RESOLUTION NO. TBD 023

A RESOLUTION relating to the City of Tacoma Transportation Benefit District; authorizing a one-tenth of one percent sales and use tax for the Transportation Benefit District Fund, to continue to collect funds to be used for improvements, maintenance, preservation, and operations of the City's street and transportation system.

WHEREAS RCW 35.21.225 and 36.73.020 provide for the establishment of a Transportation Benefit District ("TBD") by cities and counties to levy and impose various taxes and fees to generate revenue to support transportation improvements that benefit the district and are consistent with state, regional, or local transportation plans, and necessitated by existing or reasonably foreseeable congestion levels, and

WHEREAS Ordinance No. 28099, passed on November 20, 2012, and codified under Chapter 10.28 of the Tacoma Municipal Code, established a TBD for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, providing, and funding transportation improvements within the district, and

WHEREAS on July 14, 2015, the TBD adopted Amended Resolution No. TBD 008 to place ballot measure Proposition No. 4, later referred to as Proposition A, on the ballot for the General Election, and

WHEREAS Proposition A, which authorized a sales tax increase of one-tenth of one percent to fund street improvements, was passed in the November 3, 2015, General Election, and

WHEREAS in the years since its launch, the initiative has helped fund street improvements for over 4,800 residential blocks, and on pace to surpass its original goal of 5,600 residential blocks, has upgraded sidewalks and crosswalks near schools, improved bike and pedestrian mobility in line with the City's goals for sustainable and accessible transportation, and has addressed critical freight access needs to support the City's economic growth; TBD revenues have been instrumental in the success of this initiative, and

WHEREAS the sale tax increase approved by the voters in 2015 expires on March 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS RCW 36.73.065(4)(a)(v) authorizes the Board to approve a sales and use tax of up to one-tenth of one percent, and

WHEREAS if approved, there would be no increase in the sales and use tax for city residents and visitors, as the Board-approved tax would essentially replace the voter-approved tax in 2015, and

WHEREAS without a continued dedicated funding source, the progress achieved through the Tacoma Streets Initiative is at risk, and the one-tenth of one percent sales tax is vital to sustain these efforts and ensure that the City's streets system will remain efficient for all users, and

WHEREAS this sales and use tax would begin on April 1, 2026; Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE TACOMA TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICT:

Section 1. That a one-tenth of one percent sales and use tax for the Transportation Benefit District Fund, to continue to collect funds to be used for improvements, maintenance, preservation, and operations of the City's street and transportation system is hereby approved.

Section 2. That the one-tenth of one percent sales and use tax approved by the Board shall take effect April 1, 2026.

Passed _____

_____
Mayor/Member of the Transportation Benefit District

Attest:

_____
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

_____
Deputy City Attorney