RESOLUTION NO. 15-02-17-B

A RESOLUTION OF THE FERNDALE CITY COUNCIL PROVIDING FOR A BALLOT PROPOSITION TO BE SUBMITTED TO QUALIFIED VOTERS AT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2015 GENERAL ELECTION, FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION, PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY TO CREATE A METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 35.61 RCW TO BE GOVERNED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FERNDALE AS THE EX OFFICIO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SAID METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO.

WHEREAS, the City of Ferndale is an Optional Municipal Code City, located in Whatcom County, Washington, duly organized and existing pursuant to the laws of the state of Washington; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 35.61 RCW authorizes a city to create a metropolitan park district wholly within its boundaries; and

WHEREAS, residents of the City have consistently asked for additional capital improvements to the parks and recreational facilities within Ferndale as well as having high expectations for the operations and maintenance of City parks and recreation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City’s General Fund budget does not have the capacity to fund additional capital improvements for the City’s parks system nor provide additional support for the ongoing operations and maintenance of City parks facilities; and

WHEREAS, a metropolitan park district has additional and independent authority to tax property to raise funds restricted to parks and recreation purposes provided for in Chapter 35.61 RCW; and

WHEREAS, Ferndale’s parks are an essential element to the livability, public health, safety and welfare of Ferndale residents; and
WHEREAS, in order to provide, maintain and provide for additional improvements such as new playgrounds and other amenities within Ferndale parks, an additional source of funding is necessary;

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Ferndale do resolve as follows:

Section 1. Election. Pursuant to RCW 35.61.020, the Ferndale City Council hereby calls for submission of a proposition to the qualified electors of the City asking whether the Ferndale Metropolitan Park District shall be created. The Whatcom County Auditor is hereby requested to call the election in the City of Ferndale on November 3, 2015 in conjunction with the general election to be held on that date.

Section 2. Ballot Proposition. The proposition to be submitted to the electorate of the City of Ferndale shall read substantially as follows:

CITY OF FERNDALE
PROPOSITION NO. 1
METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
The Ferndale City Council passed Resolution No. 15-02-17-A in order to allow voters to decide whether to create a Ferndale Metropolitan Park District with boundaries coterminous with the boundaries of the City as now or hereafter established and to be governed by the Ferndale City Council as the ex officio board of commissioners to support the City’s parks and recreation system. Shall the Ferndale Metropolitan Park District be so created and governed?

[ ] For the formation of a metropolitan park district to be governed by the City Council of Ferndale as the ex officio Board of the metropolitan park district commissioners.

[ ] Against the formation of a metropolitan park district.

Section 3. Boundaries of the Ferndale Metropolitan Park District. The boundaries of the Ferndale Metropolitan Park District shall encompass the City of Ferndale, as fully described in Attachment A, attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

Section 4. Effective Date. This resolution shall be in full force and take effect immediately.

ADOPTED at the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Ferndale, Washington held on this 17th day of February, 2015.
Mayor Gary S. Jensen

ATTEST:

Sam Taylor, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Dannon Traxler, City Attorney
ATTACHMENT A

Legal Description for the proposed Ferndale Metropolitan Park District, the boundaries of which are coterminous with the boundaries of the City of Ferndale.