

CITY OF RENTON, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 4406

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RENTON, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING PURSUIT  
OF A COVID-19 VACCINE MANUFACTURING FACILITY IN THE CITY OF RENTON.**

**WHEREAS**, the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) which first appeared in December 2019 has since spread throughout most of the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the first case of COVID-19 identified in the United States occurred in Washington State on January 20, 2020; and our state has since experienced nearly 11,000 infections and over 500 deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, as of mid-April, 2020, nearly two million people around the globe have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and more than 120,000 people have died; and

**WHEREAS**, the most mission-critical objective to eliminate COVID-19 as a deadly disease is to manufacture a scientifically proven vaccine to combat it; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) estimates that a COVID-19 vaccine could be developed in 12 to 18 months; and

**WHEREAS**, governmental, business, and non-profit foundation leaders have identified a need for the rapid deployment of manufacturing facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Seattle-based Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has stepped forward to help lead and fund this effort, pledging \$250 million to date and vowing to put another few billion dollars into the development of up to seven new factories for potential COVID-19 vaccine production; and

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**WHEREAS**, the Gates Foundation commitment gives the Pacific Northwest a leg up in leading the globally vital work to develop a COVID-19 vaccine; and

**WHEREAS**, the ideal site for COVID-19 vaccine manufacturing should be one that features a blend of manufacturing capacity, health care expertise, a well-trained work force, and a location in close proximity to multiple modes of transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Renton is known as one of the nation's manufacturing hubs, hosting the most efficient airplane-manufacturing facility in the world (Boeing 737 and 737 MAX), serving as home base to a global and Fortune 500 leader in truck manufacturing (PACCAR), and housing other leading manufacturers such as Alliance Packaging and Trojan Litho; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Renton is also home to a growing and impressive health care and medical employment cluster, including a hospital ranked as best in the Seattle Metro Area and Washington State (UW Medicine/Valley Medical Center), not to mention the headquarters of Kaiser Permanente Washington and Providence St. Joseph Health, as well as a large pharmacy and tele-medicine network (Genoa), and the only full-service tissue bank in the Pacific Northwest (LifeNet Health); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Renton also has the advantage of being situated on or next to both Interstate 5 and Interstate 405 and within five miles of SeaTac International Airport, along with housing a general-aviation airport of its own (Renton Airport); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Renton also boasts a robust and well-trained work force of more than 54,000 area employees, has technical training expertise at Renton Technical College, maintains an active data-base to enable the most appropriate siting of manufacturing facilities, and is a multi-cultural city of inclusion;

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**NOW, THEREFORE,** THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RENTON, WASHINGTON, DO  
RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION I.** The above recitals are adopted as findings.

**SECTION II.** The City Council supports and affirms a call by Mayor Armondo Pavone and King County Councilmember Reagan Dunn for the siting of a COVID-19 vaccine manufacturing facility in the City of Renton.

**SECTION III.** The City Council gives its backing to an initiative enabling the Mayor and the City's Community & Economic Development (CED) Department to identify and engage with potential manufacturers of COVID-19 vaccines and the federal government.

**SECTION IV.** The City Council enthusiastically seconds the effort to compete for and secure commitments to site and support a COVID-19 vaccine manufacturing facility in Renton.

**SECTION IV.** The City Council authorizes the engagement of outside and consulting help, if it becomes necessary, to assist CED in connecting with business and non-profit foundation leaders and other key stakeholders in the furtherance of attracting a COVID-19 vaccine manufacturing facility.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this 20th day of April, 2020.




  
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Jason A. Seth, City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this 20th day of April, 2020.

  
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Armondo Pavone, Mayor

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Approved as to form:

  
Shane Moloney, City Attorney

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