

City of Seattle
Legislative Department
Office of the City Clerk

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk



PROPOSED INITIATIVE PETITION SUBMITTAL RECEIPT

Initiative No. 118

On April 30, 2014 at 4:41 a.m./p.m., I filed one paper and one electronic copy of a proposed Initiative Petition with the Seattle City Clerk.

Signed

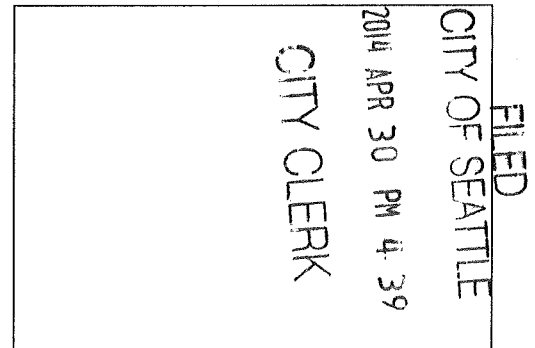
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Schiendelman".

Ben Schiendelman

Print Name

CITY CLERK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

Date/Time Stamp:



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Monica M. Simmons".

Received by (City Clerk)

600 4th Avenue, Floor 3, PO Box 94728, Seattle, Washington 98124-4728

(206) 684-8344 Fax: (206) 386-9025 TTY: (206) 233-0025

email: clerk@seattle.gov

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COMPLETE TEXT OF INITIATIVE

Initiative Measure ____

Property Tax Levy Lid Lift to Support Transit in Seattle

WHEREAS, transit service in the City of Seattle is provided by King County Metro Transit (Metro), a public transportation agency;

WHEREAS, Metro's largest source of funding is a share of the retail sales tax collected in its service area, leaving agency revenues vulnerable to downturns in consumer spending;

WHEREAS, since the economic downturn in 2008 and the resulting reduction in sales tax collections, Metro has experienced funding shortfalls that threatened to substantially reduce available services;

WHEREAS, since 2009, Metro has cut costs, improved operational efficiency, tapped reserve funds, deferred scheduled maintenance, found new revenue sources, and raised fares four times in four years;

WHEREAS, Metro and local officials also sought different funding capacity from the state legislature;

WHEREAS, in 2011, the King County Council passed a two-year congestion reduction charge to help bridge Metro's funding gap and preserve service while the state legislature considered transportation funding options;

WHEREAS, in June 2013, the state Senate failed to act on a proposed transportation package, as passed by the state House of Representatives, that would have provided additional funding for Metro, along with many other services;

WHEREAS, following the state legislature's failure to address the Metro funding problem, Metro announced that it was facing a shortfall of about \$75 million per year beginning mid-2014, and that in the absence of additional funding, it would be forced to cut up to 600,000 hours of bus service by the end of 2015;

WHEREAS, in an attempt to avoid service cuts, the King County Council voted to introduce a ballot measure, Proposition 1, to fund Metro's shortfall via a 0.1% sales tax increase in King County and a \$60 vehicle fee for county residents;

WHEREAS, in April 2014, the ballot measure failed by a vote of King County residents, despite enjoying support from a large majority of voters in Seattle;

WHEREAS, given the failure on the part of both the State Legislature and King County residents to approve funding to continue Metro service at existing levels, the only remaining option for preserving existing service levels in Seattle is to utilize a local funding mechanism; and

WHEREAS, the City is now growing rapidly, and reduction in Metro services would be harmful to the City's economy and quality of life;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1 - Definitions

As used in this initiative, the following words have the following meanings:

"Metro" means King County Metro Transit;

"Metro Service Cuts" refers to proposed reductions in service announced by Metro in November 2013 and April 2014, and any subsequent service reductions proposed to address Metro's current projected funding shortfall;

"Annual Revenue Hours" means the number of hours per year that Metro buses and the Seattle Streetcar are scheduled to travel while in revenue service;

"Seattle Routes" means Metro routes that deliver at least 80% of their Annual Revenue Hours within the city limits of Seattle;

"Seattle Metro Service Cuts" means Metro Service Cuts to Seattle Routes; and

"Levy Funds" means all regular property tax levy proceeds authorized by this initiative, and all interest earnings earned by those proceeds.

Section 2 - Authority

The people have vested the legislative powers of the City in a Mayor and City Council, but also reserved to themselves the power to propose and accept or reject measures dealing with any matter within the realm of local affairs or municipal business. This power includes the use of an initiative petition to submit to the qualified electors of the City a measure as authorized by RCW 84.55.050 to exceed the limitations of regular property taxes contained in RCW Chapter 84.55.

Section 3 - Levy of Additional Regular Property Taxes

Upon adoption of this initiative, the City is authorized to exceed the levy limitation on regular property taxes contained in RCW 84.55.010 for property taxes levied in 2015 through 2020, in order to allow collection of an additional \$0.22 per \$1,000 of assessed property value per year, raising no more than \$30 million in the first year of the levy, and an amount not to exceed \$30 million plus the percentage increase in the CPI-U (Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton) in years 2 through 6.

All Levy Funds shall be used for the purposes specified in Section 4 of this initiative. The taxes authorized by this initiative will be in addition to the maximum amount of regular property taxes the City would be limited to by RCW 84.55.010 in the absence of voter approval under this initiative, plus other authorized lid lifts. Pursuant to RCW 84.55.050(5), the maximum regular property taxes that may be levied in 2021 and in later years shall be computed as if the limit on regular property taxes had not been increased under this initiative.

Section 4 - Eligible Uses of Funds

All Levy Funds shall be used as follows:

- 1) 100 percent to purchase service for Seattle Routes until Seattle Metro Service Cuts are restored; then,
- 2) 100 percent of any remaining Levy Funds to purchase additional service for Seattle Routes as determined by the City consistent with the Seattle Transit Master Plan and Metro Service Guidelines, and approved by the City Council.

Levy Funds shall only be used for these specified purposes, for related costs required to achieve these specified purposes, for financing costs, or for costs to administer and oversee Levy Funds pursuant to this initiative.

Section 5 - Deposit of Funds

The additional taxes authorized under this initiative shall be deposited into the "City of Seattle Metro Service Fund," which is hereby created in the City Treasury. Money in that fund may be temporarily deposited or invested in such manner as is lawful for the investment of City money and interest and other earnings shall be deposited in the fund. The additional taxes and any interest shall be applied solely for the projects and programs authorized pursuant to this initiative. The Finance Director is authorized to create other funds, subfunds or accounts as may be needed to implement the purposes of this initiative.

Section 6 - Election - Ballot Title

The Ballot Title for this measure shall be as approved by the City Attorney pursuant to SMC 2.08.020.

Section 7 - Oversight Committee

The City shall designate a Public Oversight Committee to oversee spending of Levy Funds. The Committee shall consist of not less than 12 members of the public. An existing public committee may be designated by the City Council, or a new committee may be created as prescribed by the City Council. The primary purpose of the Public Oversight Committee is to issue public reports, not less than semi-annually, on Levy Fund spending, in addition to any tasks assigned by the City Council.

Section 8 - No Supplantation of Existing Funding

Before purchasing any service hours from Metro with Levy Funds, the City shall enter into an agreement with Metro to ensure that Levy Funds do not supplant funding for Seattle Routes that Metro would otherwise provide.

Section 9 - Severability

In the event any one or more of the provisions of this initiative shall for any reason be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this initiative or the levy of the additional taxes authorized herein, but this initiative and the authority to levy those taxes shall be construed and enforced as if such invalid provisions had not been contained herein, and any provision which shall for any reason be held by reason of its extent to be invalid shall be deemed to be in effect to the extent permitted by law.

17:41 PM APR 30 2014

CITY OF SEATTLE
FILED

INITIATIVE PETITION FOR SUBMISSION TO THE SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

We, the undersigned registered voters of The City of Seattle, State of Washington, respectfully direct that Initiative Measure No. 117 entitled: *Property Tax Levy Lid Lift to Support Transit in Seattle*, a full, true and correct copy of which is included herein, and we petition the Council to enact said measure as an ordinance; and, if not enacted within forty-five (45) days from the time of receipt thereof by the City Council, then to be submitted to the qualified electors of The City of Seattle for approval or rejection at the next regular election or at a special election in accordance with Article IV, Section 1 of the City Charter; and each of us for himself or herself says: I have personally signed this petition; I am a registered voter of The City of Seattle, State of Washington, and my residence address is correctly stated.

1.	X			
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15.	X			
	SIGNATURE	PRINT NAME	STREET ADDRESS	DATE

WARNING

Ordinance 94289¹ provides as follows:
Section 1. It is unlawful for any person:

1. To sign or decline to sign any petition for a City initiative, referendum, or Charter amendment, in exchange for any consideration or gratuity or promise thereof; or
2. To give or offer any consideration or gratuity to anyone to induce him or her to sign or not to sign a petition for a City initiative, referendum, or Charter amendment; or
3. To interfere with or attempt to interfere with the right of any voter to sign or not to sign a petition for a City initiative, referendum, or Charter amendment by threat, intimidation or any other corrupt means or practice; or
4. To sign a petition for a City initiative, referendum, or Charter amendment with any other than his or her true name, or to knowingly sign more than one (1)

petition for the same initiative, referendum or Charter amendment measure, or to sign any such petition knowing that he or she is not a registered voter of The City of Seattle."

The provisions of this ordinance shall be printed as a warning on every petition for a City initiative, referendum, or Charter amendment.

"Section 2. Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall upon conviction thereof be punishable by a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) or by imprisonment in the City Jail for a period not to exceed six (6) months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Return Petitions to: Keep Seattle Moving, 1920 1st Ave Apt 602, Seattle, WA 98101

FILED
CITY OF SEATTLE

2014 APR 30 PM 4:47

CITY CLERK

Keep Seattle Moving
1920 1st Ave. Apt. #602
Seattle, WA 98101

Office of the City Clerk
PO Box 94728
Seattle, WA 98124-4728

Dear City Clerk,

Enclosed please find two copies of a proposed initiative measure, submitted in accordance with SMC 2.08.010. If there are any questions related to this initiative, my contact information is as follows:

Ben Schiendelman
1920 1st Ave. Apt. #602
Seattle, WA 98101
Tel. (206) 683-7810

If I am unavailable, you may also contact the following:

Jesse Piedfort
7216 4th Ave. NW
Seattle, WA 98117
Tel. (206) 947-6529

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Ben Schiendelman
~~Friends of Transit~~

Keep Seattle Moving



City of Seattle Legislative Department
Office of the City Clerk

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

Via E-Mail and Certified Mail #70000520002271357737

May 1, 2014

Mr. Ben Schiendelman
1920 1st Ave, #602
Seattle, WA 98101

SUBJECT: *Proposed Initiative Measure No.118, relating to a property tax levy lid lift to support transit in Seattle*

Dear Mr. Schiendelman:

This notice acknowledges the receipt and filing of the proposed initiative measure with the Office of the City Clerk on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, at 4:39 p.m. An identification number was issued to the initiative measure upon filing and provided for your record.

The petition has been reviewed for compliance with the appropriate formatting requirements. As provided for in SMC 2.08.040, the petition will be in acceptable form once the following edits are made to your final version:

- 1) Include phone number of petitioner or contact person;
- 2) Under the title of "INITIATIVE PETITION FOR SUBMISSION", include the following language: "*To the City Council of The City of Seattle:*"
- 3) Following the language, "We, the undersigned registered voters of The City of Seattle, State of Washington", delete "respectfully direct that" and include "*propose and ask for the enactment as an ordinance of the measure known as*" Initiative Measure ...
- 4) Include the appropriate column headers for the signatures:
Petitioner's Signature; Printed Name; Residence Address - Street and Number; Date Signed

Please be advised the proposed initiative measure was transmitted to the City Attorney's Office for review and preparation of a ballot title. The Office of the City Clerk will be in contact with you in writing and by telephonic notification no later than the end of business on Wednesday, May 7, 2014, for the purpose of transmitting the final ballot title for the initiative measure.

Should you have any questions regarding the process or the information contained herein, please contact me at 206-684-8361 or by email at monica.simmons@seattle.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Monica M. Simmons".

Monica Martinez Simmons
City Clerk

600 4th Avenue Floor 3, PO Box 94728, Seattle, Washington 98124-4728

(206) 684-8344 Fax: (206) 386-9025 TTY: (206) 233-0025

email: clerk@seattle.gov

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**City of Seattle Legislative Department
Office of the City Clerk**

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

Via E-mail and Certified Mail #70000520002271357744

May 2, 2014

Sherril Huff, Director
King County Elections
919 Southwest Grady Way
Renton, WA 98057-2906

Subject: Proposed Initiative Measure No. 118

Dear Ms. Huff:

Please be advised that the proposed subject initiative petition was filed as Clerk File No. 313771 on Wednesday, April 30, 2014. This initiative petition has been designated Initiative Measure No. 118 and concerns a property tax levy lid lift to support transit in Seattle.

The Seattle City Attorney's Office has provided the following ballot title:

**THE CITY OF SEATTLE
INITIATIVE MEASURE NUMBER 118**

The City of Seattle's Initiative 118 concerns raising property taxes to restore cuts to Seattle bus service.

This proposition would fund bus routes in Seattle that Metro plans to cut in 2014 and 2015 and would increase Seattle bus service with any excess revenues. It authorizes regular property taxes above RCW 84.55 limits for six years, allowing up to \$30,000,000 of additional 2015 taxes with a rate up to \$0.22 per \$1000 of assessed value. From 2016-2020 the additional taxes would increase each year by the annual growth in the Consumer Price Index-U for Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton.

Should this Levy be approved?

Levy, Yes

Levy, No

[end of title]

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Sherril Huff
May 2, 2014
Page 2

The initiative's proponents have been informed that the minimum number of resident registered voter signatures required is 20,638 and shall be filed in accordance with this office and no later than Thursday, October 30, 5:00p.m., for subsequent submittal to your office for verification of sufficiency of signatures.

Should you have any questions or if you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (206) 684-8361 or email monica.simmons@seattle.gov.

Sincerely,



Monica Martinez Simmons
City Clerk

cc: Mayor Edward Murray
City Councilmembers
Peter Holmes, City Attorney
Jeff Slayton, Assistant, City Attorney
Wayne Barnett, Executive Director, SEEC