

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM RELATED TO POLICIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREENWAYS III LEVY PROGRAM.**

**WHEREAS**, the voters of the City of Bellingham have previously approved two Greenway levies to provide funding to acquire property and to make improvements to parks, open space, natural areas, and trails throughout the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the land acquisitions and improvements to the parks, open spaces, natural areas and trails that have been accomplished as a result of City Council and voter support for the Greenway Program have significantly contributed to the quality of life for all citizens of the City of Bellingham; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council recognizes that the uninterrupted continuation of the Greenway Program is important and necessary to continue to improve the quality of life in Bellingham and is in the best interest of all its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council is desirous of demonstrating to the community its enthusiastic support for the Greenway Program by unanimously approving the Greenways III Levy ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to insure broad community support it is necessary to provide the voters with sufficient information on how the Greenways III levy funds will be allocated to achieve the goal of continued improvement in the quality of life for all citizens of the City of Bellingham; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to providing guidelines as to how the levy funds will be allocated it is also necessary to recognize that the City needs flexibility to be able to respond to opportunities for property purchase, when those properties, whose preservation will enhance the quality of life, become available through offers and negotiation with a willing seller;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Bellingham City Council intends to be guided by the allocations made in accordance with Exhibit A, "Greenways III - Expenditure Guideline Summary" in decisions involving the expenditure of the Greenways III Levy; and

**BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED**, that the Bellingham City Council intends to allocate the funds for major greenway land acquisitions (approximately \$20.1 million) as follows: Approximately \$12.1 million allocated to Northside property acquisitions; approximately \$6 million allocated to Southside property acquisitions; and approximately \$2 million undesignated. In the event that the City is able to negotiate a reasonable purchase agreement,

City of Bellingham  
City Attorney  
210 Lottie Street  
Bellingham, Washington 98225  
360-676-6903

the City Council will give priority to allocating up to \$2 million in the undesignated funds, as may be deemed necessary, for acquiring a portion of property for completing a corridor connection between Fairhaven Park to the Interurban Trail through the area north of the wetlands on the parcel commonly known as Fairhaven Highlands; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council will review its existing Greenway Acquisition policies; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Bellingham City Council enthusiastically and unanimously supports the continuation of the Greenway Program.

**PASSED** by the Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council President

**APPROVED** by me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Director

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Office of the City Attorney

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