

RESOLUTION NO. 8212

**Resolution of the Everett Mayor and City Council Rebuking Kroger's Closure of the
Evergreen Way Fred Meyer and Abandonment of the Casino Road Community**

WHEREAS,

- A. Kroger, the parent company of Fred Meyer, has announced the closure of several stores across the Puget Sound Region including the South Everett Fred Meyer store in the Casino Road Neighborhood, impacting hundreds of good union jobs and abandoning one of Everett's most diverse and working-class communities; and
- B. This closure will create a food and retail desert in the Casino Road Neighborhood, depriving thousands of families of nearby, walkable, affordable grocery access and dismantling an essential community anchor in a neighborhood already facing systemic inequities; and
- C. Kroger has publicly blamed rising thefts as the reason for this closure, despite the fact that the City of Everett has invested heavily in the surrounding area at the company's request — including policing, infrastructure, and community resources — which has led to a significant decrease in crime; and
- D. The decision to close disregards collective efforts by workers, residents, and city officials who have stepped up to deliver on commitments of support; and
- E. Kroger has underfunded store operations and cut staffing, forcing workers into unsafe conditions, worsening customer experience, and undermining store stability, instead prioritizing stock buybacks and shareholder dividends; and
- F. Kroger reported record profits of \$2.7 billion in 2024 — nearly 77 percent higher than in 2019 — proving that the decision to shutter South Everett's store is not about financial necessity but about prioritizing record profits over the needs of working families;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Everett Mayor and City Council declare this closure an act of corporate neglect, a betrayal of the community's trust, and a profound setback for working families who deserve stability, food access, and respect; and
2. The Everett Mayor and City Council stand firmly with UFCW 3000 members, their families, and the Casino Road community, and will fight alongside them to demand accountability, fair treatment, and reinvestment; and
3. The Everett Mayor and City Council recognize that thriving businesses and empowered workers are the cornerstone of resilient neighborhoods and a strong local economy. The city remains committed to fostering an environment where both employers and employees can succeed together for the long-term stability of Everett; and
4. The Everett Mayor and City Council call on Kroger to recognize their obligation to the City, community and workers that have supported them for many years, to act decisively and promptly to allow and encourage this property to be repurposed to benefit the community. We call on Kroger to work with City, community and labor leaders and nearby business owners to establish a productive way forward for this site, to be a real partner in the economy of Everett, a city that strongly supports several other Kroger stores; and
5. The Everett Mayor and City Council urge state and federal elected officials, regulators, and community partners to defend food access in working-class neighborhoods, and advance policies that protect workers and communities from destructive business practices.



Councilmember introducing resolution

Passed and approved this 17th day of September, 2025.



Cassie Franklin, Mayor



Mary Fosse, Councilmember



Elizabeth Vogeli, Councilmember



Don Schwab, Council President



Paula Rhyne, Councilmember



Judy Tuohy, Councilmember












RES 8212_Kroger Closure

Final Audit Report

2025-09-25

Created:	2025-09-18
By:	Marisa Nishimura (MNishimura@everettwa.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAANOb4GIGLMUe0Ljwnalk2jbskP6hABgIN

"RES 8212_Kroger Closure" History

-  Document created by Marisa Nishimura (MNishimura@everettwa.gov)
2025-09-18 - 4:34:44 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to prhyne@everettwa.gov for signature
2025-09-18 - 4:36:37 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by prhyne@everettwa.gov
2025-09-18 - 4:57:33 PM GMT
-  Signer prhyne@everettwa.gov entered name at signing as Paula Rhyne
2025-09-18 - 5:05:28 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Paula Rhyne (prhyne@everettwa.gov)
Signature Date: 2025-09-18 - 5:05:30 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Document emailed to Cassie Franklin (cfranklin@everettwa.gov) for signature
2025-09-18 - 5:05:32 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Cassie Franklin (cfranklin@everettwa.gov)
2025-09-18 - 6:05:14 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Cassie Franklin (cfranklin@everettwa.gov)
Signature Date: 2025-09-18 - 6:05:39 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Document emailed to Donald Schwab (DSchwab@everettwa.gov) for signature
2025-09-18 - 6:05:41 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Donald Schwab (DSchwab@everettwa.gov)
2025-09-19 - 5:08:16 AM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Donald Schwab (DSchwab@everettwa.gov)
Signature Date: 2025-09-19 - 5:08:44 AM GMT - Time Source: server



Document emailed to mfosse@everettwa.gov for signature

2025-09-19 - 5:08:46 AM GMT



Email viewed by mfosse@everettwa.gov

2025-09-24 - 7:42:19 PM GMT



Signer mfosse@everettwa.gov entered name at signing as Mary Fosse

2025-09-24 - 7:43:00 PM GMT



Document e-signed by Mary Fosse (mfosse@everettwa.gov)

Signature Date: 2025-09-24 - 7:43:02 PM GMT - Time Source: server



Document emailed to prhyne@everettwa.gov for signature

2025-09-24 - 7:43:04 PM GMT



Email viewed by prhyne@everettwa.gov

2025-09-24 - 7:53:45 PM GMT



Signer prhyne@everettwa.gov entered name at signing as Paula Rhyne

2025-09-24 - 7:54:38 PM GMT



Document e-signed by Paula Rhyne (prhyne@everettwa.gov)

Signature Date: 2025-09-24 - 7:54:40 PM GMT - Time Source: server



Document emailed to evogeli@everettwa.gov for signature

2025-09-24 - 7:54:41 PM GMT



Email viewed by evogeli@everettwa.gov

2025-09-24 - 7:55:35 PM GMT



Signer evogeli@everettwa.gov entered name at signing as Liz Vogeli

2025-09-24 - 7:58:18 PM GMT



Document e-signed by Liz Vogeli (evogeli@everettwa.gov)

Signature Date: 2025-09-24 - 7:58:20 PM GMT - Time Source: server



Document emailed to jtuohy@everettwa.gov for signature

2025-09-24 - 7:58:22 PM GMT



Email viewed by jtuohy@everettwa.gov

2025-09-25 - 4:23:07 PM GMT



Signer jtuohy@everettwa.gov entered name at signing as Judy Tuohy

2025-09-25 - 4:23:59 PM GMT



Document e-signed by Judy Tuohy (jtuohy@everettwa.gov)

Signature Date: 2025-09-25 - 4:24:01 PM GMT - Time Source: server

✔ Agreement completed.

2025-09-25 - 4:24:01 PM GMT