

CITY OF REDMOND, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 324

A RESOLUTION, relating to standards for the treatment of sanitary sewage by the Municipality of Seattle in connection with the discharge of treated effluent into the waters of Puget Sound; and urging the Congress of the United States to amend the 1972 Water Quality Act in connection with the requirements for such treatment.

WHEREAS, the protection and enhancement of environmental quality is of vital concern of the City of Redmond and the cooperating municipalities within the general service area of the Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle, which has been organized and operating in the area of sanitary sewage treatment and discharge of effluent within the metropolitan areas of Seattle, neighboring cities and a major drainage basin within King County, Washington, and the major responsibility, purpose and goal of Metro at all times has been to secure and maintain high standards of water quality for all receiving waters within its jurisdiction which it has ably carried out ever since its creation in 1958; and

WHEREAS, the State of Washington, Metro in its component municipalities have always regarded the preservation of water quality as a major environmental goal which must be considered in relation to air quality, land use and energy conservation within its respective jurisdictions and has taken a leadership role in achieving these aims, which has received national and international recognition; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 92-500 of the 92nd Congress requires that all publicly-owned treatment works achieve "secondary treatment" by July 1, 1977, prior to the achievement of "best practicable treatment" by July 1, 1983, which has engendered serious concern to public agencies owning and operating treatment works, discharging effluent through deep water outfalls into the Pacific Ocean and contiguous territorial seas and would create needless expense and could seriously jeopardize the accomplishment of the environmental goals to which these municipalities are committed; and

WHEREAS, the secondary treatment of municipal sewage discharges (beyond primary treatment) for removal of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) is a process proven to be unnecessary to the preservation of water quality in the waters of Puget Sound, it having been determined that major water quality improvements other than secondary treatment, such as toxicity and floatables removal and sewer separation, are considered to be essential to the receiving water quality, and the construction and operation of secondary treatment facilities would impinge on valuable open space, and consume scarce energy resources; and

WHEREAS, the construction and operation of secondary treatment facilities at Metro's four Puget Sound plants, including West Point, will double operating costs and require a \$55 million capital expenditure which might otherwise be used for higher priority water pollution control projects by other local agencies in the Seattle-Metropolitan area, including the City of Redmond, which has higher priority water pollution control projects on which funds need to be spent, and the rates charged to our customers would reflect the expenditure required by Metro to meet the secondary treatment requirements if the "secondary treatment" requirement were to be met for waters discharging into Puget Sound; and

WHEREAS, limited allocations of Federal funds would prevent Metro and other local component agencies from completing top priority water quality projects in being required to achieve both "secondary

treatment" by July 1, 1977, and "best practicable treatment" by July 1, 1983, and there is, in fact, insufficient time for Metro to meet the July 1, 1977 deadline for "secondary treatment"; and

WHEREAS, a municipal system such as Metro in its component municipalities must, at all times, be in compliance with the requirements of the Federal Act or modifications thereof, or no local sewage project will be eligible for Federal funds and to maintain and ensure high standards of water quality for this metropolitan area at the earliest time and in the most cost-effective manner, it is necessary and essential that Metro be authorized and allowed to proceed immediately with a program to provide "best practicable treatment" by July 1, 1983, NOW, THEREFORE,

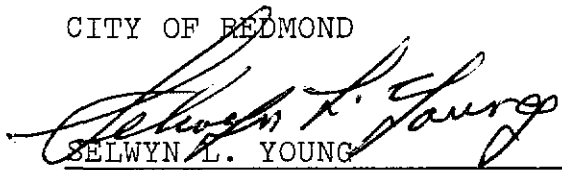
THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDMOND DO RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Amendment of 1972 Water Quality Act by Congress Urged. The City of Redmond strongly urges Congress to consider all aspects of environmental control and the attendant cost for achieving these goals and urges the Congress of the United States of America to amend the 1972 Water Quality Act to permit the administrator of EPA to modify the requirements of secondary treatment for any publicly-owned treatment works discharging through deep water outfalls into the Pacific Ocean and the contiguous territorial seas upon application and proof satisfactory to the administrator that alternative treatment processes would produce an equal or better environmental effect on the receiving waters for a lesser expenditure of public resources.

Section 2. Copies to be furnished. The City Clerk is directed to distribute and forward sufficient copies of this Resolution to Metro and to members of Congress as may be required.

PASSED by the Council of the City of Redmond, Washington at a regular meeting thereof, and APPROVED by the Mayor this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1973.

CITY OF REDMOND

  
SELWYN L. YOUNG  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
ELEANOR J. HAYDEN  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
JOHN D. LAWSON  
CITY ATTORNEY