

**ORDINANCE NO. 2015-02-004**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON, AMENDING CHAPTER 4.76.040 OF THE BELLINGHAM MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING THE SOLID WASTE FUND TO INCLUDE NUISANCE ABATEMENT AS AN INTENDED USE OF THE FUND**

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 4.76.040 of the Bellingham Municipal Code ("BMC") describes City Council policy regarding intended uses for the solid waste fund;

**WHEREAS**, properties that violate the City's code provisions regarding nuisances often contribute to a variety of criminal behavior and reduced quality of life for neighborhoods;

**WHEREAS**, the use of City funds for nuisance abatement is appropriate in certain circumstances when routine code enforcement processes do not achieve code compliance;

**WHEREAS**, nuisance properties that are not abated can contribute to criminal activity including illegal drug activity and trespass activity;

**WHEREAS**, BMC 4.76.040 should be revised to include nuisance abatement as an intended use of solid waste tax revenues; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the City to keep sufficient funds available in the solid waste fund for the purpose of funding nuisance abatement as is needed throughout the City from time to time;

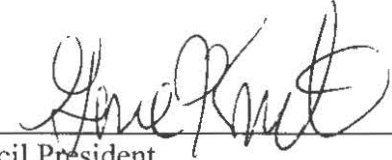
**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM DOES HEREBY ORDAIN THAT:**

Chapter 4.76.040 of the Bellingham Municipal Code is amended as follows:


**4.76.040 Solid waste fund**

The tax collected shall be placed in the solid waste fund and shall be used for expenditures and financing relating to city solid waste and recycling programs, ~~and~~ environmental remediation of landfill or otherwise contaminated sites, and nuisance abatement.


**PASSED** by the Council this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2015.

  
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Council President

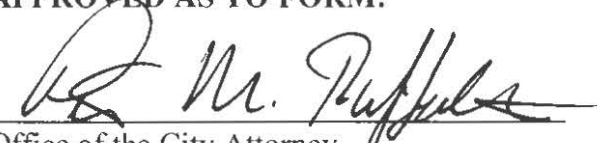
**APPROVED** by me this 21<sup>th</sup> day of Feb., 2015.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Director

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Office of the City Attorney

**Published:**

February 27, 2015