RESOLUTION R-5378

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND AUTHORIZING KING COUNTY TO PLACE BEFORE THE VOTERS A COUNTY-WIDE BALLOT PROPOSITION FOR FUNDING THE MEDIC ONE/EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) LEVY FOR THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025 PURSUANT TO RCW 84.52.069.

WHEREAS, the delivery of emergency medical services is an essential function and fire and life safety responsibility of local and regional government; and

WHEREAS, the internationally recognized county-wide tiered Medic One/EMS system in King County provides county residents and visitors essential life-saving services throughout the region regardless of location, incident circumstances, day of the week, or time of day; and

WHEREAS, it has been to the benefit of the residents of Kirkland to support and participate in the county-wide cooperative of delivering advanced life support and basic life support services; and

WHEREAS, King County should continue to exercise leadership and assume responsibility for assuring the consistent, standardized, effective and cost-efficient development and provision of emergency services throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, RCW 84.52.069 provides for county-wide emergency medical care and service levies and King County is seeking voter authorization of a six-year Medic One/EMS levy for the period of 2020-2025; and

WHEREAS, the highly regarded patient and program services of the King County Medic One/EMS system are funded by a prior countywide six-year Medic One/EMS levy that expires December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the King County EMS Advisory Task Force, created through King County Executive Order PHL-0-1—EO, worked collaboratively with regional King County EMS Stakeholders to develop the Medic One/EMS 2020-2025 Strategic Plan for providing this countywide service, and recommends pursuit of a renewed Medic One/EMS levy per RCW 84.52.069, with an initial levy rate of 26.5 cents per one thousand dollars assessed property value in order to fund EMS throughout King County for the next six years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland significantly participated in these discussions throughout the process and was represented on the Task Force; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue funding for emergency medical services for six years, RCW 84.52.069 requires that cities with a population greater than fifty thousand approve the county-wide levy proposal prior to placement on a ballot; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Office of Financial Management estimates that as of April of 2018, the City of Kirkland has 87,240 residents, and Kirkland is therefore one of the cities in King County with a population greater than fifty thousand;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:

SECTION 1. The City of Kirkland authorizes King County to place before the voters a proposed county-wide ballot proposition in 2019 for funding the Medic One/Emergency Medical Services levy for the period from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2025 at an initial levy rate of 26.5 cents per thousand dollars of assessed property value.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this 2nd day of July, 2019.

Signed in authentication thereof this 2nd day of July, 2019.

Penny Sweet Mayor

Attest:

Kathi Anderson, City Clerk