



RESOLUTION NO. 8021

A RESOLUTION of the City of Everett, Washington, relating to regular property taxes; providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the City at a special election held in conjunction with the state primary election on August 6, 2024, of a proposition authorizing the City to levy regular property taxes in excess of the limitations of chapter 84.55 RCW; setting forth the text of the ballot proposition; directing proper City officials to take necessary actions; and providing for other properly related matters.

WHEREAS,

1. The City of Everett relies on property taxes to provide quality of life and essential public services, that include public safety, park maintenance, libraries, the animal shelter, street maintenance, support for neighborhood groups, social services for those in need, the arts, and events; and
2. because the City's primary source of revenue for these essential services is property taxes, the City Council has determined that it is essential and necessary for the public health, safety and welfare to submit to the voters a proposition to increase the regular property tax to support quality of life and essential public services; and,
3. the City Council has determined that it is in the best interests of the City and its residents to submit this levy lid lift proposition to the voters for their approval or rejection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EVERETT CITY COUNCIL THAT:

Sec. 1. Findings. The findings expressed in the recitals to this Resolution are hereby adopted and incorporated by reference.

Sec. 2. Calling of Election. The City Council finds that it is in the best interests of the City and its residents to submit to the qualified voters of the City, at an election held on August 6, 2024, a proposition authorizing the City to increase its regular property tax levy for collection in 2025 by an amount greater than otherwise permitted under chapter 84.55 RCW for the purposes described in Section 3. If this proposition is approved, the City Council will be authorized to adopt, in accordance with its regular budget process, an increased regular property tax as described in Section 3.

Sec. 3. Purpose and Description of Ballot Proposition. For the purposes identified below, the City Council seeks voter approval under RCW 84.55.050(1) for a levy lid lift.

(a) **Purpose.** The amounts collected pursuant to the incremental rate increase authorized for 2025 shall be used to fund quality of life and essential public services. Subject to the City's regular annual budget process, these services are anticipated to include, but are not

limited to: public safety, including police and fire services; park and trail maintenance; library services; care for lost, homeless and injured animals at the regional animal shelter; proactive street maintenance; support for neighborhood associations; social services, including homelessness response and behavioral health support; arts and culture; community events, such as Sorticulture, Fourth of July, and Wintertide. This includes exploring the return of services cut during the COVID-19 pandemic. A priority will be placed on public safety, including police and fire services, exploring the options to re-open the forest park pool through a public private partnership, a full-time staff position to the Office of the Neighborhoods, and extending library hours.

(b) **Maximum Levy Rate.** The maximum total regular levy rate authorized for collection in 2025 is not more than \$2.19 per \$1,000 of assessed value. This would represent an incremental increase of approximately \$0.67 per \$1,000 over the 2024 levy rate.

(c) **Levy Limits in Future Years.** The dollar amount of the maximum allowable levy under chapter 84.55 RCW levied for collection 2025 is to be used for the purpose of computing the limitations on subsequent levies under chapter 84.55 RCW.

(d) **Exemption for Qualifying Low-Income Senior Citizens, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities.** In accordance with RCW 84.55.050(4)(e), the exemptions available to persons who qualify through the State's property tax exemption program for low-income senior citizens, veterans and persons with disabilities authorized by RCW 84.36.381 will apply to the increase authorized by voters under this proposition.

Sec. 4. Ballot Proposition. The Auditor of Snohomish County, Washington (the "County Elections Official"), as *ex officio* supervisor of elections within the City, is hereby requested to call and conduct a special election in the City, in the manner provided by law, to be held on the date identified in Section 2, for the purpose of submitting to the voters of the City, a proposition in substantially the form attached as Exhibit A.

Sec. 5. Notices Relating to Ballot Proposition. For purposes of receiving notice of the exact language of the ballot proposition required by RCW 29A.36.080, the City Council hereby designates: (a) Angela Ely, Council Executive Assistant (aely@everettwa.gov); and (b) special counsel to the City, Stradling Yocca Carlson and Rauth LLP (Alice Ost diek, aostdiek@stradlinglaw.com) as the individuals to whom such notice should be provided.

Sec. 6. Authorization to Deliver Resolution and Perform Other Necessary Duties. The City Clerk (or the City Clerk's designee) is authorized and directed, no later than May 3, 2024, to certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Elections Official and to perform such other duties as are necessary or required by law to the end that the proposition described herein should appear on the ballot at the special election identified in Section 2 of this Resolution.

Sec. 7. Local Voters' Pamphlet. The City authorizes participation in the County local voters' pamphlet to provide information on this ballot proposition. Committees to prepare

arguments advocating approval and disapproval of the measure shall be appointed in accordance with RCW 29A.32.280, either by motion of the City Council or otherwise in accordance with the procedures of the County Elections Office. Each committee shall be composed of not more than three persons, and the committee advocating approval shall be composed of persons known to favor the ballot proposition and the committee advocating disapproval shall be composed of persons known to oppose the ballot proposition.

Sec. 8. Severability; Construction. If any provision of this Resolution shall be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, then such provision shall be null and void and shall be separable from the remaining provisions and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions, or of the levy or collection of the taxes authorized herein.

Sec. 9. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect and be in full force immediately upon its passage and approval in accordance with law.



Councilmember introducing resolution

Passed and approved this 1st day of May, 2024.



Council President

City of Everett, Washington
Proposition 1
Levy Lid Lift for

Public Safety and Essential Public Services

The City Council has adopted Resolution 24-020 concerning funding for quality of life and essential public services.

If approved, this proposition would authorize a maximum regular property tax rate in 2025 of not more than \$2.19/\$1,000 assessed value. The incremental increase in 2025 would fund essential public services, including park maintenance, libraries, animal shelter, street maintenance, neighborhood groups, social services, the arts, events and public safety, all as described in the Resolution. The 2025 maximum levy amount would be the basis to calculate subsequent levy limits. Qualifying seniors, veterans, and others would be exempt (ch. 84.36 RCW).

Should this proposition be: ☐ Approved? ☐ Rejected?












Resolution 8021

Final Audit Report

2024-05-02

Created:	2024-05-02
By:	Marista Jorve (mjorve@everettwa.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAsychtPEiCHp2nzAhECkp89DVH5PrzP9h

"Resolution 8021" History

-  Document created by Marista Jorve (mjorve@everettwa.gov)
2024-05-02 - 8:48:52 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to prhyne@everettwa.gov for signature
2024-05-02 - 8:49:19 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by prhyne@everettwa.gov
2024-05-02 - 9:18:59 PM GMT
-  Signer prhyne@everettwa.gov entered name at signing as Paula Rhyne
2024-05-02 - 9:19:36 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Paula Rhyne (prhyne@everettwa.gov)
Signature Date: 2024-05-02 - 9:19:38 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Document emailed to Donald Schwab (DSchwab@everettwa.gov) for signature
2024-05-02 - 9:19:39 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Donald Schwab (DSchwab@everettwa.gov)
2024-05-02 - 9:20:14 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Donald Schwab (DSchwab@everettwa.gov)
Signature Date: 2024-05-02 - 9:20:48 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.
2024-05-02 - 9:20:48 PM GMT