as *ex officio* supervisor of elections in Pierce County, Washington, is hereby requested to submit to the qualified electors of the City of University Place, for their approval or rejection at the next General Election to be held on November 4, 2014, a proposition authorizing an additional 3.5% tax, for a total rate of 9.5%, on the privilege of providing utility services within University Place, for the sole purpose of maintaining and enhancing police services in the City of University Place.

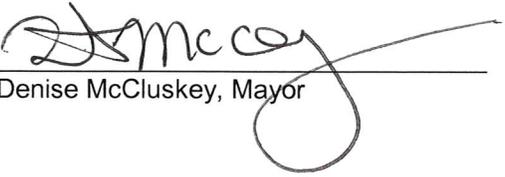
Section 2. The City shall submit the proposition to the electorate of the City of University Place in substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit A, with an explanatory statement substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit B.

Section 3. The City Clerk will provide to the Pierce County Auditor, as *ex officio* supervisor of elections, a certified copy of this resolution together with a ballot proposition and explanatory statement in substantially the forms attached hereto, for inclusion in the November 4, 2014 General Election.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption by the City Council.

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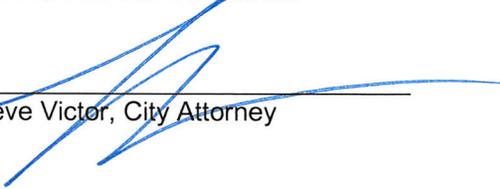
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON MARCH 3, 2014.

  
Denise McCluskey, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Emy Genetia, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Steve Victor, City Attorney

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**EXHIBIT A**

**City of University Place  
Proposition No. 1**

**Additional 3.5% Tax on Utility Company Earnings for Police Services**

The City of University Place adopted Resolution No. 749, asking voters to consider approving additional revenue to be dedicated for police services in the City. If approved by voters, Proposition No. 1 would authorize the City to levy an additional 3.5% tax on utility companies, to the extent allowed by law, for the sole purpose of maintaining and enhancing of police services in University Place.

Should Proposition No. 1 be enacted into law?

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**EXHIBIT B**

Election Date: November 4, 2014

Name of Jurisdiction Submitting Measure: City of University Place

Contact Name: Eric Faison

Daytime Contact Phone Number: 253.460.5443

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT - PROPOSITION NO. 1**

The City currently dedicates all of the City's property tax revenue to its Public Safety Fund. However, the City only receives a small portion of the total property taxes paid by its residents – approximately \$354 a year for the average household. 92% of property taxes paid by residents are paid to other jurisdictions, such as the School District, the Fire District, the County and the State. Based on current revenue trends, the City cannot maintain existing police staffing levels without additional revenue. The City is seeking to create a more sustainable Public Safety Fund through voter approval of an additional 3.5% tax on utility companies who provide services in University Place. If approved by voters, like the property tax, the new revenue will be restricted for the sole purpose of maintaining and enhancing police services. The City estimates that this additional tax would cost a household with \$400 a month in utility expenses an additional than \$14 per month.