



## RESOLUTION NO. 40442

1 BY REQUEST OF MAYOR WOODARDS, AND COUNCIL MEMBERS IBSEN  
2 AND MELLO

3 A RESOLUTION expressing opposition for the passage of the “Motor Vehicle  
4 Taxes and Fees” Initiative 976 at the November 5, 2019, General Election,  
5 that would repeal, reduce, or remove authority to impose certain vehicle  
6 taxes and fees; limit annual motor-vehicle-license fees to \$30, except voter-  
7 approved charges; and base vehicle taxes on Kelley Blue Book value.

8 WHEREAS Initiative 976 (“I-976”) will appear on the November 5, 2019,  
9 General Election ballot, and

10 WHEREAS, if approved, I-976 would: (1) limit annual license fees for  
11 vehicles weighing under 10,000 pounds to \$30, except in the instance of voter-  
12 approved charges, (2) repeal local Transportation Benefit District (“TBD”) fees,  
13 (3) repeal authorization for certain regional transit authorities to impose motor  
14 vehicle excise taxes, and (4) limit certain other taxes and fees related to  
15 transportation, and

16 WHEREAS the Public Works Department of the City estimates the impact  
17 of repealing local authority to impose TBD fees would constitute a loss of  
18 approximately \$2.9 million per year, or \$5.8 million per biennium, which would  
19 negatively impact the City’s ability to perform necessary work to improve  
20 transportation infrastructure, and  
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1           WHEREAS, I-976's impact on Washington State transportation revenues  
2 will also affect the City, with the total revenue loss to the state estimated at  
3 \$1.9 billion over the course of the next six years, and  
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5           WHEREAS I-976's impact to Washington State's transportation revenues  
6 will result in decreased funding to the Transportation Improvement and Multimodal  
7 Accounts, for which the City has utilized grant dollars for streetscape  
8 improvements, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and Safe Routes to School  
9 projects, and  
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11           WHEREAS, if adopted, this Resolution would express the City Council's  
12 opposition to I-976 for its repeal of the City's authority to impose TBD fees, and the  
13 adverse impact the loss of revenue would have on the City's ability to complete  
14 transportation improvement projects, and  
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16           WHEREAS, RCW 42.17A.555 permits the City Council to oppose a ballot  
17 proposition at an open public meeting so long as notice of the meeting includes the  
18 title and number of the ballot proposition and those expressing an opposing view  
19 are afforded an approximately equal opportunity to express an opinion; Now,  
20 Therefore,  
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22           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

23           Section 1. That the City Council hereby expresses its opposition for the  
24 passage of the "Motor Vehicle Taxes and Fees" Initiative 976 ("I-976") at the  
25 November 5, 2019, General Election, for its repeal of cities' authority to impose  
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1 Transportation Benefit District fees, and the adverse effect the loss of revenues  
 2 would have on the City's ability to accomplish transportation improvement projects.

3 Section 2. That the City Council urges Tacoma voters to vote "No" on I-976  
 4 on the November 5, 2019, General Election ballot, which ballot title reads as  
 5 follows:  
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7 **STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
 8 **INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 976**

9 Initiative Measure No. 976 concerns motor vehicle taxes and fees.  
 10 This measure would repeal, reduce, or remove authority to impose  
 11 certain vehicle taxes and fees; limit annual motor-vehicle-license  
 12 fees to \$30, except voter-approved charges; and base vehicles taxes  
 13 on Kelley Blue Book value.

14 Should this measure be enacted into law?

15 Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 16 No \_\_\_\_\_

17 Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

18 \_\_\_\_\_  
 19 Mayor

20 Attest:  
 21 \_\_\_\_\_  
 22 City Clerk

23 Approved as to form:  
 24 \_\_\_\_\_  
 25 City Attorney

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