



RESOLUTION 2019-114

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2449 TO INCREASE THE 9-1-1 TAX TO \$1.50 AND EXTEND THE SUNSET OF THE TAX

- WHEREAS,** Public Safety Answering Points in Oregon were recently notified that the State 9-1-1 program, within Oregon Emergency Management, would likely be unable to continue to fully fund equipment upgrades and other costs associated with keeping PSAPs functioning as they do today; and
- WHEREAS,** The cost of maintaining the infrastructure capable of delivering emergency calls, in addition to personnel costs, have skyrocketed with technological upgrades that allow for enhanced data. The 9-1-1 tax has not been increased since 1995; however, the cost of doing business has increased every single year. The tax money anticipated for collection this year will not be enough to cover any system upgrades already past due; and
- WHEREAS.** Some of those costs will have to be absorbed by the agencies or passed on to the users who pay for services. This shift in resources that used to be covered by the 9-1-1 tax will have a direct impact to local police, fire and medical responders; and
- WHEREAS,** HB2449 seeks to increase the tax to ensure delivery of not only the current level of service, but to upgrade to technology that will help in being more efficient and effective; and
- WHEREAS,** HB2449 would increase the 9-1-1 tax from 75¢ to \$1.50; and
- WHEREAS,** HB2449 would extend the sunset of the tax collection; and
- WHEREAS,** The City of Ontario supports the addition of language in HB2449 that places all interest earned on the 9-1-1 tax in an account specifically set-up for future system upgrades; and
- WHEREAS,** The City of Ontario supports the removal of language in HB2449 that provides 2% to counties with a population less than 40,000; the amount for Oregon Emergency Management 9-1-1 Program from 4% to 2%; and to reduce the amount collected by the Department of Revenue from 1% to .05%.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Common Council City Council of the City of Ontario this ____ day of _____, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES:
NAYES:
ABSENT:

APPROVED by the Mayor this ____ day of _____, 20____.

ATTEST

Riley J. Hill, Mayor

Tori Barnett, MMC, City Recorder