

**CITY OF GOLD BAR, WASHINGTON  
RESOLUTION NO. 25-05**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GOLD BAR, WASHINGTON IN SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHING A  
STATE FUNDING SOURCE TO SUPPORT THE AVIATION UNITS SUPPORTING WASHINGTON  
LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SEARCH AND RESCUE UNITS**

**WHEREAS**, King, Snohomish, Chelan, and Spokane Counties operate significant aviation units that provide statewide support for search and rescue missions, disaster relief, and other law enforcement purposes, including missing persons searches; and

**WHEREAS**, these aviation units offer critical services within their jurisdictions and to agencies across the state, yet the financial responsibility for operating these units falls solely on the operating agencies and their tax bases; and

**WHEREAS**, there is significantly higher demand for air support than can currently be provided, with funding identified as a major underlying issue affecting pilot availability, training, and maintenance resources; and

**WHEREAS**, counties have natural resource attractions that draw outdoor adventurers from throughout the state and world, which leads to a disproportionate amount of search and rescue costs at the local level; and

**WHEREAS**, increased funding would ensure proper maintenance, operation, and potential expansion of these aviation units, thereby enhancing their ability to provide robust responses across Washington for law enforcement and search and rescue purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) from agencies without aviation units expressed their reliance on, and desire for, increased support from existing aviation units rather than establishing their own units; and

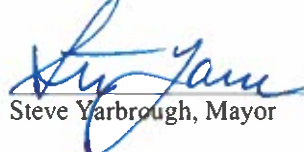
**WHEREAS**, a minimum of \$2.4 million in annual funds has been proposed to meet existing needs, with a conceptual solution of establishing a \$10 million annual funding source to be allocated based on need and priority to maintain and expand aviation unit availability and responsiveness;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the governing body of the City of Gold Bar:

1. The City of Gold Bar Council supports the establishment of a state funding source to support the aviation units that provide critical services for law enforcement and search and rescue missions across Washington State.
2. The City of Gold Bar Council urges the Washington State Legislature to allocate a minimum of \$10 million annually to be distributed among agencies operating aviation units, according to need and priority, to ensure the continued maintenance, operation, and expansion of these essential services.
3. The City of Gold Bar Council directs the City Clerk to forward copies of this resolution to the Governor of Washington, the Washington State Legislature, and the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC).

Resolved this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2025.

APPROVED:

  
Steve Yarbrough, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

  
Lisa Stowe, Clerk/Treasurer