

RESOLUTION NO. 936

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, REGARDING VEHICLE LICENSE FEES

WHEREAS, the City of University Place established, via Ordinance 634 (December 2, 2013) a University Place Transportation Benefit District (the "District"); and

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2015, the City of University Place adopted Ordinance 660, wherein the City of University Place assumed all rights, powers, functions and obligations previously exercised and/or performed by the District;

WHEREAS, State law authorizes a transportation benefit district to implement, by majority vote of the District's governing board, a vehicle license fee with certain maximum values depending on the length of time a fee has been in effect at lesser levels and whether the fee is approved by the Council or voters; and

WHEREAS, the funding generated by the vehicle license fee will be a sustainable source of limited funding for street maintenance, but will not provide sufficient revenue to fully fund even a basic street maintenance program; and

WHEREAS, in the future, the City Council may need to explore other options to fully fund a basic street maintenance program; and

WHEREAS, via Resolution 873, the City Council affixed a rate of thirty-five dollars (\$35) for a vehicle license fee; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it to be in the best interest of the residents of the City to amend the annual vehicle license fee for the for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, providing, and funding transportation improvements, including the operation, preservation, and maintenance of these facilities or programs, within the City; that are consistent with any existing state, regional, or local transportation plans and necessitated by existing or reasonably foreseeable congestion levels.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE UNIVERSITY PLACE, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Fee. An annual vehicle fee in the amount of ten dollars (\$10.00) is hereby established pursuant to State law to be collected by the Washington Department of Licensing on qualifying vehicles as set forth in State law.

Section 2. Effective Date of Fees. The vehicle license fee set forth in Section 1 shall take effect for notices mailed in 2021 for vehicle license renewals due as soon thereafter as the Washington Department of Licensing is reasonably able to incorporate collection of the fee. Vehicle license fees will not be collected sooner than six months after approval as provided in State law.

Section 3. Expenditures. The revenues received from the vehicle license fee shall only be expended on transportation projects approved by the City Council, with a primary emphasis on the maintenance and upkeep of non-grant funded projects, such as chipsealing and related pavement management methods, upon residential streets and secondary collectors. The transportation projects to be funded with the revenues from the vehicle license fee shall be established by a separate legislation adopted by the City Council.

Section 4. Execution of Documents. The proper officials are authorized to execute any and all appropriate documents to effectuate this Resolution on behalf of the City of University Place.

Section 5. Savings Clause. The existing thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) license fee shall remain in full force and effect until the effective date set forth in Section 2.

Section 6. Review. The vehicle license fee established in this Resolution above shall be reviewed on or before December 31, 2025, and every four years thereafter as part of the City's biennial budget process.

Section 7. Legislation Effective Date. This Resolution shall be effective the day after the effective date of Ordinance 737.

Section 8. Inseverability. In the event any provision, part, or amendment to the University Place Municipal Code contained within Ordinance No. 737 is found to be invalid or unenforceable, then the vehicle license fee shall revert to that set forth in Resolution 873 (2018); it being the intent of the City Council to revert to the status quo prior to the enactment of Ordinance No. 737. In this event, the proper City officials are authorized to take appropriate measures to request the Washington Department of Licensing to resume the imposition of the licensing fee set forth in Resolution 873 as promptly as allowed by law.


PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 2, 2020.


Caroline Belleci, Mayor

ATTEST:


Emelita J. Genetia, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Matthew S. Kaser, City Attorney