RESOLUTION NO. 529

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, OPPOSING THE PASSAGE OF WASHINGTON STATE BALLOT INITIATIVE NO. 2117 CONCERNING CARBON TAX CREDIT TRADING.

WHEREAS, Initiative No. 2117 concerning carbon tax credit trading will be before Washington State voters at the General Election on November 5, 2024; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Washington State Legislature adopted Senate Bill 5216, a law known as the Washington Climate Commitment Act, which sets annual emission limits for major emitters, such as oil refiners and utilities, and establishes a market-based program (a cap and invest program) to reduce carbon pollution and achieve greenhouse gas limits set in Washington State Law; and

WHEREAS, Initiative No. 2117 seeks to repeal sections of the 2021 Washington Climate Commitment Act and seeks to bar state agencies from imposing any type of program involving the trading of carbon tax credits; and

WHEREAS, passage of Initiative No. 2117 by Washington voters would limit the City of Shoreline's access to grants funded by the Climate Commitment Act which assist with new infrastructure for pedestrians, bicycles, and electric vehicles and, without such infrastructure, the City's goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address impacts from climate change set forth in the Climate Act Plan would be adversely impacted; and

WHEREAS, RCW 42.17A.555(1) authorizes the City Council to take action to express a collective decision, or to actually vote upon a motion, proposal, or ordinance, or to support or oppose a ballot measure so long as (a) the agenda includes the title and number of the ballot proposition, and (b) members of the public and councilmembers are afforded an approximately equal opportunity to express an opposing view; and

WHEREAS, consistent with RCW 42.17A.555, the City Council considered Initiative No. 2117 at its August 5, 2024, Regular Meeting, and during said meeting, the City Council afforded members of the public and Council an approximately equal opportunity for expression of a supporting or opposing view on Initiative No. 2117;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES:

Section 1. Statement in Opposition to Initiative No. 2117. The Shoreline City Council hereby expresses its opposition to Initiative No. 2117 and encourages the citizens of Shoreline to reject Initiative No. 2117, a measure seeking to repeal sections of the 2021 Washington Climate Commitment Act and to bar state agencies from imposing any type of program involving the trading of carbon tax credits, at the November 5, 2024 General Election.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect and be in full force immediately upon passage by the City Council.

ORIGINAL

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON AUGUST 5, 2024.

Christopher Roberts, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jessica Simulcik Smith, City Clerk