RESOLUTION NO. 2016-06

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LYNNWOOD, WASHINGTON, REGARDING SUPPORT FOR SOUND TRANSIT 3 AND THE PROPOSED LIGHT RAIL ALIGNMENT

WHEREAS, The Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (Sound Transit) released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) for the Long-Range Plan Update on June 13, 2014 with a public review and comment period closing on July 28, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit utilized information from the DSEIS to help make decisions regarding the update to the Long Range Plan, to sustainably serve regional mobility needs providing an alternative to travel by automobile and the congested freeway network; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the importance of providing high capacity transit to Puget Sound Regional Council designated Regional Growth Centers and Manufacturing/Industrial Centers supporting population and employment growth goals of the State, Region and City; and

WHEREAS, the updated Long Range Plan, adopted by the Sound Transit Board of Directors on December 18, 2015, will shape potential future ballot measures for consideration by voters; and

WHEREAS, the City can be impacted and can benefit from regional transportation proposed within the Long Range Plan update including factors such as mode type, route alignment and potential station areas; and

WHEREAS, within the DSEIS, Sound Transit has proposed various high capacity transit modes including light rail, commuter rail, regional express bus/bus rapid transit, and streetcars as potential options for consideration in regional transit expansion planning; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, voters approved expanding light rail transit north to the Lynnwood Transit Center (Lynnwood Link) planned to be operational by 2023, thereby investing heavily in the light rail transportation mode; and

WHEREAS, the City is working to support increased accessibility and multi-modal transportation within its PSRC designated Regional Growth Center with service time and reliability critical components for attracting ridership; and
WHEREAS, the City is working with Sound Transit on the Lynnwood Link Extension, but also to prepare for a potential future Sound Transit 3 light rail extension heading north through the City; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to continue working with Sound Transit to provide a mutually acceptable northbound alignment through Lynnwood from the Transit Center with stations in areas planned for growth including the City Center-Core (platform), the Alderwood Mall area, and up to 164th St. SW and beyond;

WHEREAS, the City has long-been planning to accommodate urban stations without additional parking due to development density at City Center and at Alderwood Mall as recognized by Sound Transit; and

WHEREAS, the City was asked by its Sound Transit Board of Directors representatives to assist in lowering the cost of the ST3 segment to Everett via Paine Field by combining the City Center and Alderwood Mall stations into a single station; and

WHEREAS, the City is proposing an alignment and station location designed to best serve our designated Regional Growth Center; and

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

1. That Sound Transit extend high capacity transit service north from Lynnwood to the city of Everett; and that such service be provided by light rail transit with station locations in the Lynnwood City Center and the vicinity of Alderwood Mall; which are both located in the Lynnwood Regional Growth Center.

2. That an alignment within the I-5 right-of-way with an associated station, as initially proposed by Sound Transit staff, would result in grossly inadequate service to the Regional Growth Center due to its remote location and a barrier to the east caused by I-5 and SR 525;

3. That an alignment along 33rd Ave W., extending along Ash Way to the Ash Way park and ride, with a station in the vicinity of 33rd Ave W. and 188th St SW, provides for significantly greater potential to maximize ridership from existing and planned development in and around the Lynnwood Regional Growth Center;

4. That light rail transit proceed north to serve the Regional Growth Center in Everett and the Southwest Everett Industrial Center (Paine Field and Boeing).

RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LYNNWOOD, WASHINGTON, this 14th day of March, 2016
ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

Sonja Springer, Finance Director

APPROVED:

Nicola Smith, Mayor