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Kittitas County Auditor

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF KITTITAS
STATE OF WASHINGTON**

**RESOLUTION
NO. 2023- 224**

**A RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT A PROPOSITION TO THE VOTERS OF KITTITAS
COUNTY: AUTHORIZING A TWO-TENTHS OF ONE PERCENT (0.2%) SALES AND
USE TAX TO FUND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH KITTCOM'S EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES PURSUANT TO RCW 82.14.420**

WHEREAS, Section 82.14.420 Revised Code of Washington (RCW) authorizes county legislative authorities to adopt a Resolution providing for the submission of a proposal to county voters for the imposition of a sales and use tax up to two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) for financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, re-equipping, and improvement of countywide emergency communication systems and facilities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 38.52.510, Kittitas County must provide or participate in countywide emergency communications systems so that "9-1-1" service is available throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, Kittitas County is a party to an Interlocal Agreement titled "KITTCOM's Governing Agreement" establishing KITTCOM, a separate public agency and consolidated public safety communications center created for the purpose of providing communication and dispatch services for public safety and emergencies in the participating incorporated and unincorporated areas of Kittitas County; and

WHEREAS, a Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency ("CISA") review by the United States Department of Homeland Security has determined that the countywide emergency communication systems and facilities which KITTCOM maintains and which Kittitas County relies upon to meet its obligations under RCW 38.52.510, and which county residents rely upon for public safety and emergency assistance, have significantly aged and been subjected to wear and tear; and

WHEREAS, based in part on the CISA review, KITTCOM identified a need for major investment and continued funding for ongoing maintenance of communications and dispatch infrastructure, systems, and facilities; and

WHEREAS, therefore, the KITTCOM Administrative Board established a Citizen Advisory Committee to review the need for and potentially recommend to the KITTCOM Board that it request the Board of County Commissioners submit a proposition to the voters for the adoption of the two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) sales and use tax authorized by RCW 82.14.420, to fund costs associated with the financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling,

repairing, re-equipping, and improvement of emergency communication systems and facilities in Kittitas County; and

WHEREAS, by KITTCOM Administrative Board Resolution 2023-7, which is attached hereto and hereby incorporated by reference, KITTCOM has requested that the Board of County Commissioners submit a ballot proposition at the April 23, 2024 Special Election to the voters of Kittitas County proposing the adoption of the two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) sales and use tax for emergency communication systems and facilities authorized by RCW 82.14.420; and

WHEREAS, KITTCOM and its participating agencies, including Kittitas County, the City of Ellensburg, KVFR, and other stakeholders, affirm the need to maintain and improve the emergency communications systems and facilities in Kittitas County; and

WHEREAS, after public hearing, the Board of Commissioners of Kittitas County deems it to be in the best interest of the County and its constituents to submit such a proposition to the voters; and

WHEREAS, a passing vote must be recorded by the Kittitas County Auditor in order for the tax to be enacted; and

WHEREAS, the tax, if approved, shall be imposed commencing January 1, 2025, by operation of further ordinance;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Kittitas County Commissioners as follows:

- (1) There shall be submitted to the voters of Kittitas County, Washington, at the Special Election to be held on April 23, 2024, a ballot proposition, which if approved by the voters, will fix and impose a sales and use tax in accordance with the terms of RCW 82.14.420 at the rate of two-tenths of one percent of the selling price in the case of sales tax, or value of the article used, in the case of use tax, which tax shall be in addition to any other taxes authorized by law and which shall be collected from those persons who are taxable by the State under Chapters 82.08 and 82.12 RCW upon the occurrence of any taxable event within Kittitas County, to be used solely for the purpose of providing funds for costs associated with financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, re-equipping, and improvement of the KITTCOM emergency communications systems and facilities.
- (2) The Kittitas County Auditor is hereby directed that the following proposition in its substantial form shall be placed before the voters at the April 23, 2024 Special Election, and if approved, the Department of Revenue shall be notified at least 75 days prior to January 1, 2025, of the implementation of the tax;

Kittitas County

KITTCOM Emergency Communications Systems and Facilities Sales and Use Tax

PROPOSITION NO. 1

The Kittitas County Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 2023-²²⁴, concerning an emergency communication systems and facilities sales and use tax. As authorized by RCW 82.14.420, these funds would be used solely for the purpose of providing funds for KITTCOM for costs associated with financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, re-equipping, and improvement of emergency communications systems and facilities. If approved, the proposition would increase the sales and use tax within Kittitas County by two-tenths of one percent.

Should this proposition be approved?

☐ Yes

☐ No

DATED this 19th day of December, 2023, at Ellensburg, Washington,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Cory Wright, Chairman
Laura Osiadacz, Commissioner
Brett Wachsmith, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Clerk of the Board, Julie Kjorsvik

KITTCOM Administrative Board Resolution 2023-7

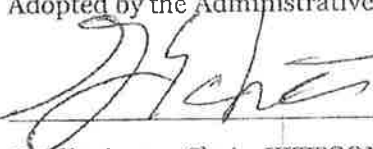
**A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SUBMIT A PROPOSITION TO THE VOTERS OF KITTITAS COUNTY AUTHORIZING A TWO-TENTHS
OF 1% COUNTY SALES AND USE TAX TO FUND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FINANCING,
DESIGN, ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPPING, OPERATING,
MAINTAINING, REMODELING, REPAIRING, REEQUIPPING, AND IMPROVEMENT
OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES PURSUANT TO
RCW 82.14.420**

Whereas: RCW 82.14.420 authorizes county legislative authorities to adopt a Resolution providing for the submission of a proposal to county voters for the imposition of a sales and use tax for emergency communication systems and facilities at the April 23, 2024 Special Election; and

Whereas: a Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency review by the United States Department of Homeland Security has determined the need for major investment and continued funding for ongoing maintenance, and based in part on the age of the communication systems in Kittitas County; and

Now, therefore be it resolved: the KITTCOM Board is authorized to request the Kittitas County Board of County Commissioners submit a ballot proposition to the voters of Kittitas County, Washington at the April 23, 2024 Special Election for the adoption of a two tenths of 1% Sales and Use Tax for the purpose of emergency communication funding.

Adopted by the Administrative Board of KITTCOM on this 10th day of November 2023.



Geoff Scherer, Chair, KITTCOM Administrative Board



ATTEST: George Long, Secretary, KITTCOM Administrative Board