

**RESOLUTION NO. 24-259  
CITY OF LIBERTY LAKE  
SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY LAKE IN THE MATTER OF  
AUTHORIZING THE INCLUSION OF THE MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES OF THE  
CITY OF LIBERTY LAKE WITHIN AN AQUIFER PROTECTION AREA**

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 36.36, the Washington State Legislature provided for the creation of Aquifer Protection Areas to finance the protection, preservation, and rehabilitation of subterranean water; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 36.36.020, an Aquifer Protection Area may include territory located within a City or Town with the approval of said municipality's governing body; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, the Board of County Commissioners of Spokane County placed a ballot measure before the electors to create the Spokane Aquifer Protection Area ("APA") for a 20-year time frame and established certain APA fees for a 20-year time frame. The boundaries of the APA included portions of the unincorporated areas of Spokane County which at that time also included the future City of Liberty Lake; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, the voters overwhelmingly approved the ballot measure to create the APA, and corresponding APA fees, and the APA was established by Spokane County Ordinance 85-0641, with a sunset date of December 31, 2005; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, the Board of Commissioners of Spokane County, proposed a ballot measure to re-authorize the APA, and Liberty Lake City Council passed Resolution 04-71, approving the inclusion of its municipal boundaries within the boundaries of the reauthorized APA; and

WHEREAS, on November 2, 2004, voters within the boundaries of the proposed re-authorized APA approved the ballot measure to re-authorize the APA, including the City of Liberty Lake boundaries, for a period of time from January 1, 2006, through December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Spokane region has implemented a number of programs and measures during the current APA reauthorization that have served to protect and improve the water quality of the Spokane Aquifer with Aquifer Protection fees generated through the APA; and

WHEREAS, the Spokane region will continue to face significant issues with regard to the protection of water quality in the Spokane Aquifer even after the sunset of the current APA, as well as the corresponding APA fees; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Spokane County Commissioners desires to place a ballot measure before the electors to reauthorize the APA, and the corresponding APA fees, for an additional twenty (20) year time frame, to allow for the continued progress toward the protection of the Spokane Aquifer; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of Liberty Lake believe that the finest approach to improving regional water quality begins locally, and the City has implemented a number of opportunities for improving aquifer protection within the City of Liberty Lake as part of the current APA reauthorization, and have identified plans for the implementation of additional programs to further the goal of aquifer protection in the 20 years following the sunset of the current APA reauthorization; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of Liberty Lake believe it is in the best interest of the community to participate in regional solutions such as the reauthorization of the Spokane APA and corresponding APA fees for an additional twenty (20) year time frame to provide financial resources to allow continued progress toward the protection of the Spokane Aquifer, after the sunset of the current APA and the associated fees; and

WHEREAS, the City of Liberty Lake has participated in an Interlocal Agreement with Spokane County during the current APA reauthorization, regarding uses and allocations of APA revenues, which allowed the City to implement local programs and projects in support of continued protection of the aquifer, while allowing the County to administer the program and implement regional solutions; and

WHEREAS, said Interlocal Agreement between the City of Liberty Lake and Spokane County will expire with the sunset of the current APA reauthorization; and

WHEREAS, in the event that the electors reauthorize the APA and the associated fees for an additional twenty (20) year time frame, the City of Liberty Lake intends to seek to renew the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Liberty Lake and Spokane County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Liberty Lake City Council approves the inclusion of its municipal boundaries within the proposed reauthorized Spokane Aquifer Protection Area, subject to the renewal of the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Liberty Lake and Spokane County, prior to the collection of such fees within the City of Liberty Lake; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with such determination, and as required by RCW 36.36.040, the Spokane County Board of County Commissioners are desirous of obtaining approval from the City's legislative authority to include its municipal boundaries within the boundaries of the reauthorized Spokane Aquifer Protection Area.

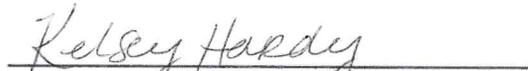
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Liberty Lake, as authorized by RCW 36.36.040, that the Council does hereby conditionally approve of the inclusion of its municipal boundaries within the boundaries of the proposed reauthorized Spokane Aquifer Protection Area. In making the decision, the Council understands that this action will enable the Board of County Commissioners to place the reauthorization of the Spokane Aquifer Protection Area and corresponding fee before the electors. Provided, further, in taking this action, the Council is not taking a position in support or opposition to any ballot measure which may be submitted to the electors by the Board of County Commissioners to reauthorize the Aquifer Protection Area and corresponding fee. Such action can only be taken consistent with the provisions of RCW 42.17A.555.

Approved by the City Council this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2024.



Mayor Cristella Kaminskas

**ATTEST:**

  
Kelsey Hardy, City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
Sean P. Boutz, City Attorney