

**CITY OF SHELTON
RESOLUTION NO. 994-0210**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SHELTON, WASHINGTON, PROVIDING
FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A PROPOSITION TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS
OF THE CITY OF SHELTON AT A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON
APRIL 27, 2010, FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION OF THE
CREATION OF A METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 35.61 RCW.**

WHEREAS, the City currently operates, acquires, and maintains its parks lands and recreation facilities using general fund dollars; and

WHEREAS, due to economic recession, the City faces an anticipated \$700,000.00 shortfall in its general fund; and

WHEREAS, providing parks and open spaces and recreational opportunities is an extremely important function of city government; and

WHEREAS, the City's general fund cannot support the ongoing costs of operation, maintenance, and acquisition of parks lands and recreation facilities at a level which will meet the growing needs and desires of the citizens; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 35.61 RCW allows the City to create a metropolitan park district (MPD) wholly within its corporate limits; and

WHEREAS, creation of an MPD would be financially advantageous to the City and its citizens, because state law grants MPDs more financial flexibility than cities possess; and

WHEREAS, an established MPD has the authority to levy a maximum of \$.75 per \$1,000 assessed property value, but a levy rate of \$.55 per \$1,000 assessed property value is adequate to provide desired parks and recreation services in the City of Shelton; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35.61.050 gives cities the authority to pass a resolution calling for an election on the creation of an MPD and stating the name of the proposed MPD and how it will be governed; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35.61.050 provides that when the boundaries of an MPD will be the same as a city's corporate limits, the City Commission may serve as the *ex officio* board of parks commissioners; and

WHEREAS, in order to minimize the impact of cuts in services to citizens using Shelton parks and recreation facilities, and in order to maximize the ability of the City to acquire and construct additional parks and recreation facilities in the future, the City Commission desires to place a proposition on the ballot for a special election in April 2010, which calls for the creation of an MPD pursuant to Chapter 35.61 RCW.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Commission of the City of Shelton do hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1. Proposed metropolitan park district. The City Commission proposes that the metropolitan park district be called “Shelton Metropolitan Park District,” that its boundaries be the same as the Shelton corporate limits, and that the Shelton City Commission serve as the *ex officio* board of parks commissioners.

Section 2. Call for election. Pursuant to RCW 35.61.020, the City Commission of the City of Shelton hereby calls for submission of a proposition to the qualified electors of the City asking whether a metropolitan park district shall be created. The Mason County Auditor, as *ex officio* supervisor of elections in Mason County, is hereby requested to call a special election in the City of Shelton on April 27, 2010.

Section 3. Ballot Proposition. The proposition to be submitted to the electorate of the City of Shelton shall read substantially as follows:

CITY OF SHELTON
PROPOSITION NO. 1
METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT

The Shelton City Commission passed Resolution No. 994-0210 to allow voters to decide whether to create the “Shelton Metropolitan Park District,” to be governed by the Shelton City Commission as the *ex officio* board of parks commissioners. If created, the metropolitan park district would have all the powers under Chapter 35.61 RCW, including the authority to levy a general tax on property not to exceed the statutory maximum, and would provide improved parks and recreation services.

Shall the Shelton Metropolitan Park District be so created and governed?

For the formation of the Shelton Metropolitan Park District, to be governed by the City Commission of the City of Shelton as the *ex officio* board of parks commissioners.

Against the formation of a metropolitan park district.

Section 4. The City Clerk shall present a copy of this Resolution to the Mason County Auditor no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the April 27, 2010 election date.

Passed at the February 16, 2009 business meeting of the Shelton City Commission.

ATTEST:

Mayor Tarrant

City Clerk Look

Commissioner Byrne

Commissioner Pannell