

Amendment #6 to CB 119833
Councilmember Gonzalez

Full Council
July 27, 2020, v1

Revise Section 1 to increase sales tax rate as follows:

Section 1. The City submits to the qualified electors of the City of Seattle a proposition to authorize up to a ~~0.1 percent~~ 0.15 percent sales and use tax for a four-year term ending December 31, 2024. This sales and use tax replaces the \$60 Vehicle License Fee and 0.1 percent sales and use tax first authorized by Seattle voters in 2014 for a six-year term expiring at the end of 2020. If approved by voters, the revenues will be used solely for the purpose of maintaining transit service and access to frequent transit service for Seattle neighborhoods, students and low income individuals, including associated maintenance and capital improvements that serve efficient operation of transit service; emerging mobility needs to support COVID-19 recovery and the Reconnect West Seattle strategy to mitigate the ongoing closure of the West Seattle High Bridge; community-led oversight; and continuation of programs to increase transit access for low income residents, seniors and students.

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Revise Section 2, item C to increase funding limit 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~~ 23 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, 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; 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 increase sales tax rate 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%~~0.15% 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 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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