

For the complete text of the resolutions, please visit:
clark.wa.gov/elections/february-14-2023-special-election

You must sign and date your return envelope in order for your ballot to be counted!

- Sign in the signature box that has YOUR name printed on the envelope.
- If you registered to vote online, or when you obtained your driver’s license, the signature on your driver’s license is the signature in your voter registration record.
- If you are unsure about the signature in your voter registration record, we encourage you to call the Elections Office at 564-397-2345. We can provide a description of the signature you used when you registered to vote.
- Do NOT sign someone else’s name, even if you have power of attorney.
- Voting over the phone by having someone else fill out and sign your ballot is against the law. Voters can call us at 564-397-2345 to learn about the options for voting while they are out of town.
- Drop boxes are available if you don’t want your ballot or signature to go through the mail.

Registering to vote

Registering takes only a few minutes, and you may do it by mail or online at **VoteWA.gov**.

A Washington driver’s license or ID is required to register online. You may also complete a new voter registration form. Contact the Elections Office by mail, email, or phone for more information.

The deadline to receive new voter registrations and voter updates to existing registrations online, by phone or by mail is 5 pm Monday, February 6, 2023.

Lost or damaged ballot?

If you lose your ballot, or it becomes damaged, you can obtain a replacement ballot by contacting the Elections Office.

Clark County Elections Office

Phone 564-397-2345

Email elections@clark.wa.gov

Relay 7-1-1 or 877-833-6341

Mailing address
PO Box 8815
Vancouver, WA 98666-8815

Street address
1408 Franklin Street, Vancouver

Clark County Official Local

Voters’ Pamphlet

February 14, 2023 Special Election
City of Vancouver Edition



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Proposition No. 3

Affordable Housing Levy Replacement

The City of Vancouver Council adopted Resolution No. M-4188 concerning the replacement of an expiring affordable housing property tax levy. This proposition would replace an expiring property tax levy and fund housing and housing services for people with low and very low incomes, including those with disabilities, veterans, seniors, and families with children, by authorizing a regular property tax levy generating \$10,000,000 annually (approximately \$0.30/\$1,000 assessed value) for ten years, beginning in 2024, pursuant to RCW 84.52.105. All levy proceeds would be used for affordable housing purposes pursuant to an administrative and financial plan adopted by City Council.

Should this proposition be approved?

To vote, use your official ballot.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Washington State law, RCW 84.52.105, authorizes cities to impose a regular property tax levy to fund affordable housing for low and very low-income households when authorized to do so by a majority of voters. If approved, this proposition would authorize a regular property tax levy of \$10,000,000 annually for ten years to fund affordable housing and housing services for low and very low-income households. A low-income household is one whose income is at or below 80% of the median income, a very low-income household is one whose income is at or below 50% of the median income.

STATEMENT FOR

Vote Yes to Address Vancouver’s Affordable Housing Crisis
All Vancouver adults and children should live in safe, affordable homes. Over the last six years the Affordable Housing Levy, as approved by voters, has built and preserved over 1,000 homes for our most vulnerable neighbors and provided rental assistance to more than 1,600 households preventing their homelessness.

There is more work to do; especially for the 24,000 families struggling financially in Vancouver and unable to make ends meet, seniors on fixed incomes, people with disabilities, and hardworking families on the verge of losing their homes.

Without a yes vote, the levy will expire.

Let’s continue our momentum. We can become a community where seniors and people with disabilities live independently. Where hardworking families can afford housing and still have enough money for things like groceries and childcare.

Replacement Levy, How It Works

The City will grant revenue from this 10-year levy (capped at \$10 million per year) through a competitive process to nonprofits and developers. Grants will be used to build and preserve housing that’s affordable to people making less than half of our community’s average income. Nonprofits can apply for rental assistance grants to help our most vulnerable neighbors. A replacement levy will help over 2,500 families afford housing, 150 low-income households with home ownership, and support 550 shelter beds, while only costing the average homeowner approximately \$60 more a year or \$5 per month. Let’s Bring Vancouver Home: Vote Yes on Proposition 3!

REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST

This renewal levy is necessary and highly effective in addressing our city’s affordable housing crisis. It is our single most powerful tool to make residency in Vancouver affordable for our most vulnerable residents; low income families, seniors, and people with disabilities. For every levy dollar invested, we received \$8 additional dollars in funding from state, federal, and other sources. That’s an 800% return on investment! Vote Yes for a proven affordable housing solution!

Statement For and Rebuttal of Statement Against

Submitted by:

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STATEMENT AGAINST

Proposition 3, Affordable Housing Fund property tax levy replacement, should be rejected because an increase from an 18 cent rate over 7 years (2017-2023) to a rate of 30 cents for 10 years commencing in 2024 is unnecessary and counterproductive. That’s a whopping 66 percent increase imposed upon taxpayers! City of Vancouver government ought to be pursuing policies and programs that make residency in Vancouver affordable instead of policies and programs that aggravate affordability in this fine city.

Quoting from the city website:

‘The City of Vancouver recognizes the importance of housing to fostering a healthy and livable community.’ RCW 84.52.105 is the prescribing statute and basis for affordable housing levy funding. The city government is required to declare an existence of an emergency with respect to availability of affordable housing.

New sprawling city programs and policies are exacerbating expenses, costs, and taxation upon our tax paying residents. The city ought to eliminate such programs and policies that result in more taxation and spending. Reducing the bloating local government is the solution not higher taxation. What is the city government doing to mitigate root causes of the perceived emergency, the affordable housing crisis? Where is the commitment by the Council in Resolution No. M-4188 expressed to eradicate an affordable housing problem?

This tax Increase will create additional risks for more people to become homeless as all these property taxes are passed down to only homeowners and renters not city owned or government abated private developments. Reject the unwarranted levy increase.

REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR

Seven years ago the Affordable Housing levy passed. Homelessness and affordability are worse! This new levy expands upon that same failed approach with even higher taxes over longer periods. The city has continued giving tax breaks to rich big developers. If this passes fixed income households will pay higher taxes. Let’s try a new approach. Stop treating the symptoms and address the root causes of the high costs of housing, Vote No, reject added taxes!

Statement Against and Rebuttal of Statement For

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