

RESOLUTION NO. 114 -2021

**REQUESTING THAT THE COUNTY AUDITOR PLACE ON THE NOVEMBER 2, 2021 BALLOT A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE IMPOSITION OF A SALES AND USE TAX AT THE RATE OF TWO-TENTHS OF ONE PERCENT (0.2%) FOR KITSAP 911'S EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES PURSUANT TO RCW 82.14.420**

**WHEREAS**, on May 19, 2003, following approval by the voters of a ballot proposition, the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners implemented a sales and use tax of one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) to provide ongoing funds for constructing, equipping, operating, repairing and improving countywide emergency communication systems and facilities, commonly known as the 9-1-1 system; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 25, 2016 the Board of County Commissioners enacted Ordinance No. 532-2016, adding chapter 2.110 to the Kitsap County Code, creating a public authority to be known as "Kitsap 911," approving a charter therefor, and establishing a Board of Directors to govern the affairs of Kitsap 911; and

**WHEREAS**, Kitsap 911 is responsible for the operation of the 9-1-1 system in Kitsap County; and

**WHEREAS**, Kitsap County's public safety agencies rely on Kitsap 911's radio system as the primary means for transmitting mission-critical voice communications between emergency responders; and

**WHEREAS**, Kitsap 911's infrastructure is approaching end of life and needs to be replaced, particularly the radio system which does not currently provide adequate coverage to all parts of the County; and

**WHEREAS**, Kitsap 911's current revenues are not adequate to meet future capital improvement, equipment replacement, and operating requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Legislature amended RCW 84.14.420 (Ch. 281, Laws of 2019) which authorizes counties to submit a proposition to the voters of the county to increase the limitations of emergency communication systems sales and use tax from one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) to two-tenths of one percent (0.2%), to be used solely for the purpose of providing funds for costs associated with financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, reequipping, and improvement of emergency communication systems and facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 82.14.420 requires that prior to submitting the tax authorization to the voters in a county that provides emergency communication services to a governmental agency pursuant to a contract, the parties to the contract must affirm the terms of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, Kitsap County, the cities of Port Orchard, Poulsbo, Bainbridge Island and Bremerton, Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue, South Kitsap Fire and Rescue, North Kitsap Fire and Rescue, Poulsbo Fire, the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, and the Suquamish Tribe contract with Kitsap 911 for emergency communication services and have affirmed the terms of their contracts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kitsap 911's Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2021-002 requesting that the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners place a measure on the November 2, 2021 ballot to increase the emergency communication systems and facilities sales and use tax to two-tenths of one percent;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The Kitsap County Auditor is requested to call a special election to be held in conjunction with the general election on November 2, 2021 for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the County the following proposition:

Kitsap County  
Proposition No. 2  
Kitsap 911 Emergency Communication Systems and Facilities Sales and  
Use Tax

The Kitsap County Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 114-2021 concerning an emergency communication systems and facilities sales and use tax. If approved, this proposition would authorize the imposition of an additional one-tenth of one percent of sales and use tax for a total rate of two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) for the purpose of providing funds for Kitsap 911 for costs associated with financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, reequipping, and improvement of emergency communication systems and facilities, pursuant to RCW 82.14.420.

Should this proposition be approved?

YES  
NO

2. In accordance with RCW 29A.36.071(1), the Kitsap County Prosecuting Attorney is authorized to make such changes to the proposition as he may deem necessary to conform to law, provided that the fundamental intent of the Board as expressed in this resolution is retained.

3. Upon adoption of this resolution, and in no event later than August 3, 2021, the Clerk of the Board is authorized and directed to transmit a certified copy of the resolution to the Kitsap County Auditor.

ADOPTED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITSAP COUNTY, WASHINGTON



ROBERT GELDER, Chair



EDWARD E. WOLFE, Commissioner



CHARLOTTE GARRIDO, Commissioner



ATTEST:



Dana Daniels, Clerk of the Board

# **Kitsap 911 Public Authority**

## **Resolution 2021-002**

### **Requesting the Board of County Commissioners Place a Proposition on the November 2, 2021 Ballot to Increase the Sales and Use Tax for Emergency Communications Systems and Facilities to 2/10<sup>ths</sup> of 1 percent.**

**WHEREAS**, the Kitsap 911 Public Authority, a public corporation organized under RCW 35.21.730, is the countywide 9-1-1 answering point and emergency services dispatch center for all fire services, law enforcement, emergency medical services, and animal rescue; and

**WHEREAS**, the public safety agencies in Kitsap County including: Bainbridge Island Fire Department, Bainbridge Island Police Department, Bremerton Fire Department, Bremerton Police Department, Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue, Kitsap County Sheriff's Office, Kitsap Humane Society Animal Rescue and Enforcement, Port Gamble Police Department and Department of Natural Resources, Port Orchard Police Department, Poulsbo Fire Department, Poulsbo Police Department, South Kitsap Fire and Rescue, and Suquamish Police Department, all rely on Kitsap 911's radio system as the primary means for transmitting mission-critical communications between emergency responders; and

**WHEREAS**, Kitsap 911's emergency communications systems are absolutely essential for the safety of Kitsap County residents, visitors and first responders; and

**WHEREAS**, the existing radio communication system and infrastructure is failing to provide reliable emergency communications in all areas of Kitsap County and cannot accommodate the volume of radio traffic required during emergencies putting the public, first responders and property at risk; and

**WHEREAS**, other portions of the Kitsap 911 infrastructure are technically obsolete, no longer supported by the manufacturer or are approaching end of life; and

**WHEREAS**, existing funding mechanisms for Kitsap 911 are not adequate to support capital improvements required to provide reliable emergency communications in Kitsap County; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislature amended RCW 82.14.420 to increase the maximum sales and use tax for emergency communications systems and facilities to two-tenths of one percent, provided that a proposition must be submitted to the voters to increase the tax rate; and

**WHEREAS**, under the Washington State Law, the Ordinance and Kitsap 911's Charter, the Board of County Commissioners remain the taxing authority for the sales and use tax for emergency communications systems and facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is the Board's intent that these revenues will be used to fund the radio system replacement and thereafter to create a committed Capital Improvement/Equipment Replacement Reserve, and to fund such capital improvements, equipment replacement and operating costs as the Board may authorize.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Kitsap 911 Board of Directors as follows:

**Section 1. Ballot Measure.** The Kitsap 911 Board of Directors incorporates by reference the recitals set forth above and requests the Board of County Commissioners place a proposition on the November 2021 ballot to increase the sales and use tax for emergency communications systems and facilities authorized under RCW 82.14.420 to two-tenths of one percent.

**Section 2. Election Costs.** Kitsap 911 will pay the portion of the election costs required to place this proposition on the ballot.

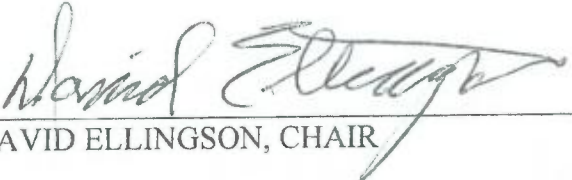
**Section 3. Executive Committee Authority.** The Kitsap 911 Executive Committee is authorized to take all necessary steps to ensure the proposition is placed on the ballot.

**Section 4. Severability.** If any provision of this Resolution or any provision of any document incorporated by reference shall be held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions of this Resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provision, if such remainder conforms to the requirements of applicable law and the fundamental purpose of this agreement, and to this end the provisions of this Resolution are declared to be severable.


**Section 5. Effective Date.** This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption and signature as provided by law.

MOVED AND PASSED at a regular meeting of the Kitsap 911 Board of Directors on May 4, 2021 of which all Directors were notified, and a quorum was present.

KITSAP 911 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

  
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DAVID ELLINGSON, CHAIR

ATTEST:

  
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Richard A. Kirton, Executive Director