

Amendment #3 to CB 119833
Councilmember Gonzalez

Full Council
July 27, 2020, v6

Add a new Whereas clause after the 13th Whereas clause as follows:

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WHEREAS, the City’s legal authority to fix, impose, and extend up to a one hundred dollar vehicle license fee under RCW 82.80.140 with approval of a majority of City voters has been thrown into question by statewide passage of I-976 which, in part, attempts to repeal this authority, potentially in an unconstitutional manner; and

WHEREAS, access to transit provides mobility to essential workers as they perform essential functions to combat the COVID-19 emergency; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to maintain sufficient transit service and access to opportunity made possible by Proposition 1, while also facilitating COVID-19 response and the recovery of the economy with mobility for essential workers, job seekers, students, and others who will continue to rely on transit, and while also mitigating impacts from the closure of the West Seattle Bridge; and

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Revise Section 2, item C to allow funding for transit passes for essential workers as follows:

Section 2. Use of revenues. The funds raised by this proposition (“Proposition 1 revenues”) will be used solely for the transit and transportation purposes as described in this ordinance and associated administrative costs. Proposition 1 revenues will first be used to pay any required administrative costs to the state Department of Revenue and elections costs.

Remaining Proposition 1 revenues will be used to fund:

A. Service hours on King County Metro operated services with more than 65 percent of stops within Seattle, consistent with the Seattle Transit Master Plan and King County Metro Transit's Service Guidelines, or any King County Metro operated route serving historically low-income communities in Seattle; and

B. King County Metro transit service hours on current and future RapidRide lines serving Seattle, identified in the Seattle Transit Master Plan and King County Metro's long-range plan (Metro CONNECTS); and

C. Up to 10 million dollars of the Proposition 1 revenues may be used annually to support the implementation, management, and administration of programs to support transit access by low income residents, workers, seniors and youth, including the ORCA Opportunity program, which provides transit passes for Seattle Public Schools students in grades K-12, as well as students participating in the Seattle Promise scholarship or other similar programs at Seattle colleges and universities, along with programs targeted to seniors and public housing residents. These funds may be used to provide transit passes, for low income medical workers, healthcare workers, first responders, pharmacy workers, grocery store workers, and other workers deemed essential by any state order ("Essential Workers") such as the COVID-19 civil emergency; and

D. Up to 9 million dollars of the Proposition 1 revenues may be used in 2021, and up to 3 million dollars annually in the following years, to support infrastructure maintenance and capital improvements to maximize the efficiency of transit operations, including enhancements to transit speed, passenger amenities, transit street pavement maintenance, and reliability of transit service operated by King County Metro within the City of Seattle; and

E. Up to 6 million dollars of the Proposition 1 revenues may be used annually to support emerging mobility needs related to COVID-19 response and recovery, and closure of the West

Seattle High Bridge. Such investments could include transit service, speed and reliability improvements, first-last mile transit connections, and Transportation Demand Management strategies described in the community-driven Reconnect West Seattle plan. These funds may also be used throughout the four-year term to support or pilot innovative partnerships with King County Metro.

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Revise Section 6 to revise ballot title as follows:

Section 6. Election – Ballot title. The City Council directs the City Clerk to file this ordinance with the Director of Elections of King County, Washington, as ex officio supervisor of elections, requesting the Director of Elections to call and conduct a special election in conjunction with the state general election to be held on November 3, 2020, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the City the proposition set forth in this ordinance.

The City Clerk is directed to certify to the King County Director of Elections the ballot title approved by the City Attorney in accordance with the City Attorney’s responsibilities under RCW 29A.36.071 and RCW 29A.72.050. The following ballot title containing a statement of subject and concise description are submitted to the City Attorney for consideration:

CITY OF SEATTLE

PROPOSITION NO. 1

The City of Seattle’s Proposition 1 concerns funding for transit and related transportation needs in Seattle.

If approved, this proposition authorizes up to a 0.1% sales and use tax expiring December 31, 2024, and as proposed in Ordinance ____, to replace the current voter-approved 0.1% sales tax, expiring December 31, 2020.

Revenues are dedicated to: transit services benefitting Seattle residents, including frequent transit network maintenance and associated capital improvements; low-income fare programs for Seattle seniors, students, workers and residents; and, ~~for an initial period~~, transportation needs related to COVID-19 recovery and the West Seattle Bridge closure.

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes ___

No ___

Those in favor shall vote “Yes”; those opposed shall mark their ballots “No”.

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