

RESOLUTION 1343

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR CITY OF GIG HARBOR PROPOSITION NO. 1 TITLED “ADDITIONAL SALES AND USE TAX SUPPORTING ADOPTED CULTURAL ACCESS PROGRAM” ON THE NOVEMBER 4, 2025, GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

WHEREAS, through Ordinance 1546 the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor created a new cultural access program as allowed by RCW 36.160.030; and

WHEREAS, RCW 36.16.080 and RCW 82.14.525 provide that a city creating a cultural access program may impose sales and use taxes for a period of up to seven consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, the city council’s creation of the cultural access program included a one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) sales and use tax on the selling price in the case of a sales tax or of the value of the article used in the case of a use tax which was conditioned on the specific authorization of a majority of the voters voting on a proposition submitted at a special or general election of the sales and use tax; and

WHEREAS, the city council has adopted Resolution 1341 causing Proposition No. 1 to be placed on the ballot of the November 4, 2025, election; and

WHEREAS, if approved, this proposition would increase the sales and use tax rate by one-tenth of one percent (0.1%); and

WHEREAS, imposition of a sales and use tax for a cultural access program would benefit the City of Gig Harbor by providing funds for the purpose of investing in the local institutional and human infrastructure to the benefit of the public and to provide public and educational benefits and economic support for cultural organizations; and

WHEREAS, city residents would benefit greatly from improved public access to programs produced by nonprofit arts, culture, science, and heritage organizations that would be enabled by an increase in public funding for those organizations; and

WHEREAS, the cultural access initiative was born of the effort to promote arts, culture, science, and heritage in Gig Harbor, in order to spark its creative energy and inspire the very best of the city and its residents; and

WHEREAS, a cultural access program would allow arts, culture, science, and heritage organizations to expand open public hours, offer discounted and free admission, and participate in public school access programs;

WHEREAS, increased funding may provide transportation for school age children to access and attend arts, science, cultural, and heritage programs, so as to overcome one of the recognized barriers for such participation;

WHEREAS, at its meeting of September 8, 2025, the city council took public testimony on Proposition 1, allowing an equal opportunity for the expression of viewpoints supporting and opposing this measure;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor:

Section 1. The Gig Harbor City Council strongly supports City of Gig Harbor Proposition No. 1 – Additional Sales and Use Tax Supporting Adopted Cultural Access Program on the November 4, 2025, General Election Ballot.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor at a regular meeting thereof, held this 8th day of September, 2025.

Mary Barber
Mayor

Attest:

Joshua Stecker, CMC
City Clerk