RESOLUTION NO. 2004-06

A JOINT RESOLUTION of the City of Bainbridge Island, Bainbridge Island School District #303, Bainbridge Island Fire District #2, and Bainbridge Island Park & Recreation District, (Washington) seeking to promote and strengthen coordination in public funding and financing requests between Bainbridge Island Taxing Districts.

WHEREAS, the delivery of public services and facilities on Bainbridge Island, is provided for the most part by four independently elected boards and councils with taxing authority; and

WHEREAS, each taxing authority has the capacity to adopt or propose property tax amounts and to borrow funds independent of each other; and

WHEREAS, the funding needs and plans of one agency can significantly impact the financial and political options of the other agencies; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the public and the taxing authorities to coordinate public funding and financing needs; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the public that local taxing authorities coordinate planning to incorporate reciprocal use facilities and equipment acquisition where appropriate; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the public that periodic reports of planning and coordination by local taxing authorities be issued, and the reports incorporate future property tax forecasts.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Bainbridge Island, the Bainbridge Island School District, the Bainbridge Island Fire District and the Bainbridge Island Park and Recreation District ("taxing authorities") do hereby agree to seek to coordinate public funding and financing requests in such manner that the following objectives are pursued:

A. All capital facilities and major equipment acquisitions will be planned in accordance with existing levels of service, identified needs, and projected population gains, unless specific changes in levels of service, identified needs, or external funding support are clearly identified;

B. The capital facilities, equipment, operations and maintenance property tax requests will be planned to minimize extreme tax payment variations from year to year;

C. Taxing authorities (agencies) will consider the usable life of the facilities and equipment, as well as interest costs and other factors, when determining the term of debt in order to spread the financial responsibility for facility and equipment equitably between current and future taxpayers;

D. So that Island voters can have a sense of what their proposed total tax contributions are likely to be even though property tax levy elections may be held separately:

1) Taxing authorities will prepare financial planning information that can be published in January as a document that, by design and intent, permits Island voters to have a comprehensive view of recent past, current, and projected property tax forecasts;
2) Taxing authorities will collaborate in, and share the costs associated with, the development and distribution of a document formatted to ensure maximum clarity for Island voters; provided, however, that each taxing authority will maintain final right of approval over any part or portion of this document that addresses the respective agency’s financial planning information.

E. Where appropriate and permissible under the law, taxing authorities will seek reciprocal use of facilities and equipment to maximize efficient use of property tax revenues, understanding that each agency must give first priority to their respective public service responsibilities and fiduciary duties.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the taxing authorities will develop a consolidated six year financial plan summary that clearly depicts projected property tax levy rates and levy amounts for Bainbridge Island taxpayers.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the taxing authorities will coordinate capital funding requests by submitting required, contemporary and approved financial information to the City’s process established to annually review its Comprehensive Plan Capital Facilities Element.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Park District’s Commissioners reserve the right to ultimately determine, and they shall be final decision-makers as to, the Park District’s good faith compliance with the above terms, consistent with their public trust and fiduciary responsibilities to properly and lawfully manage the Park District’s resources, achieve the intents of its Comprehensive Plan and comply with the statutory obligations of RCW 36.69.130 (Powers); 36.69.160 (Budget); and, 36.69.190 (Expenditures).

CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

Mayor

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 303

School Board President

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATE:

City Clerk

Superintendent, Secretary to the Board

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND FIRE DISTRICT

DISTRICT NO. 2

Commissioner

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATE:

Fire Chief

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

Chair of the Board

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATE:

Secretary of the Board