

| APPEARANCES | Initial | Date | Date Received in Council Office: | Agenda date | Assigned to: |
|------------------------------|---------|------|--|-------------|-------------------|
| Originator: | | | RECEIVED JUL 23 1997 WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL | 7/29/97 | Finance / Council |
| Division Head: | | | | | |
| Dept. Head: | | | | | |
| Prosecutor: Randall J. Watts | | | | | |
| Executive: Pete Kremen | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

SUBJECT:

Providing the Whatcom County Electorate with the Opportunity to Implement a Sales Tax Enhancement for Corrections and advise the County Council of its Majority Desire regarding Implementation of a Sales Tax Enhancement for County-Wide Criminal Justice Services

ATTACHMENTS:

Proposed Resolution

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Test Council Approval

Please complete sections of box as appropriate & explain the item below.

| | |
|--|--|
| Related County contract #: | Should Clerk schedule a hearing? NO / _ / YES / _ / Requested date: |
| Amount budgeted for this item/project:\$ | Is it (or will it be) within budget? YES / _ / NO / _ / (Please explain below) |
| Budget line item number(s): | |
| | |

ORIGINATOR'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approval of Resolution Providing the Whatcom County Electorate with the opportunity to Implement a Sales Tax Enhancement for Corrections and Advise the County Council of its Majority Desire regarding Implementation of a Sales Tax Enhancement for County-Wide Criminal Justice Services

COMMITTEE ACTION TAKEN:

COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN:

7 - 274 7/29/97: Approved 6 - 0, Sutter absent. Res. #97-040

nance or Resolution Number (this item only):

Res # 97-040

SPONSORED BY: Nelson/Dawson
PROPOSED BY: Consent
INTRODUCTION DATE: 7/29/97

RESOLUTION NO: 97-040

**PROVIDING WHATCOM COUNTY VOTERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO IMPLEMENT
A SALES TAX FOR CORRECTIONS AND ADVISE THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ITS
DESIRE TO IMPLEMENT A SALES TAX FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the provision of effective law enforcement and public safety services are of the highest priority of the Executive, County Council and the public; and

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Executive empowered a select citizen's panel to conduct a comprehensive study of the County's criminal justice services for the purpose of determining appropriate program, budget and funding priorities for Administrative and Legislative consideration; and

WHEREAS, the Executive's Blue Ribbon Panel on Criminal Justice recommended that the question of implementing two available local option sales taxes to provide funding to enhance law and justice services and additional jail and incarceration options be submitted to the county electorate during the next general election; and

WHEREAS, the County lacks sufficient funding from other available revenue sources to provide for additional law and justice or corrections funding or program enhancements needed to maintain adequate levels of public safety; and

WHEREAS, the County's criminal justice officials have engaged in extensive strategic and budgetary planning efforts to develop comprehensive Law and Justice and Corrections plans that clearly demonstrate the need for and commitment of additional enhancement funding; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate for the taxpayers of Whatcom County to express their will by vote regarding the increase in local sales taxes for the purpose of providing additional funding for dedicated law enforcement and public safety services;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that We, the Whatcom County Council, do hereby believe that in the public interest to place the One Tenth of One Percent Local Sales Tax for Criminal Justice, as provided for in RCW 82.14.340 to an advisory vote of the County Electorate for the purpose of determining the public's desire to enhance law and justice services throughout Whatcom County and its municipalities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that We, the Whatcom County Council believe it to be in the public interest to place the One Tenth of One Percent Local Sales Tax for Corrections, as provided for in RCW 82.14.350, to a vote of the County Electorate for the purpose of determining the public will for the enhancement of incarceration and corrections options.


BE IT NOW FINALLY RESOLVED, that the County Executive is hereby authorized and requested to initiate the appropriate action necessary to ensure the formulation and placement of the two local option sales tax issues on the ballot before the County Electorate during the November 4th, 1997 general election.

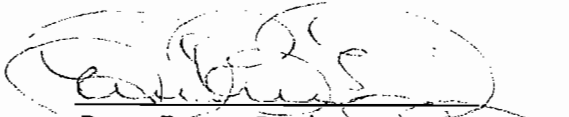
Approved this 29 day of July, 1997.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY,
WASHINGTON

Clerk of the Council

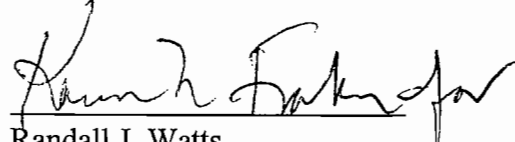

L. Ward Nelson, Chair
() APPROVED


Dana Brown-Davis

Signature not needed.
Pete Kremen, County Executive

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Date: _____


Randall J. Watts,
Chief Civil Deputy
Prosecuting Attorney