

TOWN OF WOODWAY

RESOLUTION 18-401

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A NEW COUNTYWIDE EMERGENCY RADIO SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Town of Woodway provides police, fire, and emergency medical services to its residents who depend on those high quality and speedy emergency services; and

WHEREAS, public safety depends on having reliable and effective emergency communications; and

WHEREAS, since 1999, SERS, the Snohomish County Emergency Radio System, has provided a dependable countywide emergency radio service that is used to effectively respond to 911 call emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the SERS existing analogue 800 MHz radio system is now outdated and will reach its end-of-life in 2020. When that happens, it will be increasingly difficult and eventually impossible to maintain reliable radio service between 911 call dispatchers and emergency responders; and

WHEREAS, independent expert analysis has determined that a new replacement P25 radio system using modern digital technology will substantially reduce the risk of future failure and provide better audio voice quality for simulcast, two-way, interoperable emergency communications; and

WHEREAS, other counties of similar size in our region have already acted to replace their outdated 800 MHz radio system with a new P25 digital radio system; and

WHEREAS, a county competitive bidding procurement process was begun on November 17, 2017 to select a qualified vendor to provide a new countywide radio system; and

WHEREAS, a countywide funding strategy for a new radio system must be identified and successfully obtained to replace the existing SERS system with an estimated replacement cost of \$60-\$75 million; and

WHEREAS, as Councilmembers governing this Town, our preferable funding source for a new emergency radio system would be a proposed, voter-approved countywide sales tax increase of one-tenth of one percent (as specifically authorized for this sole purpose by RCW 82.14.420).

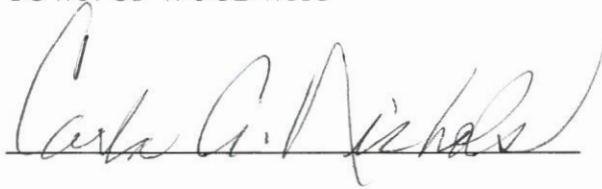
NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Council of the Town of Woodway does hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1. We support this small and dedicated county sales tax increase that would only fund local emergency communications equipment and infrastructure and would not negatively impact future property tax revenue that supports junior taxing district' operations. The permanent sales tax increase would ensure that SERS would have funding for future improvements as well as the current system upgrade.

Section 2. We respectfully urge that Snohomish County government take necessary actions as soon as possible in 2018 to fund replacing the outdated countywide SERS 911 emergency radio system. We support a Snohomish County funding measure to acquire and install a new P25 emergency radio system in 2018.

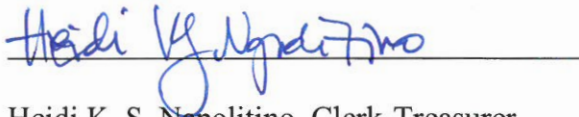
PASSED this 7th day of May 2018 by the Town Council of the Town of Woodway.

TOWN OF WOODWAY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carla A. Nichols", written over a horizontal line.

Carla A. Nichols, Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Heidi K. S. Napolitano", written over a horizontal line.

Heidi K. S. Napolitano, Clerk-Treasurer