

February 11, 2014 Special Election

King County

Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

as requested by Vashon Island School District No. 402



For more information call
206-296-VOTE (8683) or visit
www.kingcounty.gov/elections



King County
Department of Elections

Registering to vote

Requirements

To register to vote in Washington, you must be:

- A citizen of the United States;
- A legal resident of Washington State;
- At least 18 years old by Election Day; and
- Not under the authority of the Department of Corrections.

How to register

- Register online with the Secretary of State, www.vote.wa.gov.
- Download a registration form from the King County Elections website and return it by mail.
- Register in person at the King County Elections office or annex.

Registration deadlines

While you may register to vote at any time, there are registration deadlines prior to each election. The deadlines for the February 11, 2014, special election:

- **January 13** – Deadline to register to vote online or by mail, or update existing voter registration information.
- **February 3** – In-person registration deadline for people not currently registered in Washington. Register in person at the Elections office in Renton or at the Voter Registration Annex in Seattle.

Keep your voter registration current

Update your registration if you have moved or changed your name, or if your signature has changed. Simply submit a new registration form to update your information.

Accessible voting centers

Accessible voting centers are available for voters who need assistance completing their ballot. Trained staff and specialized equipment is available to help voters with disabilities cast a private, independent ballot.

Voters may also return ballots at these locations during business hours.

King County Elections

919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057

January 24 - February 10: Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

February 11: Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall

450 110th Ave NE, Bellevue 98004

February 10: Monday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

February 11: Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Returning your ballot

i Ballot return locations and accessible voting centers can change with every election. See below for a list of the ballot return sites for the February 11, 2014 special election.

Through the mail

You can vote and return your ballot through the U.S. Postal Service as soon as you receive it. Ballots must be postmarked by February 11.

Mailed ballots require first class postage.

! First Class postage rates increase to 49 cents as of January 26th, 2014.

24-hour drop boxes

Return your ballot without using the U.S. Postal Service or a first class stamp at a ballot drop box.

Ballot drop boxes are open: 24 hours a day beginning January 23.

Ballot drop boxes close: on Election Day, February 11, at 8 p.m.

Crossroads Shopping Center

South entrance

15600 NE 8th Street, Bellevue 98008

Federal Way City Hall

33325 8th Avenue S, Federal Way 98003

Issaquah City Hall

130 E Sunset Way, Issaquah 98027

King County Administration Building

500 4th Avenue, Seattle 98104

King County Elections

919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057

Lake Forest Park City Hall

17425 Ballinger Way NE, Lake Forest Park 98155

Regional Justice Center

401 4th Avenue N, Kent 98032

Near parking garage entrance

Redmond Senior Center

8703 160th Avenue NE, Redmond 98052



Proposition No. 1**Replacement of Expiring Maintenance and Operation Levy**

The Board of Directors of Vashon Island School District No. 402 adopted Resolution No. 699, concerning a proposition to finance maintenance and operation expenses. This proposition would support the District to meet its educational goals by levying the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, for support of the District's General Fund maintenance and operation expenses:

<u>Collection Years</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate/\$1000 Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2015	\$1.74	\$3,774,125
2016	\$1.74	\$3,962,831
2017	\$1.74	\$4,160,973
2018	\$1.73	\$4,343,912

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes

No

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

Statement in favor

This levy is *vital*. It is not a new levy but a continuation of our usual Operations Levy due to expire in 2014. Since the State of Washington does not fully fund our Vashon Island schools, twenty three percent of our operating budget must come from this levy. These funds directly pay teachers salaries, maintenance, textbooks, transportation, custodial staff and much more. Every four years for more than 20 years this levy has come up for renewal and to our credit, we have always been there to support our kids.

State budgets are still very tight but our administrators and staff have worked hard to keep our schools strong with the limited resources available. Tough decisions have already been made that maximize every dollar spent. Each generation of our children depends on the support of our schools in order to build their futures. The loss of twenty three percent of the District's General Fund would be devastating.

We are very proud of our Vashon Island School District, as they have demonstrated excellent stewardship of our tax dollars. We ask each of you to join us in voting to support this levy.

Rebuttal of statement in opposition

The most important factor in our children's education is the quality of their teachers. Vashon voters have great regard and respect for our teachers and the education they provide our children. The Olympia-based Freedom Foundation statistics are simply not accurate for Vashon. While state funding continues to languish below 2008 levels, nearly every district in the state uses local levies to support teacher salaries, maintenance, textbooks, and transportation to operate schools.

Statement submitted by: John "Oz" Osborne, Cherry Champagne, and J. Scott Bonney
tooz@oceanatlas.com

Explanatory statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would authorize the Vashon Island School District to replace an existing levy that will expire at the end of calendar year 2014. The proposed four-year replacement levy would authorize collection of taxes to provide \$3,774,125 in 2015, \$3,962,831 in 2016, \$4,160,973 in 2017 and \$4,343,912 in 2018. The tax levy rate required to produce these levy amounts is estimated to be \$1.74 per \$1,000 of assessed value to be made in 2014 for 2015 collection, to be made in 2015 for 2016 collection and to be made in 2016 for 2017 collection, and \$1.73 per \$1,000 of assessed value to be made in 2017 for 2018 collection. The tax rate of approximately \$1.74 per \$1,000 of assessed value projected for the first year of collection in 2015 would equate to \$783 per year (or \$65.25 per month) for a \$450,000 home.

Taxes collected by this levy will be deposited in the District's General Fund to support the District's strategic goals and help pay for necessary educational programs and operations that are not fully funded by the State, including staff salaries, instructional programs, special education, transportation, curriculum, professional development, custodial and minor facility repairs.

Exemptions from taxes may be available to homeowners who are 61 or older, or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. For more information, call the King County Department of Assessments at 206.296.3920.

For additional questions regarding this measure contact:
Donna Donnelly - Assistant to Superintendent
206-463-8534 • ddonnelly@vashonsd.org

Statement in opposition

Union officials in the Vashon Island Schools have pressured the school board to divert levy funds from student services in order to pay teachers more. Our levy should pay for student services, not for wage increases.

In the collective bargaining agreement sought by union officials, the average state-provided wage of \$52,751 for teachers will be enhanced by 12.5 percent from levy and levy-matched funds. This costs roughly \$531,466 per year which could be better used to help at-risk students or reduce class sizes. The school district leads taxpayers to believe the levy money is being used for students, yet large amounts support union priorities instead.

Levies are great for funding local priorities and unique services for our area students, but taxpayers should hold off giving the school district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Rebuttal of statement in favor

Don't let the Vashon School District confuse you by a nuanced definition of taxes, levy, new, or renewal. Approving this measure will increase the amount you pay the government. Taxpayers should hold off giving the district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Voting 'no' on Proposition 1 will send this message to the district: Be more responsible with taxpayer's money.

Statement submitted by: Laurie Lyford, Renay Bennett, and Tom Henningsgards
propertyrights4us@gmail.com

Voting tips

- Read and follow the instructions carefully when voting.
- Mark your ballot using a black ink pen.
- Sign and date the voter's declaration on the back of the return envelope. Your signature is checked and verified in each election that you vote.
- Return your ballot as early as possible, but no later than election day, Feb. 11.
- If you are contacted by Elections staff (even after election day) follow up promptly so your ballot can be counted.
- Keep your voter registration information and signature up to date.
- See for yourself how we process your ballot! Watch the Elections web cams or take a video tour of King County Elections at www.kingcounty.gov/elections



Rat City Rollergirls

**You can only make a difference if you
get your ballot in on time**

Act fast and be an informed voter!

To obtain this pamphlet in an alternate format please contact King County Elections at 206-296-VOTE (8683).

Voting materials available in Chinese and Vietnamese

To comply with Section 203 of the Federal Voting Rights Act, King County is required to provide voting materials in Chinese and Vietnamese. To request voting materials, update your language preference or register to vote, visit www.myvote.wa.gov or call 206-296-VOTE (8683).

Để thực hiện theo Mục 203 của Đạo Luật Liên Bang về Quyền Bỏ Phiếu, Quận King được yêu cầu phải cung cấp các tài liệu bỏ phiếu bằng tiếng Trung Quốc và tiếng Việt. Để yêu cầu các tài liệu bầu cử, cập nhật lựa chọn ngôn ngữ của quý vị hoặc đăng ký bỏ phiếu, ghé đến www.myvote.wa.gov hoặc gọi 206-296-VOTE (8683) và bấm số 3.

根據聯邦投票權利法案第203節之要求，金郡需要提供中文和越南文版的選舉資訊。欲索取選舉資訊，更新您的語言選擇或登記投票，請查看網站www.myvote.wa.gov或致電206-296-VOTE(8683)，然後按“2”字。

Contact us

Phone:	206-296-VOTE (8683) 1-800-325-6165 TTY Relay: 711
Email:	elections@kingcounty.gov
Online:	www.kingcounty.gov/elections
Mail or in-person:	919 SW Grady Way Renton, WA 98057
Voter Registration Annex:	King County Administration Building 500 4th Ave., Room 311 Seattle, WA 98104