

**CITY OF REDMOND
RESOLUTION NO.**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF REDMOND OPPOSING INITIATIVE MEASURE NO.
2066 CONCERNING REGULATING ENERGY SERVICES,
INCLUDING NATURAL GAS AND ELECTRIFICATION

WHEREAS, Washington State has placed a ballot measure before the voters with the official ballot measure title of "Initiative Measure No. 2066 concerns regulating energy services, including natural gas and electrification"; and

WHEREAS, Initiative Measure No. 2066 is scheduled to go to the voters during the November 5, 2024, Washington General Election; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Secretary of State has identified that Initiative Measure No. 2066 would require utilities and local governments to provide natural gas to eligible customers; prevent state approval of rate plans requiring or incentivizing gas service termination, restricting access to gas service, or making it cost-prohibitive; and prohibit the state energy code, localities, and air pollution control agencies from penalizing gas use. It would repeal sections of chapter 351, Laws of 2024, including planning requirements for cost-effective electrification and prohibitions on gas rebates and incentives; and

WHEREAS, Redmond is committed to advancing equity, and the City recognizes that climate justice is interconnected with racial justice - with many historically marginalized members of our community experiencing disproportionate impacts of climate change - and is committed to ensuring a livable future for its residents and visitors by reducing our contributions to climate change; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the Redmond City Council declared a Climate Emergency and adopted a 30-year Environmental Sustainability Action Plan that collectively commit our city to achieve municipal carbon neutrality by 2030 and community-wide carbon neutrality by 2050; and

WHEREAS, according to the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan, while community wide energy use decreased 5% since 2011, natural gas usage increased by 6%; and

WHEREAS, reducing the use of natural gas in buildings and voluntary transition to explore incentives for all-electric construction is an identified recommendation in Redmond's Environmental Sustainability Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City is a founding member and active participant in the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) and has adopted by resolution a Joint Letter of Commitment for Climate Change Actions; and

WHEREAS, the K4C Joint Letter of Commitment for Climate Change Actions includes several goals that advocate for the reduction of

natural gas utilization including the reduction of natural gas and other fossil fuel use in existing buildings by at least 20% in 2030 and 80% by 2050; and

WHEREAS, Initiative Measure No. 2066 would prohibit local governments, air pollution control agencies, and the State Building Code Council from prohibiting, penalizing, or discouraging the use of natural gas; and

WHEREAS, adoption of Initiative Measure No. 2066 would infringe on the City's ability to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals and natural gas reduction strategies identified in the City's Environmental Sustainability Action Plan and the K4C Joint Letter of Commitment for Climate Change Actions; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with RCW 42.17A.555(1), notice of the meeting during which this Resolution is being voted on included the title and number of the ballot measure, and members of the public and City Councilmembers were afforded an approximately equal opportunity for the expression of an opposing view; and

WHEREAS, with this resolution, the City Council desires to oppose Initiative Measure No. 2066.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDMOND, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

The City Council of the City of Redmond hereby declares its official position in opposition of Initiative No. 2066, concerning

regulating energy services, including natural gas and electrification.

ADOPTED by the Redmond City Council this _____ day of _____, 20XX.

APPROVED:

ANGELA BIRNEY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHERYL XANTHOS, MMC, CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK:
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:
RESOLUTION NO: