

CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON
RESOLUTION NO. 305

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON,
OPPOSING “INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 1033 CONCERNS
STATE, COUNTY AND CITY REVENUE”**

WHEREAS, Initiative 1033 qualified for the November 2009 ballot and would require the state, counties and cities to limit the annual growth of their general fund revenue to the rate of inflation and population growth, not including voter-approved revenue increases. Revenue collected above the limit would reduce property tax levies; and

WHEREAS, Initiative 1033 would make 2009 the year for calculating the general fund revenue base, above which 2010 revenues would be transferred into a new “Lower Property tax Account”; and

WHEREAS, the national and local recession has caused the state and local governments to significantly reduce their budgets in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Initiative 1033 defines “general fund revenues” as revenue from taxes, fees and other governmental charges; and

WHEREAS, the City of Burien depends upon general fund revenues in order to provide governmental services such as recreational programming, human service and arts funding, parks maintenance and public safety; and

WHEREAS, according to the State Office of Financial Management, Initiative 1033 would result in state revenue transfer to the Lower Property Tax Account of \$676 Million in 2011, increasing to more than \$1.8 Billion by 2015; and

WHEREAS, the use of these funds to lower property taxes would benefit only property owners and not other residents of the State, and would establish that the funding of this benefit for property owners would be of greater importance than the funding of state and local government services that could be provided with those diverted revenues, such as education, economic development, transportation, parks, public safety and numerous other services needed by our residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, by limiting revenue that may be obtained by city government through economic development and related growth in commercial activities, Initiative 1033 could undermine such growth by creating a disincentive for the city to support economic development such as efforts to revitalize the downtown and Northeast Redevelopment Area adjacent to the Sea-Tac Airport third runway; and

WHEREAS, passage of Initiative 1033 will significantly limit the ability of the City of Burien to fund general governmental services and would likely result in layoffs of employees and budget reductions that would reduce service levels to the community; and

WHEREAS, the Suburban Cities Association of King County (SCA) Board has voted to oppose Initiative 1033.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON, DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Burien hereby declares its opposition to Initiative Measure No. 1033, appearing on the ballot for the November 3, 2009, State General Election.

Section 2. The City Council of the City of Burien urges the voters in Burien and throughout the State of Washington to reject Initiative Measure No. 1033.

Section 3. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON, AT A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF THIS 5TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2009.

CITY OF BURIEN

/s/ Joan McGilton, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

/s/ Monica Lusk, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

/s/ Christopher Bacha, Interim City Attorney
Kenyon Disend, PLLC

Filed with the City Clerk: September 23, 2009

Passed by the City Council: October 5, 2009

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