

Contact information

Phone: 206-296-VOTE (8683)
1-800-325-6165
TTY Relay: 711

Email: elections@kingcounty.gov

Online: kingcounty.gov/elections

Mail or in-person:

King County Elections
919 SW Grady Way
Renton, WA 98057

King County Elections is open Weekdays from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Elections Annex
King County Administration Building
500 4th Ave., Room 440
Seattle, WA 98104

The Elections Annex is open Weekdays from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

April 24, 2018 Special Election

King County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

as requested by the Tahoma School District No. 409



vote!

Contact us to receive this pamphlet in an alternate format.

Contact us to receive your voting materials in Chinese, Korean, Spanish or Vietnamese.

如需獲取您的中文投票資訊，請聯絡金郡選舉部。

Comuníquese con nosotros para recibir sus materiales de votación en Español.

한국어로 투표 자료를 받으시려면 저희에게 연락하세요.

Xin vui lòng liên lạc với Sở Bầu cử Quận King để nhận tài liệu bầu cử bằng tiếng Việt.

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Proposition No. 1 Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operations Levy

The Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2018-06 concerning educational funding. This proposition authorizes the District to levy the following excess taxes, to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, to support the District's educational programs and operations not funded by the state:

| Collection Year | Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value | Levy Amount |
|-----------------|--|--------------|
| 2019 | \$1.50 | \$10,710,073 |
| 2020 | \$1.50 | \$11,823,067 |

all as provided in the Resolution. Should this proposition be approved?

Yes

No

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

Statement in favor

Submitted by: Angela Stewart, Brett Habenicht, Krissy Riggs
voteyestahoma.com

Vote yes for our schools and community by renewing this levy. A yes vote enables Tahoma to continue providing quality education, supporting our strong property values, healthy economy and desirable community.

Renewing the levy helps Tahoma maintain existing programs, staffing and services while the state adjusts to the new education funding model. In 2019, if you combine this 2-year levy at \$1.50 per \$1,000 and the new state education tax of 95 cents, the rate is less than what you're paying now. For example, on a \$400,000 home, the cost would be \$220 less annually.

Examples of what is funded entirely or in part through levy dollars: security; nurses; special education; support for struggling students; every sport; all activity programs including drama, band, robotics; transportation; expanded electives at middle school; before and after-school care; zero-hour classes; new models including THS 8-period day, elementary art, elementary Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM); summer school; community use of facilities.

The district is committed to meeting expectations of transparency, accountability, and sustainability. For details, visit www.tahomasd.us.

Levy failure endangers the district's programs for students, and its excellent fiscal rating.

When levies fail, the entire community suffers. Vote yes to maintain our outstanding district!

Rebuttal of statement in opposition

State funding uncertainty still exists. The question is: Do voters want to maintain staff and programs of this outstanding school district that are paid either entirely or partially from levy funds? We ask voters to maintain the \$1.50 rate for continuity. A two-year renewal prevents a funding gap while legislators adjust state allocation. Tahoma proudly strives to meet the demands of our community. The district website has links to updated McCleary transition changes impacting Tahoma.

Explanatory statement

For questions about this measure, contact:

Kevin Patterson
Public Relations Officer
425-413-3409
kpatters@tahomasd.us

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would replace an expiring levy and allow the levy of \$10,710,073 in property taxes within Tahoma School District for collection in 2019, and the levy of \$11,823,067 for collection in 2020. In accordance with Resolution No. 2018-06 approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited in the Tahoma School District's General Fund to pay part of the general expenses of operating the District. General expenses of the District include employee costs (such as salaries), instructional materials, special programs, activities and sports, technology systems operation, transportation costs, maintenance of facilities and other non-capital expenses of operating the District schools.

If authorized by the voters and based on projected assessed valuation information, the estimated levy rate per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$1.50 for collection in the years 2019 and 2020, inclusive. The exact levy rate shall be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of the property within the District and the legal limit of the levy amount at the time of the levy.

Statement in opposition

Submitted by: Fletcher Barkdull
fletcherbarkdull@gmail.com

As a father of 6 children in the district for the next 15 years, I do not take lightly the responsibility for writing this statement. I also wrote the prior statements against the failed levies.

Even the district recognizes that a major reason for the failed levies was the lack of a bottoms-up needs assessment and the detail math behind the amount requested, especially given the significant increase in state funding. As of the date of this statement (Feb. 27th), I am still waiting for that detail.

Notably, the state is now obligated to fully fund basic education, including teacher salaries. And, unlike prior levies, this levy can be used solely for "enrichment" purposes. So, the question for voters is as follows: How much does the district really need solely for "enrichment" purposes?

In the absence of information, I worked with a team to do our own assessment, and we suggested that the district levy less than the maximum amount. The district rejected this suggestion and again set the levy at the maximum rate (\$1.50).

Although skeptical, many of us are still willing to listen. For an updated analysis prior to voting, feel free to email me at fletcherbarkdull@gmail.com.

Rebuttal of statement in favor

The Pro statement conveniently omits rising property values as a key factor in determining the overall tax burden. Taxpayers can't be expected to accept the maximum tax burden (\$1.50) when the district hasn't even completed a needs analysis or provided a detailed breakdown of funding use.

The statement also fails to recognize new limitations on levy use and recent increases in state funding for things like security, librarians, nurses, teachers and staff (beyond basic education).

Register 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
- Not disqualified from voting due to a court order
- Not under Department of Corrections supervision for a Washington felony conviction

How to register

- Register online with the Secretary of State, www.vote.wa.gov.
- Download a registration form from the King County Elections website.
- Register in person at the King County Elections office or at the King County Voter Registration Annex.

Registration deadlines

While you may register to vote at any time, there are registration deadlines before each election. The deadlines for the April 24, 2018 Special Election are:

- **March 26** – Deadline for online and mail-in voter registration, address change and other updates.
- **April 16** – Deadline for people not currently registered in Washington State (in-person only).

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 options

Voting by mail is a convenient option for most people. There are other options available.

Online Ballot Marking Program

- Any registered voter can use the online ballot marking program.
- Voters with disabilities can mark their choices on the ballot online. The online ballot marking program has been designed specifically to enable blind and vision-impaired voters to cast a private ballot.
- If a voter's ballot is damaged or lost, voters may mark their ballot on a computer, print it out, and return it by fax, standard mail, or email before the 8 p.m. election day deadline.

Accessible Voting Centers

Accessible voting centers are available for voters who need assistance completing their ballot. Trained staff and specialized equipment are available to help voters with disabilities cast a private, independent ballot. Mail ballots can also be dropped off at any accessible voting center, when open.

King County Elections

919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057

Elections Annex

King County Administration Building, 500 4th Ave, Room 440, Seattle 98104

- Weekdays, April 4 - 23, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Election day, April 24, 8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Other accessible voting options

If one of the above options doesn't work for you, please contact our office for further assistance:

Phone: 206-296-VOTE (8683)
1-800-325-6165
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Email: elections@kingcounty.gov



Who donates to campaigns?

View contributors for candidates and measures

Public Disclosure Commission

www.pdc.wa.gov | Toll Free 1-877-601-2828

Ballot drop boxes

Return your ballot without a stamp at a ballot drop box. Ballot drop boxes are open 24 hours a day beginning April 5 and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day, April 24.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Auburn | Auburn Library, 1102 Auburn Way S, 98002 |
| Covington | Covington Library, 27100 164th Avenue SE, 98042 |
| Des Moines | * Highline College (entrance across from 27th Ave S), 2400 S 240th St, 98198 |
| Duvall | * Duvall Police Department/Depot Park, 26225 NE Burhen Way, 98019 |
| Kent | Kentridge High School, 12430 SE 208th St, 98031 Regional Justice Center (near parking garage entrance), 401 4th Ave N, 98032 |
| Maple Valley | Hobart Food Market, 20250 276th Ave SE, 98038 * Tahoma School District Building, 25720 Maple Valley-Black Diamond Rd SE, 98038 |
| Renton | Fairwood Library, 17009 140th Ave SE, 98058 * King County Elections, 919 SW Grady Way, 98057 * Renton Public Health Center, 3201 NE 7th St, 98056 |
| SeaTac | Valley View Library, 17850 Military Rd S, 98188 |
| Seattle | King County Administration Building, 500 4th Ave, 98104 |

* Drive-up ballot drop boxes

Ballot drop boxes close at 8 p.m. on Election Day, April 24.

Mail your ballot

You can vote and return your ballot through the U.S. Postal Service as soon as you receive it.

Mailed ballots require first class postage and must be postmarked by April 24.

