

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-27

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of Bainbridge Island, Washington, endorsing “Clean Air Clean Energy” Initiative 1631, a statewide initiative to the people that would charge pollution fees on the largest corporate polluters and use the revenue to invest in healthy communities, clean our air and water, promote clean energy, and slow down the impacts of climate change, and urging voters to “Approve” Initiative 1631 on the November 6, 2018 general election ballot.

WHEREAS, the residents of Bainbridge Island and those throughout Washington State all deserve to breath clean air, drink healthy water, and live in protected environments; and

WHEREAS, over 600,000 Washingtonians live with asthma and thousands more suffer from upper respiratory illnesses and diseases caused by air pollution; and

WHEREAS, climate change is one of the paramount challenges of our generation and will have near and long-term consequences for the economy, the environment, and public health and safety on Bainbridge Island; and

WHEREAS, residents of Bainbridge Island are already experiencing the impacts of a changing climate, including more extreme rainfall events, increasing flooding risk, and more-frequent heat events that impact health; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the need to pass on a safe, healthy environment and a stable climate to our children and future generations of Washingtonians; and

WHEREAS, the City Council supports policies that provide consumers with affordable, cleaner, and more efficient fuel, energy, and transportation choices; and

WHEREAS, state, county, and city shared climate change goals cannot be met without the accelerated phase out of coal-fired electricity and replacement with renewable energy, investments in energy efficiency, cleaner forms of transportation, and investments in healthy forests and agriculture, all of which will be aided by the passage of I-1631; and

WHEREAS, the largest corporate polluters causing the most damage to our health are currently not being held accountable nor being required to pay to mitigate the damage they’re doing to our communities; and

WHEREAS, I-1631, by hastening a transition from polluting fossil fuel energy to clean energy, will create thousands of high-paying local jobs that contribute to local economies, in rural and urban communities alike, without hurting the health of their neighbors; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 will provide a source of funding that the City of Bainbridge Island and other municipalities will be able to apply for to help fund projects that reduce climate pollution and mitigate the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 prioritizes the protection of communities disproportionately harmed by pollution by targeting investments to provide direct, meaningful, and assured benefits to those communities; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 provides assistance to families with low incomes as we transition to clean energy; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 invests in our state's natural resources, which are vital to our state's economy and industries like agriculture, timber, tourism, and fishing, and which protect our health by reducing pollution in the air and water, and secure our community by lowering the risk of fires, floods, and landslides; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 provides funding to: restore and protect estuaries, fisheries, and marine shoreline habitats; prepare for sea level rise; increase sustainable supply of water; and improve infrastructure for treating stormwater; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 includes provisions for strong public oversight and accountability; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 respects tribal sovereignty and ensures that affected communities and tribal nations are consulted and involved in decision-making; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 was shaped by tribal nations and communities most affected by pollution and climate change, and is supported by an unprecedented coalition of business, labor unions, environmental and economic justice advocates, healthcare professionals, communities of color, faith-based organizations, and community leaders; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 provides Washington State an opportunity to lead the nation and set an example in how to address pollution and climate change in an equitable and economically responsible manner; and

WHEREAS, at the City Council's September 25, 2018 business meeting, persons in favor of I-1631 and those opposed to it were given an equal opportunity to share their views in an open public meeting; and

WHEREAS, notice of the September 25, 2018 business meeting was given in accordance with RCW 42.17A.555.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council publicly endorses Initiative 1631 as an essential component of the City of Bainbridge Island's commitment to cut pollution, protect our citizens' health and well-being, reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, preserve our environment, and invest in our future.


Section 2. The City Council urges all voters on Bainbridge Island and throughout Washington State to "Approve" Initiative 1631 on the November 6, 2018 general election ballot.

PASSED by the City Council this 9th day of October, 2018.

APPROVED by the Mayor this 9th day of October, 2018.

By: 
Kol Medina, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATE:

By: 
Christine Brown, City Clerk

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK:	September 21, 2018
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:	October 9, 2018
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