

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OF FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS
FOR
THURSTON COUNTY
OFFUT LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 24

A RESOLUTION adopting findings and determinations consistent with RCW 36.61.070 regarding the establishment of Lake Management District No. 24 for Offut Lake, and submitting the establishment of Lake Management District No. 24 to a vote of property owners within the proposed district.

Whereas, The Board of Thurston County Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 16200 on September 27, 2022 stating its intention to consider formation of Lake Management District No. 24 for Offut Lake (OLMD No.24); and

Whereas, a public hearing was held on November 1, 2022 to hear comments related to the proposed formation of the OLMD No. 24; and

Whereas, representatives from the Washington Departments of Ecology, Fish and Wildlife, and Natural Resources had the opportunity to comment on the proposed district.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Thurston County, Washington, does resolve as follows:

Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners adopts the following findings and determinations:

- A. RCW 36.61 establishes counties authority to establish a lake or beach management district, which is a County-managed program, and outlines the process by which a lake or beach management district may be initiated.
- B. The legal process for formation of a Lake Management District includes a public process, including public hearings and a vote of landowners affected by the proposed district.
- C. A Thurston County Lake Management District is a County-managed program, directed by Public Works and supported by a County-managed advisory committee consisting of representatives from the lake community who provide input and information to Public Works on short and long-term lake management strategies.
- D. Public Works maintains staff that serve as technical experts regarding lake management activities. These staff receive professional training and development and are responsible for adhering to County policies and procedures and manage all lake programs to achieve alignment with best practices and greater County initiatives and guiding principles.
- E. Thurston County Lake Management Districts are subject to all County adopted policies

and procedures and are required to align work plans to compliment and support all Board adopted programs.

- F. The formation of OLMD No. 24 is in the public interest as evidenced by the community petition, which outlines the purpose of the proposed OLMD is to protect water quality, fish and wildlife, recreation and aesthetic values of Offut Lake through the implementation of appropriate County-managed best management practices and programs.
- G. The financing of the lake improvement and maintenance activities is feasible and does not rely upon County subsidies.
- H. The proposed estimated revenue raised via annual rates and charges is \$82,991 for the first year with a maximum escalation for inflation of 5% per year for the following nine (9) years.
- I. The proposed work plan includes the development of an Integrated Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan (IAVMP), which will ensure activities avoid adverse impacts to fish and wildlife and are in alignment with County initiatives related to water quality.
- J. The district is proposed for a term of 10 years, beginning January 1, 2023, and terminating on December 31, 2032.
- K. The proposed boundaries of the district are all properties fronting on or having community access to Offut Lake. See Map.
- L. The proposed annual charges for each category of property within the proposed OLMD bear a reasonable relationship to the benefit received from the proposed OLMD. The proposed formula for annual rates and charges to property is as follows:

Lakefront Parcels (developed)

- \$750

Lakefront parcels (undeveloped)

- \$350

Upland Parcels

- \$70

Washington State Fish and Wildlife Boat Launch

- \$16,200

Habitat Reserve Parcels

- \$94

Offut Lake Resort

\$1500

The Thurston County Auditor's Office senior and disabled persons property tax exemption program would apply to qualifying rate payers.

Section 2. The proposed district, if formed, would operate under the direction of Public Works, utilizing the Thurston County Lake Management District Administrative Rules attached as Exhibit No. 1 to this Resolution. The Lake Management Administrative Rules shall be updated from time to time and are written and administered by Public Works.

Section 3. The question of whether to form Offut Lake Management District No. 24 shall be submitted to the property owners within the proposed district. The Department of Public Works shall prepare ballots for submittal to the property owners. Ballots will be received by the Department of Public Works, Water Resources Division, 9605 Tilley Road South, Building C, Olympia, WA 98512 no later than 5:00 pm, December 29, 2022.

ADOPTED: _____

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Clerk of the Board

CAROLINA MEJIA, Chair

TYE MENSER, Vice-Chair

GARY EDWARDS, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
JON TUNHEIM
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney