

# 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WHEREAS, the SERS existing analogue 800 MHz radio system is now outdated and will reach its end-of-life in 2020.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WHEREAS, other counties of similar size in our region have already acted to replace their outdated 800 MHz radio system with a new P25 digital radio system; and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:

