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# Clark County Revenues Manual

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## Introduction

In the past, considerable work has gone into documenting what is known about the county's revenues, with a large focus on the General Fund. In 1995, the Auditor's Office staff produced a draft *Revenue Manual*, which is the basis for this reference manual. As a result of that effort and the hard work of many others, a substantial amount of information exists, in a variety of forms, about county revenues--what they are, how they are collected and used, the dollars involved, the history (and legal authority) behind them, and how the County accounts for them.

This manual updates, consolidates and organizes these previous efforts. There are hundreds of revenue sources for the county, each one having a separate statutory, WAC, or other authorization, affecting several different county funds. Because of the complexity and sheer number of revenue sources, only those revenues that are substantial or are potential new revenue sources have been included in this reference guide.

This document breaks down the revenues into type: Taxes; Permits, Fees, Charges & Fines; Intergovernmental; and Debt Instruments. Excluded from this manual is revenue from grants, since they tend to be only for specific periods of time and are specific in their associated expenditures.

The major revenue sources have been explained in detail, broken down into specific sections:

1. **Definition.** This section includes a general introduction to the revenue source and defines key terms.
2. **Statutory Authorization.** This section lists the authorization for the taxation, any limits or exceptions to the revenue source, the different subtypes of the revenue source, and any nuances that should be noted.
3. **Methodology for Calculating Revenue.** This section explains how the revenue is calculated and how it is divided (if at all) with other jurisdictions or between funds.
4. **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue.** This section explores how the economy or other factors (such as annexations) impact the revenue, and whether the revenue source has long-term potential to continue as an adequate funding source.
5. **Accounting Details.** This section lists funds and sub-accounts that receive revenue from the source under discussion.

At the end there is an appendix section which includes additional information, such as a five year history of the revenues noted in this manual, an explanation of how tax codes work, a discussion of the County's authority to set fees, and other supplemental information.

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# TAXES

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# Property Taxes

## Definition

The County's largest single source of revenue is the tax levied on real and personal property. The property tax, also referred to as *ad valorem* property tax, is a tax on all property within the county, with several exceptions such as public structures (government buildings, roads, etc.), property owned by several types of non-profit organizations, personal property (up to a specified dollar value), and others.

There are three main components to understanding property taxes : assessed value, tax levy, and millage rate. The **assessed value** refers to the value of property. This can be the value of a specific property, or it can be the aggregate of all property in the county.

The **tax levy** is the amount of money that the government expects to collect for that year from property taxation. The levy that a taxing district may impose each year without voter approval is called its regular levy.

The **millage rate** is the rate at which \$1,000 of the assessed value of a property is taxed. The millage rate is determined by taking the tax levy, dividing that by the assessed value for the jurisdiction being taxed, and multiplying by 1000.

In Clark County, there are several property tax levies. There is a levy for "current county" expenses (General Fund) and dollars are "unrestricted" in terms of how they may be appropriated. There is a second levy for the design, construction and maintenance of county roads (Road Fund) which is independent of the General Fund levy. Other small levies have been approved for specific purposes, and the taxes collected are accounted for in separate funds. These levies are for Veterans Assistance, Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Conservation Futures.

## Statutory Authorization

**General Fund Levy.** The county's legislative authority may impose by ordinance or resolution an *ad valorem* property tax for the purpose of funding the general purposes of the county government, not to exceed limits established by law. *RCW 36.40.090*

**Road Fund Levy.** The county legislative authority may levy an *ad valorem* property tax for the purpose of building or maintaining county transportation systems. *RCW 36.82.040*

**Veterans Assistant Fund Levy.** The legislative authority for the county must impose a property tax not less than one and one-eighth cents (\$0.01125) and not greater than twenty seven cents (\$0.27) per one thousand dollars of taxable assessed value in the county for the purposes of creating a veterans assistance fund. The amount of the general fund levy allocated to this purpose may be reduced in the same proportion as the regular property tax levy of the county is reduced by the statutory millage rate limits. *RCW 73.08.080*

**Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Levy.** The legislative authority for the county must budget and levy annually a tax in a sum equal to the amount which would be raised by a levy of two and one-half cent (\$0.025) per one thousand dollars of assessed value against property in the county. The amount of the levy may be reduced in the same proportion that the regular property tax levy is reduced by the statutory millage rate limits. *RCW 71.20.110*

**Conservation Futures Levy.** The legislative authority of the county may impose a property tax levy of up to six and one-quarter cents (\$0.0625) per one thousand dollars of assessed value in the county. This levy is not subject to the \$1.80 limit on the general fund nor the \$5.90 millage rate limit. *RCW 84.34.230*

**Parks and Recreation Service Area Levy.** The county's legislative authority may impose a Parks and Recreation Service Area property tax not to exceed sixty cents (\$0.60) per one thousand dollars of assessed value within the service area. The service area is defined by the BOCC, and by include city area with the approval of the city's legislative authority. *RCW 36.68.525*

**Flood Control River Improvements Levy.** The county's legislative authority may also impose a property tax for Flood Control River Improvements not to exceed twenty five cents (\$0.25) per one thousand dollars of assessed value in the county. *RCW 86.12.010*

**Affordable Housing Levy.** Cities and counties may impose additional regular property tax levies up to fifty cents (\$0.50) per one thousand dollars of assessed value each year for up to ten years to finance affordable housing for very low-income households when specifically authorized to do so by a majority of voters of the taxing district. The taxing district is an area defined by the legislative authority. If both the city and county impose a levy, the levy of the last jurisdiction to receive voter approval is reduced so that the combined rate does not exceed fifty cents (\$0.50) per one thousand dollars of assessed value in any taxing district.

This tax may not be imposed until the legislative authority declares the existence of an emergency with respect to affordable housing to very low-income households, and the legislative authority adopts an affordable housing finance plan in conformity with state and federal laws regarding affordable housing. Very low-income is defined as being at or below 50% of the median income for the taxing district. The \$1.80 general fund and \$5.90 total millage rate limits do not apply to this tax levy. The 1% limit and the percentage levy increase limits do apply to this levy. *RCW 84.52.105*

**Millage Rate Limits on Property Tax.** The millage rate at which the County may impose a real and personal property tax (*ad valorem* property tax) may not exceed \$1.80 for its General Fund and \$2.25 for its Road Fund. However, the County may increase its General Fund levy up to \$2.475 per \$1,000 of assessed value as long as the total millage rate of the General Fund and Road Fund does not exceed \$4.05 and that no other taxing district has its levy reduced as a result of the increase of the county levy.

The aggregate levies of senior taxing districts (the state, the county, and cities) and junior taxing districts (school districts, cemetery districts, fire districts, etc.) may not exceed a \$5.90 millage rate. Some levies are not added into this limit. They are state levies, levies for public utility districts, excess property tax levies (discussed later), levies for acquiring conservation futures, emergency medical service levies, low income housing levies, and some metropolitan park district levies. *RCW 84.52.043*

**1% Property Tax Limit.** In addition to the other millage rate limits, both statute and the state constitution limit property taxes to 1% of the true and fair value of the property. Since “true and fair value” tends to be slightly higher than the assessed value, this equates to a millage rate of about \$10.10. This limit does not apply to port or public utility districts. *Washington State Constitution Article 7, Sec. 2; RCW 84.52.050*

**Levy Amount Limits.** In November 1997, voters in the state passed Referendum Bill 47. This bill limited the growth of the property tax levies to “100% plus inflation,” not to exceed 106%, plus new construction. Inflation is defined as the Implicit Price Deflator (IPD) for Personal Consumption Expenditures. The “100% plus inflation” limit may be exceeded up to 106% if the legislative authority of a taxing district makes a finding of “substantial need.” Substantial need is not defined in the statute. The levy amount for the current year becomes the base for the following year regardless of whether the legislative authority used the substantial need increase. A finding of substantial need by the legislative authority can increase the levy beyond the “100% plus inflation” limit factor for only one year at a time, although it is subject to renewal upon a new finding of substantial need by

the legislative authority for the taxing district. *1997 Referendum Bill 47, RCW 82.55*

**Property Tax Lid Lifts.** Subject to other rate limits, the regular property taxes for a taxing district may exceed the regular levy (100% plus inflation) if approved by a majority of the voters of the taxing district. The excess may be limited either in time or for purpose, but it does not need to be. *RCW 84.55.050*

**Excess Levies.** Subject to other rate limits, the regular property tax for a taxing district may exceed the \$1.80 and \$2.25 limits by a supermajority (60%) of the voters in the taxing district voting for the increase. There is also a “turnout” validation requirement. *RCW 84.52.052*

**Prorationing.** The tax rate applied to a piece of property is the sum of the millage rates imposed by all the taxing districts within which the property lies. The total tax rate to any particular piece of property by overlapping taxing districts is controlled by the \$5.90 limit and the 1% limit. Should either of these limits be exceeded, the levies involved would be reduced according to a statutory formula. This reduction process is known as prorationing.

The county general expense levy, the county road fund levy, basic city levies and the state school levy are all protected from prorationing. Which levies are lowered in prorationing, how much, and in what order depends upon whether the \$5.90 limit or the 1% limit has been exceeded.

If the \$5.90 limit has been exceeded, the following levies are reduced or lowered until the total tax rate is at or below the \$5.90 rate:

1. Parks & Recreation Districts  
Parks & Recreation Service Areas  
Cultural Arts Stadiums & convention Districts
2. Flood Control Zone
3. Hospital District (up to \$0.25)  
Metropolitan Parks (up to \$0.25)  
Cemetery Districts  
All other districts not otherwise mentioned
4. Fire Districts (up to \$0.50)  
Fire Districts with one paid, full-time employee (up to \$0.50)
5. Fire Districts (remaining \$0.50)  
Library Districts (up to \$0.50)  
Hospital Districts (up to \$0.50)  
Metropolitan Parks Districts (up to an additional \$0.50)
6. County Current Expense Levy  
County Road Fund Levy

City Levy  
(Source: RCW 84.52.010)

If levies are reduced to conform to the \$5.90 limit, and the total tax levy still exceeds 1% of fair market value, then reductions in levies are made in the following order, up to the amounts in parentheses when indicated.

1. Metropolitan Parks Districts (up to \$0.25)
2. Conservation Futures (up to \$0.0625)  
Affordable Housing (up to \$0.50)  
Emergency Medical Services (up to \$0.20)
3. Park & Recreation Districts (up to \$0.60)  
Park & Recreation Service Area (up to \$0.60)  
Cultural Arts Stadium & Convention Districts (up to \$0.25)
4. Floor Control Zone (up to \$0.50)
5. Hospital Districts (up to \$0.50)  
Metropolitan Park District (up to additional \$0.25)  
Cemetery District (up to \$0.1125)  
All other junior taxing districts not listed
6. Fire Districts (up to \$0.50)  
Fire Districts with one paid, full-time employee (up to additional \$0.50)
7. Fire District (remaining \$0.50)  
Library District (up to \$0.50)  
Hospital District (up to additional \$0.50)  
Metropolitan Park District (up to additional \$0.50)
8. Emergency Medical Services District (additional \$0.30)
9. County Current Expense Levy  
County Road Levy  
City Levy
10. State School Levy  
(Source: RCW 84.52.010)

**Assessed Values.** The property in one-sixth of the county is physically inspected and re-assessed by the County Assessor's Office each year. The values of properties which are not physically inspected in a given year are statistically adjusted to reflect current market conditions. These adjustments are based on an analysis of recent sales of similar property. There is a two-year lag between the time that fieldwork for an assessment begins and the time the assessment is finalized. The tax on the assessment is not due until the following year. Thus, for the assessment on which citizens are paying their taxes in 1999, the field work began in August or September of 1997.

Commercial property is not assessed the same way as residential property. Residential property is appraised based on the home's specific attributes and

its fair market value. Commercial property is appraised using a variety of assessments which include square footage and different cost approaches.

**Delinquency.** Taxes not paid by the dates established by statute are subject to penalty and interest. The collection of interest and penalties on delinquent taxes is credited to the county current expense fund (general fund), while the tax itself goes to the appropriate funds. Costs for foreclosure and sale of property, and the fees and costs of the sale for the collection of delinquent taxes are credited to the Operation and Maintenance Fund of the County Treasurer to defray the cost of future foreclosures. *RCW 84.56.020*

**Senior Citizen Exemptions.** The state constitution provides that the state legislature has the power to grant to retired persons relief from the property tax on the real property that they live in. This exemption may be restricted as the legislature deems proper. The legislature has established an exemption based upon the person's age and yearly income. See the RCW for more detailed information. *Washington State Constitution Article 7, Sec. 10; RCW 84.36.381*

**Senior Citizen Deferral of Property Taxes.** If the owner of a property is at least 60 years old and retired from regular gainful employment, that owner may qualify to defer payment of special assessments and/or real property taxes on up to 80% of the amount of equity in the property. Other conditions apply for eligibility. *RCW 84.38.030*

**Expenditure of Road Fund Property Taxes on Non-Road Purposes.**

There are two ways in which the County can expend Road Fund revenues on non-road construction and maintenance services.

The first way is to divert funds from this levy to the General Fund to cover traffic enforcement costs. The amount sent to the General Fund must be the same as or less than the cost of traffic enforcement from the General Fund.

Second, state law allows for taxes collected under the Road Fund levy *that are not yet allocated to the Road Fund* may be expended for "any service to be provided in the unincorporated area of the county" rather than strictly for road purposes. If the County expends funds for non-road uses (excluding traffic enforcement), the County is then no longer eligible to receive state funds from the Rural Arterial Trust Account (RATA). If voters approve a diversion of funds away from the Road Fund, the County would still be eligible for RATA funds. *RCW 36.33.220, 36.79.140*

## **Methodology for Calculating Revenue**

Property taxes are calculated and assessed according to the following methodology:

- I. The Assessor's office estimates the fair and true value of each parcel of property in the County, not including exempted property.
- II. The BOCC determines the tax levy by using the following formula:
  - A. The highest levy for the prior three years is multiplied by a limit factor of 100% plus inflation or 106%, which ever is lower. This is the maximum allowable levy without a finding of substantial need or a vote of the people. The BOCC may use any amount up to this maximum levy amount.
  - B. New construction and improvements (at current year's assessed value) are multiplied by the prior year's millage rate, then added to the amount calculated in (a). The legislature has allowed the computation of new construction above the levy limit because the impacts of new construction require additional services from the taxing district.
  - C. State-assessed property is multiplied by the prior year's millage rate and added to the sum of steps (a) and (b). State-assessed property for the most part is utilities, and the taxable assessed value is calculated by subtracting the prior year's assessed value by the current year's assessed value.
- III. The tax levy is divided by the assessed value for the year prior to taxation, and then multiplied by 1,000. For example, to determine the 1999 millage rate for property taxation, the levy amount is divided by the total county assessed value for 1998, then multiplied by 1,000. This is the millage rate that is then used to tax individual properties in 1999. Residential and commercial properties are assessed in different ways, but the millage rate for taxation is the same.
- IV. If the millage rate exceeds the statutory and constitutional limits, then the tax levies are reduced according to statute until they are below those limits.
- V. The Treasurer's Office mails out tax statements to property owners. Taxes may be paid in two installments: the first half is due on April 30, and the second half is due on October 31. The General Fund levy applies county-wide, while the Road Fund levy applies only to property in the unincorporated portion of the county.

**Calculating the Collection of Delinquent Taxes.** In any given year, the county collects some amount of property tax which should have been paid in a previous year. The level of delinquent tax collection is well correlated with the total amount of delinquent taxes outstanding.

Penalties and interest on taxes are calculated on delinquent taxes according to state statute. The rates and schedule for penalties and interest are summarized here:

April 30 - the first half of the property tax payment is due and payable to the Treasurer

May 1 - delinquent taxes as of April 30 are subject to interest at a rate of 12% per annum computed on a monthly basis until payment is made.

June 1 - a penalty of 3% is assessed on the amount of tax delinquent on May 31 of the year in which the tax is due.

October 1 - the second half of the property tax payment is due.

November 1 - delinquent taxes as of October 31 are subject to interest at the rate of 12% until payment is made.

December 1 - an additional penalty of 8% is assessed on the total amount of tax delinquent on November 30 of the year in which the tax is due.

Every year, some percentage of the tax levy is not paid. The delinquency appears sensitive to short term interest rates, and it is possible to forecast the delinquency rate on the basis of an assumed future interest rate. Such a forecast is, by one measure, over 50% better at predicting the rate than simply assuming that delinquency will occur at the average rate.

### **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

Referendum Bill 47 has had the impact of limiting the growth in property tax levies for the County to the Implicit Price Deflator (IPD), plus a factor for new construction. With the IPD projected to remain relatively low, this limiting measure will slow the growth of this revenue source. Referendum 47 has the additional effect of decreasing revenue in real dollars because some costs grow at a rate higher than the IPD. For example, construction costs and health care benefits have a tendency to increase above the inflation rate for consumer goods (the IPD). Since property tax is the county's largest single source of revenue, this will impact the county in a significant way.

As long as growth in the assessed values remains above the IPD, then the county is not likely to reach the \$1.80 general fund limit. A change in the economy resulting in stagnant or decreased assessed values could result in the millage rate reaching these limits. If assessed values continue to grow moderately and the IPD remains relatively low, then the millage rate should decrease slowly over time.

Because of the large annexation of Cascade Park and Evergreen to the City of Vancouver, the County's Road Fund levy exceeded the \$2.25 limit when just adding the IPD percentage increase in 1998. The levy was set with a millage rate of \$2.19 instead of the limit of \$2.25 to avoid prorationing. Growth in this revenue source will probably remain stagnant until the maximum allowable levy would result in a millage rate lower than the limit. Future annexations will have the effect of keeping the millage rate at this limit for a longer period of time.

Property taxes tend to be more stable than sales taxes, and do not fluctuate as drastically as the economy can. The assessed value base is large and the new construction rate is solid. This, when added to a currently adequate tax levy, mean that this revenue source will probably remain adequate, although will not grow substantially.

Policy makers should note that the new tax revolt movements, such as in Oregon and other states, tend to focus on property taxation as a forum for action, making this revenue source more politically sensitive than most.

**Accounting Details**

General Fund Property Tax	0001-000-000-311100-000
Road Fund Property Tax	1012-000-000-311100-000
Mental Health Property Tax	1952-000-000-311000-000
Developmental Disabilities Property Tax	1953-000-000-311000-000
Veteran's Assistance Property Tax	1019-000-000-311000-000
Conservation Futures Property Tax	3085-000-000-311000-000
Road Fund Diversion for Traffic Enforcement	0001-000-000-311202-000
Delinquent Interest and Penalties	0001-000-170-319100-000

In 1997, a transfer was made from the Road Fund to the General Fund, in lieu of a Road Fund Diversion for Traffic Enforcement. The coding for this is as follows:

Road Fund Transfer to General Fund	0001-000-000-397012-000
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# Sales and Use Tax

## Definition

Governing bodies of cities and counties may impose sales and use taxes within their boundaries at a rate set by state statute and local ordinances to fund essential county and municipal purposes. Paid by the consumer, sales tax is a percentage of the retail price paid for specific classifications of goods and services within the State of Washington. If purchases are made out of the state by a Washington resident, and the sales tax paid out-of-state is less than the rate levied in the resident's city (or county if not incorporated), state law requires that a use tax be calculated and paid to make up the difference.

## Statutory Authorization

**6.5% State Sales and Use Tax.** The State of Washington currently imposes a sales and use tax of 6.5%. *RCW 82.08; RCW 82.12*

**Regular 0.5% Sales and Use Tax.** A county or municipality may impose, by resolution or ordinance, a sales and use tax at the rate of five-tenths of one percent (0.5%) on any taxable event within the County. These funds are not restricted and may be used for general county purposes. If both a county and a city within the county impose this tax, then the revenues collected by the city are credited against the county's revenue. This means that goods purchased within a city are not taxed by both the city and the county; they are only taxed once, and the revenue goes to the city. *RCW 82.14.030 (1)*

**Optional 0.5% Sales and Use Tax.** The county and cities may impose an additional optional sales tax, in one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) increments, up to a rate of five-tenths of one percent (0.5%). These funds are not restricted by statute. Currently, Clark County imposes 0.3% of this tax: 0.1% goes to the general fund and 0.2% is voluntarily restricted to Law Enforcement expenditures. As with the regular 0.5% sales tax, when a city and a county chose to impose this optional tax, only the city's tax is imposed. In effect, this limits the County's sales tax to taxable events in the unincorporated areas. *RCW 82.14.030 (2)*

There are special circumstances worth noting here. The City of Vancouver and Clark County entered into a Revenue Sharing Agreement in 1998 where the City does not impose any of the optional 0.5% sales tax. Because of this, the 0.3% that the County imposes applies to taxable events within the City of Vancouver, and the County collects that revenue. In exchange, the County provides certain services to the City, such as paying for the City's district court, corrections and jail costs, and the Vancouver Police Department's contribution to CRCA for dispatch services. Any sales tax remaining after

these obligations are paid for is given to the City of Vancouver. This Revenue Sharing Agreement expires December 31, 2000, but it automatically renews for 2 years unless cancelled by either the City of Vancouver or Clark County with sufficient notice.

**0.1% Criminal Justice Sales and Use Tax.** The Board of County Commissioners may enact by resolution or ordinance an additional sales tax at a rate of one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) on all taxable events throughout the county. This tax is subject to repeal by referendum. This revenue is restricted to criminal justice activities and must not be used to replace existing funds (as defined in RCW), for extraordinary one-time events, or changes in contractual requirements. Funds may be used to build jails, juvenile detention facilities, or other capital projects that promote the operation of the criminal justice system. The County is authorized to enter into agreements with municipalities within its jurisdiction regarding the allocation of revenue and the services provided. These funds are allocated as follows: 10% to the County, then the remaining 90% is divided between the county and cities based on population. *RCW 82.14.340*

**0.1% Detention Facility Sales and Use Tax.** The Board of County Commissioners may enact by resolution and voter approval a sales and use tax of one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) on all taxable events throughout the county. This tax is in addition to the other sales and use taxes allowable by statute. These funds are restricted to the building, operation, and maintenance of jail or juvenile detention facilities. The County is authorized to enter into a joint venture with another county to colocate a facility. Clark County put this tax on the November 1996 ballot, receiving 35.6% “yes” votes. Eleven counties were imposing this tax as of June 1999: Benton, Franklin, Island, Kitsap, Kittitas, Mason, Pierce, San Juan, Spokane, Thurston, and Walla Walla. *RCW 82.14.350*

**1% Car Rental Sales and Use Tax.** The Board of County Commissioners may impose a sales and use tax in addition to other sales and use taxes allowed by statute on the rental of passenger vehicles. The additional tax rate is one percent (1.0%) of the vehicle rental rate. This revenue is restricted and may be used only for the acquiring, constructing, or operating public sports stadium facilities or for the acquiring, constructing or operating of youth or amateur sports activities or facilities. This revenue may not be used to subsidize any professional sports team. *RCW 82.14.049*

### **Methodology for Calculating Revenue**

Revenue from the regular 0.5% sales and use tax is collected by the State, and is returned to the County minus a 1% administrative fee. If the tax was collected in an unincorporated part of the county, the revenue goes into the County’s General Fund. If the tax was collected within a city’s boundaries,

then the County keeps 15% of the revenue and passes the remaining 85% on to the city.

Revenue from the optional 0.5% sales and use tax is collected at the same time the regular 0.5% tax is collected by the State. The State returns the funds to the County, minus a 1% administrative fee. If the revenue was collected from a business within a city's boundaries, then the County keeps 15% for its General Fund and returns the remaining 85% to the City.

Currently the County collects only 0.3% in optional tax. If the City collects optional tax at a rate higher than the 0.3%, such as at the full 0.5%, then the County keeps 15% of only the 0.3% of the optional tax, not the whole 0.5%. For example, if Battle Ground collects \$5,000 in optional tax by imposing a 0.5% optional sales tax, then the County collects 15% of \$3,000 (\$450), not 15% of \$5,000 (\$750), because the county only imposes 0.3% optional tax.

If the optional tax revenue was collected from a business in an unincorporated area, then one-third of the 0.3% is allocated to the County's General Fund and two-thirds of the 0.3% is voluntarily restricted to the Special Law Enforcement fund. If the optional tax revenue was collected from the 15% from a city's optional tax, then 2/3 of that 15% is restricted to the Special Law Enforcement fund.

Revenue from the 0.1% Criminal Justice Sales Tax is collected by the State at the same time other sales taxes are collected. The State keeps 1% of the revenue as an administrative fee. The funds are then returned to the County. 10% of the funds returned stays with the County. The remaining 90% is allocated by the state to the County and the cities based on population percentages.

### **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

In 1998, sales and use tax revenue accounted for over 22% of all General Fund revenues and transfers for the County. Because this revenue results directly from retail purchases, sales and use tax revenues are highly sensitive to consumption levels. Generally, sales and use tax revenue varies more with the economy than property tax revenue.

The amount of revenue generated by sales tax varies, depending on the dollar volume of retail sales in the County in the given year and upon where the sales take place. Because Clark County borders a state that has no sales tax, use tax comprises a large share of its revenue compared to other Washington counties.

Over the last few years, growth and construction have resulted in significant growth in sales and use tax. The sales tax in Washington in on most goods,

but on only some services, so as growth levels out and the economy transitions to be more service-sector focused, growth in sales tax revenues will not rise as rapidly as total consumption. Additionally, when growth in construction slows as a result of less buildable land within the urban growth boundary, then the growth in sales tax should also slow.

Additionally, annexations and incorporations of currently unincorporated areas in the county will erode the County’s sales tax base. In the past, the losses of revenue due to annexations have been offset by growth in the unincorporated areas of the county and by agreements with the City of Vancouver. The fiscal impact of future annexations on the County depends on the businesses in particular area being annexed and the growth patterns throughout the County.

**Accounting Details**

0.5% regular, 15% of cities’ 0.5% regular, 0.1% optional in unincorporated areas, and 15% of the 0.5% optional tax collected in cities	0001-000-000-313100-000
GF - 0.2% optional from Vancouver	0001-000-000-313150-000
Special Law Enforcement Fund – 0.2% of optional 0.5% in unincorporated areas	1009-000-000-313100-000
Criminal Justice 0.1% Sales Tax	1023-000-xxx-313710-000

Until 1997, the Bassub 313150 accounted for 0.2% of the 0.3% optional sales tax collected within the Vancouver city limits. In 1998, the amount recorded in this Bassub will change.

The new Revenue Sharing Agreement between the City of Vancouver and Clark County is balanced in regard to optional sales tax revenues collected by the county within Vancouver’s city limits and expenditures for Vancouver responsibilities, with any revenues exceeding expenses being given to the city.

For this reason, starting in 1998 the Bassub 313150 will reflect all of the optional 0.3% sales tax collected by the County from within the Vancouver city limits, minus 15%, in accordance with the Revenue Sharing Agreement.

# Real Estate Excise Tax

## Definition

Real Estate excise tax is levied on all real estate sales, measured by the full selling price including the amount of any liens, mortgages and other debts given to secure the purchase. As of the beginning of the 1999 budget year, the state imposes a one and twenty eight-one hundredths percent (1.28%) tax and the County imposed a one-half of one percent (0.50%) tax. This revenue is collected by the Treasurer's Office at the time the excise affidavit is filed.

## Statutory Authorization

**State 1.28% Real Estate Excise Tax.** The State of Washington imposes an excise tax upon each sale of real property at the rate of one and twenty-eight one-hundredths percent (1.28%). Seven and seven-tenths percent (7.7%) of the proceeds collected are deposited in the State Public Works Account. The remainder of the proceeds is deposited in the State General Fund for the support of the common schools. This tax is paid by the property seller. *RCW 82.45.060, 43.155.050, 82.45.180*

**County/City 0.25% Real Estate Excise Tax.** The Board of County Commissioners of the County or the City Council of any city may impose an excise tax on the sale on Real Estate at a rate not to exceed 0.25% of the selling price. These funds are restricted to capital projects identified in the capital facilities plan element of a comprehensive plan under RCW 59.18.440 and 59.18.450. These funds are meant to supplement funds that may already be reasonably available for such capital projects. The recipient of such funds must identify in the adopted budget the capital projects that receive REET funds and indicate that such funds are intended to be in addition to other funds that may be available. If both a county and a city within that county impose the tax, then the city's tax will be credited against the county's tax, meaning that the revenue will go to the city and not to the county. This tax is paid by the property seller. *RCW 82.46.010 (1) and (2)*

**County/City 0.5% REET *in lieu of* Optional Sales Tax.** The Board of County Commissioners of a county or the City Council of a city may impose an additional tax on the sale of Real Estate at rate not to exceed one-half of one percent (0.5%) of the selling price. This tax is in lieu of the Optional 0.5% Sales and Use Tax that a county or city may impose. If both a county and a city within that county impose the additional tax, then the city's tax will be credited against the county's tax, meaning that the revenue will go to the city and not to the county. This tax is paid by the property seller. *RCW 82.46.010 (3)*

**County/City 0.25% Additional Real Estate Excise Tax.** The legislative authority of any county that does comprehensive planning under RCW 36.70A.040(1) (or any city within such county) may impose an additional excise tax on each sale of real property in the unincorporated areas of the county for the county tax (and in the corporate limits of the city for the city tax) at a rate not exceeding one-quarter of one percent (0.25%) of the selling price. Clark County currently plans under this RCW. If the County plans under RCW 36.70A.040(2), then this tax must be approved by a majority of the voters in the taxing district. Revenues collected from the additional REET are restricted to capital projects specified in the capital facilities plan element of the jurisdiction's comprehensive plan. This tax is paid by the property seller. *RCW 82.46.035*

**1.0% Real Estate Excise Tax for Conservation Areas.** The Board of County Commissioners may impose an additional Real Estate Excise Tax on each sale of real property in the county at a rate not to exceed one percent (1.0%) of the selling price. The revenue from this tax is restricted to the acquisition and maintenance of conservation areas. This tax is paid by the property buyer. *RCW 82.46.070*

### **Methodology for Calculating Revenue**

The State imposes 1.28% REET which is collected by the County. The County keeps one percent (1%) of these revenues for the general fund to cover administrative costs and returns ninety nine percent (99%) to the State.

Currently, the cities in Clark County impose the 0.25% REET. The County collects these funds and returns 99% of the revenue collected to the City where the sale occurred. The remaining one percent (1%) is kept by the County to cover the administrative costs for collecting the tax. This revenue is put into the County's General Fund.

The County is currently imposing both of the 0.25% REETs. Ninety nine percent (99%) of each of the 0.25% REETs are placed in separate funds. The first 0.25% is dedicated to funding the county's Capital Facilities Plan. The second 0.25% is dedicated to parks development. The remaining one-percent (1%) is allocated to the County's General Fund to cover the administrative costs of collecting the tax.

The second 0.25% REET that is dedicated to parks development was established in 1996 and has a 6-year sunset.

### **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

For several years, growth in the County has made Real Estate Excise Taxes a solid and reliable revenue source for the County. When new construction

slows or the economy in general slows, less property will be sold, negatively impacting the revenue generating capability of this tax. Additionally, annexations of unincorporated areas planned in the near future will decrease the County's revenue from this source. In the long term, the County should rely less upon this source of revenue because of its eventual decline in revenue potential and susceptibility to downturns in the local economy.

**Accounting Details**

1% Administrative Fee from State REET (old)	0001-000-170-317300-000
1% Administrative Fee from County REET (old)	0001-000-170-317301-000
1% Administrative Fee from City REET (old)	0001-000-170-317302-000
0.25% REET to County Building Fund (old)	3056-000-000-317301-000
0.25% REET for Parks (old)	3081-000-xxx-317301-000
1% Administrative Fee from State REET	0001-000-170-317310-000
1% Administrative Fee from County REET	0001-000-170-317311-000
1% Administrative Fee from City REET	0001-000-170-317312-000
0.25% REET to County Building Fund	3056-000-000-317340-000
0.25% REET for Parks	3081-000-xxx-317350-000
1.0% REET for Conservation Futures	3085-000-xxx-317370-000

The first 0.25% REET was collected under 3052-000-xxx-317301-000. However, a change in state law forced the county to account for taxes collected before and after a certain date separately. The 3052 fund is the "Old REET" and the 3056 fund is the "New REET."

# Hotel/Motel Tax

## Definition

Cities and counties may tax the rate charged by hotels and motels for furnishing short-term lodging. The tax is collected as a sales and use tax by the business and is paid by the customer at the time of transaction.

## Statutory Authorization

**4% Hotel Motel Tax.** Any city or county may impose a tax on the furnishing of lodging at a rate not to exceed the lesser of four percent or a rate that when added to other taxes on the furnishing of lodging results in a tax rate of twelve percent. When a city and a county both impose this tax, there is a credit for the amount of the city tax against the county tax. This means that if both jurisdictions impose a tax, the city gets the revenue and the county does not. Similarly, two percent of the tax may be taken as a credit against the state sales tax. This is a recent change in Washington law. Prior to January 1, 1997, the tax rate was limited to 2%. *RCW 67.28.180*

**Restrictions and Advisory Committee.** The municipality collecting hotel/motel tax must create a lodging tax advisory committee that makes recommendations to its legislative authority. The revenue from this source is restricted to the promotion of tourism activities within the taxing district. *RCW 67.28.180, 452 Washington Laws 1997, Sections 4 and 5*

## Methodology for Calculating Revenue

Currently, the County imposes a 4% tax on furnishing lodging at hotels and motels. Vancouver and Washougal impose a 4% rate, while the other cities impose a 2% rate. This revenue is collected by the state with other sales and use tax revenue, and it is then returned to the county minus an administrative fee of about 1.5%.

## Stability and Adequacy of Revenue

This revenue source has the same susceptibility to the economy as sales tax, or even greater susceptibility since it is linked more directly to discretionary spending patterns (i.e., vacations, business travel). The revenue from this source decreases when annexations and incorporations occur. In the past, growth has been strong enough to offset losses due to annexations, resulting in a "straight line" revenue source. This means that with annexations, the base of this revenue source will decrease. Overall, there is not much concern as this source of revenue is relatively small.

**Accounting Details**

Hotel/Motel Tax

3016-000-000-313300-000

# Timber Excise Tax

## Definition

A timber excise tax, also known as a TAV, is an excise tax assessed on timber harvested from privately owned land in the County. The tax is a percentage rate of the stumpage value of timber harvested on private lands.

## Statutory Authorization

**State Excise Tax on Harvesters of Timber.** The state imposes an excise tax on timber harvested on privately or publicly owned lands. The tax is equal to the stumpage value multiplied by five percent (5%). *RCW 84.33.041, 84.33.046*

**County Excise Tax on Harvesters of Timber.** The county may impose a tax on the harvest of timber on privately owned land only, equal to the stumpage value multiplied by four percent (4%). This tax may be used as a credit by the harvester against paying 4% of the state excise tax. *RCW 84.33.5051, 84.33.041*

## Methodology for Calculating Revenue

The State Department of Revenue collects the revenue and distributes it to the County quarterly, based on a complex formula related to local property tax levies. The amount received by a taxing district within the county depends upon 1) the percentage of the county's forest land assessed value contained within the district; and 2) the level of the district's property tax levy.

The state's distribution formula outlines three priorities for revenue distribution. There are minimum distribution levels that must be met with each. Priority 1 is taxing districts with voted bond or capital project excess levies. The amount is equal to the timber assessed value of the district multiplied by the tax rate levied for payment of the bonds or capital projects.

Priority 2 is local school maintenance and operating levies. The amount distributed is equal to one-half of the timber assessed value of the district or eighty percent of the timber roll in calendar year 1983, whichever is greater, multiplied by the tax rate levied by the district for purposes other than those that may be included in Priority 1 above.

Priority 3 is all other levies, including the county general fund and road fund levies and the levies of junior taxing districts. The amount is equal to the timber assessed value of the district multiplied by the tax rate, if any, levied as a regular levy of the district or as a special levy that is not included in funding priorities 1 and 2 above.

If the timber excise is not sufficient to fund a complete priority, then the funds will be prorated within the priority and the districts will each receive a percentage of the available funds. If there are revenues remaining after the Priority 3 allocation, an amount equal to 20% of what was distributed in the three funding priorities is placed in reserve for the following year. If there is still revenue remaining, those funds are distributed to the Priority 3 districts in a proportion equal to the original allocation percentages in that priority category. *RCW 84.33.081*

### **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

These revenues are erratic. For example, in 1993 general fund revenue from this source was \$590,666. In 1996, that figure dropped 36% to \$377,266. The county is a low priority in the revenue allocation schedule, and as such these revenues should be viewed as a windfall to the county. To some extent, this revenue has an inverse relationship with the level of harvesting on state and federal lands, and it also appears to be tied to real estate development levels. The levels of correlation to these events has not been determined. This revenue source should be estimated very conservatively.

### **Accounting Details**

Timber Harvest Taxes - General Fund	0001-000-000-312100-000
Timber Harvest Taxes - Road Fund	1012-000-000-312100-000
Timber Harvest Taxes - Veteran's Assistance	1019-000-000-312100-000
Timber Harvest Taxes - Mental Health	1952-000-000-312100-000
Timber Harvest Taxes - Developmental Dis.	1953-000-000-312100-000
Timber Harvest Taxes - Conservation Futures	3085-000-000-312100-000

## Other Taxes

### Leasehold Excise Tax

Most leases of publicly-owned real and personal property in Washington are subject to the leasehold tax in lieu of a property tax. The 1976 legislature established a 12% tax to be levied either on the contract rent (when the lease is established by competitive bidding) or by the imputed economic rent as determined by the State Department of Revenue. The 1982 legislature added a seven percent (7%) surcharge to the revenue collected, making the total rate 12.84%.

Cities and counties may collectively levy up to 6% of this 12.84% and credit that 6% against the state's 12.84%. Counties may impose up to 6%, and cities may impose up to 4% with that tax being credited against the county's rate. If a city chooses not to levy its maximum, the county can capture the city's remaining taxing authority. In this way, any jurisdiction imposing this tax does not increase the tax paid by the leasee; it only redistributes the revenue to those jurisdictions. After deducting an administrative fee, the Department of Revenue distributes the taxes to local governments on a bi-monthly basis. The revenue is distributed in the same allocation percentages as property taxes within the County.

**Statutory Authorization:** RCW 82.29A.030

**Accounting Details:**

Leasehold Excise Tax - General Fund	0001-000-000-318200-000
Leasehold Excise Tax - Road Fund	1012-000-000-318200-000
Leasehold Excise Tax - Veteran's Assistance	1019-000-000-318200-000
Leasehold Excise Tax - Mental Health	1952-000-000-318200-000
Leasehold Excise Tax - Developmental Dis.	1953-000-000-318200-000
Leasehold Excise Tax - Conservation Futures	3085-000-000-318200-000

### Land Use Tax

The land use tax is levied on land which is classified as open space, timber land, farm and agricultural land. The only difference between this tax and the property tax is the assessment used to value the properties. Whereas the property tax assessment is based on market value, the land tax assessment is based on land use. The value tends to be lower than residential and commercial tax values. The property owner pays this tax directly to the County Treasurer. Tax is due in full within 30 days of the statement received from the Treasurer and is distributed to funds based on the same allocation percentages as the property tax.

**Statutory Authorization:** RCW 84.34

**Accounting Details:**

Land Use Tax - General Fund	0001-000-000-311199-000
Land Use Tax - Road Fund	1012-000-000-311199-000
Land Use Tax - Veteran's Assistance	1019-000-000-311199-000
Land Use Tax - Mental Health	1952-000-000-311199-000
Land Use Tax - Developmental Disabilities	1953-000-000-311199-000
Land Use Tax - Conservation Futures	3085-000-000-311199-000

**Federal in lieu of Taxes**

The state treasurer receives funds from federal agencies in lieu of property taxes. The treasurer then transfers the funds to the respective county in which the property taxes would have been levied. The revenue received by the county equals the amount of property taxes that would have been collected. The money is transferred from the federal government to the state treasurer who then transfers the funds to the county treasurer.

**Statutory Authority:** RCW 84.72

**Accounting Details:**

Federal in lieu-Ridge Wildlife - General Fund	0001-000-000-311115-000
Federal in lieu-Ridge Wildlife - Road Fund	1012-000-000-311115-000
Federal in lieu-Ridge Wildlife - Veterans Asst.	1019-000-000-311115-000
Federal in lieu-Ridge Wildlife - Mental Health	1952-000-000-311115-000
Federal in lieu-Ridge Wildlife - Dev. Dis.	1953-000-000-311115-000
Federal in lieu-Ridge Wildlife - Cons. Futures	3085-000-000-311115-000

**911 Excise Tax**

The legislative authority of a county may impose a county-wide enhanced 911 excise tax on the use of switched access lines in an amount not to exceed fifty cents (\$0.50) per month. The legislative authority may also impose a 911 excise tax on the use of radio access lines located within the county in an amount not to exceed twenty-five cents (\$0.25) per month. These funds are restricted to expenditures related to emergency 911 services.

**Statutory Authorization:** RCW 82.14B.030

**Accounting Details:**

Telephone Access Tax (old coding)	1010-000-300-318400-000
Telephone Access Tax - Switched Access	1010-000-300-317410-000
Telephone Access Tax - Wireless Access	1010-000-300-317420-000

## **Gambling Excise Tax**

Cities and counties are allowed to collect taxes on gambling activities within specified limits. The state itself does not impose gambling excise taxes. The County's tax applies only to activities that occur in the unincorporated areas. The state makes a distinction between gambling activities conducted by charitable and nonprofit organizations and activities conducted for profit.

The maximum allowable county levies on gambling for profit are as follows:

**Bingo** - up to 10% of gross receipts, less cash prizes and merchandise

**Raffles** - up to 10% of gross receipts, less cash prizes and merchandise

**Amusement Games** - up to 2% of gross receipts, less amount awarded as prizes

**Punchboard, Pulltabs** - up to 5% of gross receipts; or up to 10% of gross receipts less cash and prizes

**Social Card Rooms** - up to 20% of gross receipts from card fees

The maximum allowable county levies on gambling for charitable and nonprofit organizations are as follows:

**Bingo** - no tax

**Raffles** - no tax on first \$10,000 gross receipts less cash and prizes, then up to 10% of gross receipts, less cash prizes and merchandise

**Amusement Games** - no tax

**Punchboard, Pulltabs** - up to 10% of gross receipts less cash and prizes

**Social Card Rooms** - up to 20% of gross receipts from card fees

State law requires that jurisdictions levying gambling taxes use the funds first for gambling law enforcement. It was recognized in *American Legion Post No. 32 v. City of Walla Walla* (1991) 116 Wash.2d 1, that enforcement does not necessarily include only police activity directly related to gambling activities. Any funds remaining after enforcement of gambling laws may be used for general government purposes.

**Statutory Authorization:** RCW 9.46.110, 9.46.113, 9.46.270

**Accounting Details:**

Gambling Excise Tax - General Fund

0001-000-000-317501-000

## **Commercial Parking Tax**

The County may impose a tax on commercial parking in the unincorporated area. This tax can be imposed on either the commercial parking business, or on the individual parking the motor vehicle.

The county may write the ordinance with a variety of options. The tax may apply to all parking for which a fee is paid, whether paid or leased, including parking supplied with a lease of nonresidential space. The tax may be a fee per vehicle, or a percentage of the parking charge. The tax rate may vary with zoning or location of the facility, the duration of the parking, or the time of entry or exit, the type or use of the vehicle, or other reasonable factors. The tax may exempt carpools, vehicles with handicapped decals, or government vehicles.

The proceeds from this tax may be used only for transportation purposes.

**Statutory Authorization:** RCW 82.80.030

**Accounting Details:**

Commercial Parking Tax	1012-000-000-316300-000
(not imposed as of 6/99)	

**Admissions Tax**

The County may impose by local ordinance a tax of not more than one cent on twenty cents, or fraction thereof, on the admission charge to any place, excluding any activity of any elementary or secondary school.

The term “admission charge” includes a charge for season tickets or subscriptions, a cover charge, or a charge made for use of seats and tables, reserved or otherwise, and other similar accommodations, and other events as defined in RCW.

There are no statutory restrictions on the use of this revenue source.

**Statutory Authorization:** RCW 36.38.010

**Accounting Details:**

Admissions Tax (not imposed as of 6/99)	0001-000-000-316200-000
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# **PERMITS, FEES, CHARGES & FINES**

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# Assessor and GIS Fees

## Definition

Assessment and GIS charge fees to clients outside of Clark County government for services that they provides. Services provided to departments in the County are not charged to that department. Some fees are negotiated, some approved by the BOCC, and still others are designed to capture actual costs.

## Statutory Authorization

**Title Company Fees.** Title companies in Clark County have access to the Assessor's database. The database lists and describes all property in the County. The title companies are charged a monthly fee for this service based on the number of transactions they perform. Each company is charged approximately \$600 per month for the service. Theoretically, the revenue collected by these fees offsets the cost of maintaining the on-line database. Statute does not expressly allow for the collection of fees for this service. The negotiated rate is a contract for service and is regulated under state contract law.

**Geographic Information Systems (GIS).** GIS creates and maintains accurate maps and data that provide geographic and demographic support and analysis to County departments, cities and other government agencies. GIS charges fees for certain publications and the services provided to outside governments, agencies, and individuals. GIS also contracts with individuals, corporations and governments for special projects. Statute does not expressly allow for the collection of fees for this service. The negotiated rate is a contract for service and is regulated under state contract law.

## Methodology for Calculating Revenue

Title company fees are negotiated rates. GIS maintains a listing of fees that it charges for its services. These fees are approved by the legislative authority for the county. GIS contracts are negotiated rates for specific time periods.

## Stability and Adequacy of Revenue

Title company fees are not expected to increase because there is not expected to be an increase in the number of title companies requesting access to the assessor's computer database. While this fee may be negotiated for a higher rate in the future, it is unlikely that the increase will be consistent with increases in inflation or per capita income. This fee is inelastic and as a result will become relatively less significant over time.

In 1998, the county began tracking assessment and GIS in separate funds. This allows for GIS revenues to be tracked specifically as that program undergoes efforts to expand its revenue base. Revenues for GIS are expected to increase substantially in 1998 from new services it is implementing. Theoretically, these fees are structured to cover the costs of the program, and as such are sensitive to changes in inflation and the local economy. These revenues should be stable over time, and with solid marketing should remain adequate to fund existing and planned activities.

### **Accounting Details**

Title Company Access Charge	0001-000-110-341867-000
Open Space Fees	0001-000-110-341410-000
Duplicating Services	0001-000-110-341600-000
Microfiche	0001-000-110-341866-000
State Revenue	0001-000-110-334049-000
GIS - Special Projects (old)	0001-000-110-341411-xxx
GIS - Population Handbook (old)	0001-000-110-341502-xxx
GIS - Sale of Maps & Publications (old)	0001-000-110-341500-xxx
GIS - Special Projects	1007-000-110-341411-xxx
GIS - Population Handbook	1007-000-110-341502-xxx
GIS - Sale of Maps & Publications	1007-000-110-341500-00x
GIS - Software Subscription (Shareware)	1007-000-110-341607-00x
GIS - Digital Data	1007-000-110-341608-00x
GIS - Services	1007-000-110-349184-00x

# Auditor's Office Permits & Fees

## Definition

State law requires that the county auditor collect certain fees, set by the state, for the services the auditor's office performs. Some of these fees are kept by the county. Others are disbursed to the state. Some of those fees sent to the state are returned to the county, while some pay for state programs. Following are the main revenue-producing fees for the county. Smaller fees, such as for certified copies and lien searches have not been included because the revenue they produce is not significant. For a more detailed list of fees, see RCW 36.18.010.

## Statutory Authorization

**Motor Vehicle License Fee.** Clark County collects a flat fee for each motor vehicle licensing transaction (including registrations and certificates of ownership), as required by the state. The filing fees are set by the state statute for all motor vehicles (autos, trucks, motor homes, motorcycles, recreational vehicles, etc.) plus boats and trailers. *RCW 46.01.140, 46.16.060 through 46.16.071*

**Motor Vehicle \$15 Optional License Fee.** The BOCC could impose an additional motor vehicle license fee of \$15 per passenger car (not trucks, motor homes, motorcycles or other motor vehicles). The Department of Licensing would collect the fee and distribute it back to the County less two percent (2%) administrative charge. Distribution between the County and cities are made based on the relative per capita population. For the purposes of distribution, county population is equal to one and one-half of the unincorporated population of the county. These funds are restricted to transportation purposes. *RCW 82.80.020*

**Marriage License Fees.** A marriage license fee of \$46 covers the cost of taking necessary affidavits, filing returns and indexing. A license is required by the State of Washington and must be obtained at least 3 days in advance of matrimony. The fee amount is established by state law. *RCW 26.04, 36.18.010, 26.12.220*

**Recording Fees.** Recording fees are charged for various services within the Auditor's Office such as recording instruments, administering oaths and affidavits, making certified and non-certified copies, recording plats, conducting record searches, and processing tax liens. Customers pay an agent of the Auditor's Office, and the fees are transferred each night to the Treasurer. Fee amounts are set by state statute, and the proceeds go to the

county's General Fund. Fees include the set of regular fees, plus a two dollar (\$2) surcharge on all recording transactions. *RCW 36.18.010*

**Election Candidate Filing Fees.** Some people who file for candidacy for certain elected positions must pay a filing fee. The fee is determined by the position being filed for and in some cases the annual salary that the position carries. Accordingly, a filing fee of one dollar is charged for declaring candidacy for precinct committee officer, a fee of ten dollars for any position with an annual salary of one thousand dollars or less, and a fee equal of one percent of the annual salary for any office with a fixed annual salary of more than one thousand dollars per year. There is no fee charged for positions where there is no compensation or the compensation is on a per diem or per meeting rate. If the candidate lacks sufficient assets or income to pay the filing fee, the candidate may submit a nominating petition with the same number of signatures of registered voters as the number of dollars of the filing fee. *RCW 29.15.050*

**Elections Services Reimbursement.** A proportionate cost of elections are paid by any local city, town or taxing district that has a measure or elected position on the ballot. The state is also billed on a proportional basis when state officers or measures are voted on in an odd-numbered year. Local cities and towns are also billed for voter registration services on a per-new-registration basis. *RCW 29.13.045; 29.13.047*

## **Methodology for Calculating Revenue**

**Motor Vehicle Fees.** For the licensing of vehicles, the state charges a fee of \$27.75 for new licenses and \$19.75 for renewals, plus an additional surcharge of \$0.50. These funds go to the state treasurer for distribution within state funds. There is an additional fee of \$3 for recreational vehicles (campers, travel trailers, and motor homes). There is also an additional surcharge fee of \$1.00 for trucks that go to the county's current expense fund. For all vehicle title transfers, there is a surcharge of \$4.00, and for all non-title transactions, there is a surcharge of \$3.00. These surcharges go to the county's general fund.

**Marriage License Fees.** The applicants pay a fee of \$46 to obtain and record a marriage license. Of the \$46, \$8 goes to the county's General Fund, \$8 goes to the Family Court for operating expenses, and \$15 goes to Family Services in the Department of Community Services for operating expenses. The remaining \$15 go to the state, where \$5 is allocated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect, and \$10 is used to fund the Displaced Homemaker Act.

**Recording Fees.** The fees are set by the State and are the same for each county. The quantity of revenue generated by this source depends mainly on the sale and refinancing of homes and property, but this activity is difficult to forecast directly. Two main indicators are typically used to project income

from this source—interest rates and the state per capita real income. They influence home buying trends that account for much of the variation in recording fee revenue. When interest rates are high, people are reluctant to buy or refinance homes. Rising incomes, on the other hand, appear to encourage home buying.

A two dollar (\$2) surcharge is imposed on all recording activities.

The first dollar of the surcharge is sent to the state treasurer. The revenue is distributed to counties. Half of this revenue is distributed to counties equally, while the other half is distributed to counties based on population. The revenue is deposited by the county treasurer into a special fund titled “Auditor’s Centennial Document Preservation and Modernization Account.” This revenue is used for the preservation of historical county documents of all county offices and departments.

The second half of the two dollar surcharge is retained by the county in its Auditor’s Operation and Maintenance Fund for the on-going preservation of historical documents of all county offices and departments.

**Election Candidate Filing Fee.** All filing fees are paid to the County Auditor. For positions in a city or town, the fee is paid to the County Auditor who then transmits the fee to the city or town clerk for deposit.

**Election Services Reimbursement.** The intent of state law is for local jurisdictions to pay the entire cost of local jurisdiction elections. The State Auditor has proscribed in the BARS manual a methodology for calculating direct and indirect costs associated with an election.

## **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

Motor vehicle license fees are rather income inelastic, for they are based on the number vehicles being registered rather than the value of the vehicles. In this way, the fee is sensitive to population growth, but it will not grow in proportion to income growth or inflation. Over time, as costs increase these fees will be less able to satisfy the requirements that they now meet. Marriage license fees are similar since they track to population and median age rather than broader economic indicators of per capita income and inflation.

Recording fees are linked significantly to new building. As growth in the local economy slows, so will the growth in these fees. These fees are still income inelastic, but have a much better ratio than motor vehicle license and marriage license fees.

Election services reimbursements are set up in a way that, while they are not easily forecasted, they nevertheless are adequate to meet the associated expenses. State elections in even-numbered years are not recoverable, federal elections, and the cost of county measures and offices are not captured in this revenue source, and sufficient general fund support is necessary to pay for these elections. This arrangement is not anticipated to change in the near future.

**Accounting Details**

Motor Vehicle Fees	0001-000-140-341480-000
Marriage License Fees-County	0001-000-140-322201-000
Marriage License Fees-Family Court	0001-000-140-322202-000
Marriage License Fees-Family Services	0001-000-140-322203-000
Recording Fees	0001-000-140-341210-000
Auditor's O & M Fund	1002-000-140-341360-000
Auditor's Centennial Document Pres. Account	1002-000-000-336040-xxx
Election Candidate Filing Fees	5006-000-141-341910-000
Election Services Reimbursement	5006-000-141-341450-000

# Community Development Permits & Fees

## Definition

The uniform codes and ordinances adopted by Clark County concerning land use, development and building require the community development department to perform certain reviews, approvals, and inspections to support land development and new construction, issue permits and periodically inspect existing occupancies to assure compliance with the codes and ordinances. These fees and permit charges cover the costs of plan review, inspections, and enforcement of these codes. Community Development also includes animal control permits, fees and charges.

## Statutory Authorization

**Development Engineering Fees.** Development engineering fees are charged in accordance with the state's Growth Management Act and the County's plans, resolutions and ordinances related to the implementation of that act. These fees cover the costs of reviewing development plans for compliance with growth management, and include things such as floodplain permits, grading permits and road modification reviews. *RCW 36.70A; County Code 6.110*

**Development Permits and Fees.** Permits and fees are charged to developers to obtain permission, review and/or approval to plan various types of development projects. Permits and fees are established by the BOCC. *County Code 6.130*

**Building Fees.** Fees are charged for each building permit review conducted by the Community Development department. Fee amounts are established by the BOCC. *County Code 6.140*

**Fire Marshal Fees.** Whenever any work for which a permit, plan review, approval or inspection is required has begun without first getting the necessary permit, review or approval, then a fire marshal inspection is required. The fees for such inspections are established by the BOCC. *County Code 6.120*

**Animal Control Permits and Fees.** County code requires that various animals be licensed by the County. These fees, as well as any fees charged for animal control, are established by the BOCC. The county charges cities within the county for services provided within the city limits. *County Code Chapter 8*

## **Methodology for Calculating Revenue**

Fees are established by the community development department and approved by the Board of County Commissioners. The fee schedules dictate the fee charged for various reviews and inspections. Revenues are forecasted by estimating activity, then multiplying the activity number by the appropriate rate.

## **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

Community development fees are linked closely with new construction within the county. As growth in new construction increases or decreases, so does this revenue source. The department is attempting to set fees according to the actual impact that review, approval and inspection has on the department's expenses. The more successful the department is at linking rates with costs, the more adequate the revenue source will be. As fees lag behind actual costs, the adequacy of the revenue source becomes questionable.

## **Accounting Details**

Development Permits	1011-xxx-544-32xxxx-000
Development Fees	1011-xxx-544-34xxxx-000
Building Permits	1011-xxx-588-32xxxx -000
Code Enforcement	1011-xxx-589-34xxxx-000
Fire Bureau Permits	1011-xxx-599-32xxxx -000
Fire Bureau Fees	1011-xxx-599-34xxxx -000
Water Resources Permits (Planning) (old)	1020-xxx-531-32xxxx -000
Water Resources Fees (Planning) (old)	1020-xxx-531-34xxxx -000
Water Resources Permits (Planning)	1011-xxx-531-32xxxx -000
Water Resources Fees (Planning)	1011-xxx-531-34xxxx -000
Animal Control Permits	1011-xxx-566-32xxxx-000
Animal Control - from cities	1011-xxx-566-33xxxx-000
Animal Control Charges	1011-xxx-566-34xxxx-000

# Impact Fees

## Definition

Development impact fees are charges placed on new development in the unincorporated areas within the Urban Growth Boundary as a condition of the County's approving development to help pay for various public facilities that are needed as a direct result of new growth and development.

## Statutory Authorization

Under the Growth management Act of 1990 (GMA), counties may impose impact fees on residential and commercial "development activity" to help pay for certain public facility improvements, including parks, open space, recreation facilities, and road improvements. Revenues must be spent within six years of collection and as specified in an adopted capital facilities plan. *RCW 84.02.050 through 84.02.090*

**Parks Impact Fees.** Under the County's program, fees are used for the acquisition and limited improvement of three classifications of parks. The parks fees were established to conform to an acquisition and development standard for each park type. The County must also provide a "proportionate share" to help reduce the existing deficits of urban parkland.

**Traffic Impact Fees.** Under the County's program, fees are used for the construction and improvement of roads, based upon estimates of increased road usage resulting from the new development.

## Methodology for Calculating Revenue

The county's park impact fee program became effective January 25, 1991. The program divides the unincorporated portion of Clark County within the Urban Growth Boundary into park districts. Fees collected within a particular district must be spent within that district and must be expended within six years of collection. Fees are collected on both multi-family and single-family residential development. The per unit rate for single family housing and duplex housing ranges from \$482 to \$702. The per unit rate for multi-family units ranges from \$352 to \$514. Revenues fluctuate, reflecting trends in building activity. If a district is annexed into city limits, then any unspent impact fees are transferred to the city.

The county's traffic impact fee program also became effective January 25, 1991. The program divides the unincorporated portion of Clark County within the Urban Growth Boundary into districts. Fees are collected on all types of development, and are substantially higher for commercial development than for residential development. Revenues fluctuate, reflecting trends in building

activity. If a district is annexed into city limits, then any unspent impact fees are transferred to the city.

### **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

Impact fees are designed to capture the cost of additional infrastructure needs resulting from growth. As growth increases or decreases, so do the fees. As long as the fees are revised regularly to reflect changes in the actual cost of building or acquiring infrastructure, then the impact fees will be adequate regardless of changes in growth or the economy.

### **Accounting Details**

Park - District 3 (transfer to Vancouver - 1997)	3173-000-000-345850-000
Park - District 4	3174-000-000-345850-000
Park - District 5	3175-000-000-345850-000
Park - District 6	3176-000-000-345850-000
Park - District 7	3177-000-000-345850-000
Park - District 8	3178-000-000-345850-000
Park - District 9	3179-000-000-345850-000
Park - District 10	3180-000-000-345850-000
Traffic - Lakeshore Road Benefit	3060-000-000-345850-000
Traffic - Mt. Vista Road Fund	3061-000-000-345850-000
Traffic - Hazel Dell/Felida Road Fund	3062-000-000-345850-000
Traffic - Orchards Road Fund	3063-000-000-345850-000
Traffic - Sherwood Overlay Impact Fund	3162-000-000-345850-000
Traffic - Sifton Overlay Impact Fund	3163-000-000-345850-000

# District Court Fees

## Definition

District Court Fees are fees that are collected by the county's courts of limited jurisdiction. They are primarily fees charged to individuals for filing claims with the court or fines paid to the court for misdemeanors and infractions. When city ordinances are at issue in the court, the city is charged for costs related to the case, as allowed under SB6211.

## Statutory Authorization

**Filing Fees.** State statute lists various fees that courts of limited jurisdiction may impose. Six dollars (\$6.00) of every fee collected for commencement of a civil action in district court goes to the county law library. *RCW 3.62.060, 27.24.070*

**Warrant Fees.** The court may impose costs upon a defendant for preparing and serving a warrant for failure to appear. The cost may not exceed \$100. *RCW 10.01.160*

**Dispute Resolution Surcharge.** The legislative authority of a county may impose a surcharge of up to \$10.00 on each civil filing in District Court and a \$15.00 surcharge for small claims court filings to fund dispute resolution centers. *RCW 7.75.035*

**Fees Paid by Cities.** When city ordinances are at issue in the court, the city is charged for costs related to the case, as allowed under SB6211. Rates are established by the county, and the cities pay according to interlocal agreements. *RCW 3.62.070*

**Infractions.** Infraction fines are fines imposed by the court for violations of laws considered less serious than misdemeanors. These are commonly referred to as "tickets." The courts collect fines for traffic infractions, parking infractions, and other infractions. *RCW 7.80.120, 7.84.100*

**Misdemeanors.** The court may impose a cost on a defendant convicted of a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor not to exceed \$50 per day of incarceration, as long as the court finds that the defendant has the ability to pay the costs. *RCW 10.01.160*

**Public Safety and Education Assessment.** A public safety and education assessment of 60% is imposed on all fines, forfeitures, and penalties assessed, other than parking infractions. Additionally, there is an assessment equal to 50% on this public safety and education assessment.

Both assessments are remitted to the state treasurer to be deposited in the Public Safety and Education fund for purposes of promoting various public safety and education activities as outlined in RCW 43.08.250. *RCW 3.62.090*

### **Methodology for Calculating Revenue**

Of the fees, costs, fines, forfeitures and penalties collected by the district court, except parking infractions, 32% is remitted to the state treasurer. The remainder goes to the county current expense fund. Interest on penalties, fines, bail for forfeitures, fees and costs are distributed as follows:

- 25% to the state public safety and education account ;
- 25% to the state judicial information system account;
- 25% to the county general fund; and
- 25% to the county general fund to fund local courts.

### **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

These fees are primarily driven by the number of cases filed and the number of infractions issues and paid. Annexations should have a nominal effect of revenues because under SB 6211 and several interlocal agreements, cities reimburse the county for costs it incurs for city ordinance violations and misdemeanors committed within the city limits.

In the case of charging cities, actual costs are billed, so over time this revenue source should remain stable and adequately meet the needs of the court for cases involving city ordinance or misdemeanor crimes committed within the city limits.

As for crimes and infractions committed in unincorporated areas, these fees are set by state statute. Increases or decreases in revenue are driven primarily by population growth and density. As time goes on, the cost-to-fee ratio will increase and the fees cover a lower proportion of district court costs. This means a greater burden on other general fund revenue sources for district court in the future if the state does not increase fines and fees relative to increased costs.

### **Accounting Details**

SB 6211 Billings	0001-000-210-338xxx-000
District Court Civil Filing Fees	0001-000-210-341220-000
Small Claims Filing Fees	0001-000-210-341280-000
Dispute Resolution Surcharge	0001-000-210-341240-000
Traffic Infraction Penalties	0001-000-210-35310x-000
Other Non-Parking Infractions	0001-000-210-353700-000
Parking Infraction Penalties	0001-000-210-354000-000
DWI Traffic Misdemeanors	0001-000-210-355200-000

Other Criminal Traffic Misdemeanors  
Other Non-Traffic Misdemeanors  
Warrant Fees

0001-000-210-355800-000  
0001-000-210-356900-000  
0001-000-210-357340-000

# Sheriff and Jail

## Definition

The sheriff provides various services in the community. People or cities receiving services that are not required to be provided by the Sheriff by state statute are charged a fee. State law also allows for some services to be charged a fee.

## Statutory Authorization

**Gun Permits.** Permits are issued for carrying a concealed pistol for the purpose of protection or while engaged in business, sport, or traveling. Permit fees are set by state statute. *RCW 9.41.070*

**Yacolt Contract Reimbursement.** The Town of Yacolt contracts with the Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement services. This amount represents the direct payment to the county for these services.

**U.S. Marshall.** The jail leases bed space to the US Marshall Service to house accused and convicted defendants for violations of federal law. The lease rate is negotiated with the US Marshall Service on a per bed rate.

**Immigration.** The jail leases bed space to the US Immigration and Naturalization Service to house accused and convicted defendants for violations of immigration law. The lease rate is negotiated with the INS on a per bed rate.

**Vancouver Law Enforcement Services.** As part of the annexation of Cascade Park and Evergreen to the City of Vancouver, the city agreed to pay the Sheriff for law enforcement in this geographic area.

**Vancouver Records Fee.** The City of Vancouver and the Sheriff's Office have a joint records department. The department is housed in the county, and the city is charged on a per-record basis.

**Jail Services.** Under SB6211, the county may charge cities for the costs of incarcerating misdemeanants who violate the law within city limits.

**Various Sheriff Fees.** The Sheriff's Office collects fees for conducting several official services. Those services include serving summons to appear, serving various writs and warrants, making copies, conducting sales, posting notices, fingerprinting, criminal history checks, and others. The fees for these services are set by state statute. Statutes allow for other fees not

noted in the law to be set by the county legislative authority to cover the costs of administration and operation. *RCW 36.18.040*

## **Methodology for Calculating Revenue**

**Gun Permits.** Permit fees are set by state statute and are as follows:

- Original application is \$36 plus charges imposed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Of that \$36, \$15 goes to the state general fund, \$14 goes to the issuing authority for the purpose of enforcing gun permit laws, \$4 goes to the agency taking the fingerprints, and \$3 goes to the firearms range account in the state general fund.
- Renewal application is \$32. \$15 goes to the state general fund, \$14 goes to the issuing authority for enforcement of gun permit laws, and \$3 goes to the firearms range account.
- Late fee for renewals after 90 of the expiration of the permit is \$10. Of that, \$3 goes to the state wildlife fund for printing and distributing pamphlets on the legal limits of the use of firearms, firearm safety, and the preemptive nature of state law, and \$7 goes to the issuing authority for the purpose of enforcing gun permit laws.
- Fee for lost or damaged licenses is \$10, all of which goes to the issuing authority.

**Yacolt Contract, US Marshall and Immigration.** These are negotiated rates.

**Jail Services.** The SB6211 costs charged to cities are established by a cost-per-bed-per-day formula. This rate is established by the county. The cities pay the county according to interlocal agreements.

**Various Sheriff Fees.** The various fees are set by state law. The revenue from these fees is linked to activity initiated by citizens, and thus are not controllable by the Sheriff's Office.

## **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

For those fees designed to recover actual costs, such as jail services charged to the cities, these revenues will remain adequate to cover increased expenses. For revenues that are restricted by statute at a rate below the cost of such programs, the fee-to-cost ratio will increase over time unless adjustments are made by the state legislature. If the ratio increases, revenues will be less adequate to cover the required expenditures. These fees are inelastic to per capita income increases and increases in inflation.

## **Accounting Details**

Gun Permits-County	0001-000-250-322901-000
Yacolt Contract Reimbursement	0001-000-250-338212-000
US Marshall	0001-000-250-338238-000
Immigration	0001-000-250-338237-000
Vancouver Records Fee	0001-000-250-338218-000
Civil Fees	0001-000-250-342100-000
Fingerprinting	0001-000-250-342101-000
Sheriff's Sale Fees	0001-000-250-342102-000
Sheriff Records Reports	0001-000-250-342103-000
Sex Offender Registration	0001-000-250-342105-000
Sheriff's Alarm Fees	0001-000-250-342106-000
Jail Services - various jurisdictions	0001-000-250-33824x-000

# Corrections Fees

## Definition

The corrections department has several programs that generate revenues by providing alternatives to incarceration. Some are required by state statute, while others are optional. All of these sources serve to offset the growing cost of incarceration by having the convicted defendant pay for the costs herself or himself.

## Statutory Authorization

**Work Crews.** State law outlines various types of work crew units that the county can operate using offenders in jail as employees. The cost of corrections is deducted from the work crew employees wages, and if the employee makes at least minimum wage, other deductions may be made. The crews contract with various organizations for a negotiated fee. *RCW 72.09.100, 72.09.110, 72.09.111*

**Probation.** The probation program monitors compliance with the court-ordered conditions of probation and enforces court orders. The county negotiates a rate with the state department of corrections for funds to offset the costs of probation. The county may also impose a fee of up to \$100 per month on offenders in the probation program, based on their ability to pay. *RCW 9.95.204, 9.95.214*

**Adult Diversion.** The Adult Diversion Program is designed as an alternative to detention for non-violent offenders. The Prosecuting Attorney refers offenders to the Adult Diversion Program. The offender is asked to pay a fee for admittance to the program. If s/he is unable to pay the fee, s/he can work it off by doing community service work for a set rate per hour. In this latter instance, the county receives no revenue. There are also instances where the offender has up to half of his or her fee waived. Rates are established by the Prosecuting Attorney. *RCW 36.27.020*

**Electronic Home Confinement.** Electronic Home Confinement provides a custodial alternative that requires electronic monitoring of an offender serving a sentence of partial confinement at his residence. These programs allow for a more judicious use of jail space. The offender pays for the cost of the equipment and the administration of the program. *RCW 9.95.210*

**Deferred Prosecution.** Deferred prosecution monitors compliance with the conditions imposed by a deferred prosecution order, which allows an offender diagnosed with alcohol addiction to undergo a two-year treatment program. Upon successful completion of the program, the charge is

dismissed. Although the program is used primarily for DWI cases, it may also be applied for other specified offenses and for offenders with drug addiction and mental health problems. Costs may be imposed on a defendant upon entry into the deferred prosecution program. These costs are limited to the expenses of administering the program. *RCW 10.01.160, 10.05*

**Methodology for Calculating Revenue**

Most corrections fees are authorized by statutes or initiated by the department and approved by the court. For fees or charges without express statutory authority, the department reviews fees for its programs with private attorneys and other interested parties and then makes a recommendation to judges concerning appropriate fee levels. The judges have authority to make the final decision concerning all programmatic fees.

SB6211 allows that county costs incurred by misdemeanants from the cities can be charged to the cities. This applies to misdemeanants placed in corrections programs. The county establishes rates for people in corrections programs, and the county bills cities quarterly for their share of the costs.

**Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

For those programs that endeavor to recover actual costs, these revenues will remain adequate to fund at least their own expenses as expenses increase. For revenues that are restricted by statute at a rate below the cost of such programs, such as probation, the fee-to-cost ratio will increase over time unless adjustments are made by the state legislature. If the ratio increases, revenues will be less adequate to cover the required expenditures. These fees are inelastic to per capita income increases and increases in inflation.

**Accounting Details**

SB6211 Charges (old)	0001-000-430-338200-000
SB 6211 Charges - La Center	0001-000-430-338213-000
SB 6211 Charges - Camas	0001-000-430-338214-000
SB 6211 Charges - Ridgefield	0001-000-430-338215-000
SB 6211 Charges - Vancouver	0001-000-430-338231-000
SB 6211 Charges - Battle Ground	0001-000-430-338235-000
SB 6211 Charges - Washougal	0001-000-430-338239-000
Work Crew	0001-000-430-338232-000
Work Crews-County Fair	0001-000-430-349183-000
Work Crews-Public Works	0001-000-430-349814-000
Work Crew-Sewage Treatment	0001-000-430-349231-000
Work Crews-Sale of Merchandise	0001-000-430-341700-000
Probation	0001-000-430-342903-000
Electronic Home Confinement	0001-000-430-342915-000

Indigent Defense Cost Recovery  
Deferred Prosecution Costs

0001-000-430-341951-000  
0001-000-430-357270-000

## Other Permits & Fees

### Cable Television

The County and the City of Vancouver jointly regulate cable television for Clark County, as well as provide facilities for creating non-commercial programming. Fees from this source reflect the franchise fees charged to cable television providers as well as fees for certain services, such as dub requests and some types of production assistance.

**Statutory Authorization:**

**Accounting Details:**

C.A.T.V.

0001-000-360-321901-000

### Clerk's Fees

The Clerk's fees are established by the state and are the same in each county. The transactions of fees reflect the workload of the superior court. Forty six percent (46%) of fees are remitted to the state treasurer for deposit into the public safety and education account. Twelve dollars (\$12.00) of every new probate or civil filing fee goes to support the county law library. That \$12 amount may be increased up to \$15 upon a showing of need by the library board of trustees and approval of the county's legislative authority. The 46% is calculated before the \$12 is disbursed to the library. Some fees are not subject to the 46% remittance to the state.

**Statutory Authorization:** RCW 36.18.020, 36.18.025, 27.24.070, 36.18.012, 36.18.014; Op.Atty.Gen.1994 No. 15

**Accounting Details:**

Civil, Probate, Domestic Violence Filings	0001-000-200-341230-xxx
Other Filings	0001-000-200-341290-xxx
Certified Copies, Records	0001-000-200-341340-000

### Juvenile Fees

The Juvenile Department has three types of fees: (1) reimbursement of attorney fees by parents, based on their ability to pay, (2) reimbursement of detention costs by parents (based on ability to pay) and other counties (at rate not to exceed costs), and (3) fees providing part of the funds to operate the Victim Assistance Program administered by the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, at a rate of \$100 if the crime(s) include(s) a felony or gross misdemeanor, or \$75 for one or more misdemeanors.

**Statutory Authorization:** RCW 13.40.145, 13.16.085, 7.68.035

**Accounting Details:**

Parent Diversion Assessment

0001-000-231-342703-000

**Parks Admission Fees**

The County charges various fees for various regional park services, such as for admission, parking or boat launching. There is also a fee charged to concessionaires. These funds are used to pay for maintenance of the parks.

**Statutory Authorization:** RCW

**Accounting Details:**

Admission Fees - Lewisville

0001-000-488-347511-000

Admission Fees - Salmon Creek

0001-000-488-347512-000

Admission Fees - Vancouver Lake

0001-000-488-347513-000

Admission Fees - Frenchman's Bar

0001-000-488-347514-000

Admission Fees - Other Parks

0001-000-488-347500-000

**Investment Interest**

The majority of the revenue created by the Treasurer's Office is investment interest for the various funds that the county maintains. These funds are invested in several different ways so that the cash not needed for immediate expenditures collects interest. Investment interest from the County's investment pool is credited back to the funds in proportion to the money invested from that fund.

**Statutory Authorization:** Throughout the RCW where funds are mentioned.

**Accounting Details:**

Investment interest can be found in each fund under the Bassub and element 361109.

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# **INTERGOVERNMENTAL**

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# Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

## Definition

In 1937, the state legislature replaced the property tax on motor vehicles with a motor vehicle excise tax. Since a portion of the property tax was taken from cities and counties, the state provided that part of the state-collected motor vehicle excise tax be shared with cities and counties. The state legislature has adopted a complex schedule for the allocation of these funds into separate accounts, and the allocation of funds in these accounts is primarily based on the needs of the jurisdiction eligible to receive funds from those accounts.

## Statutory Authorization

**Motor Vehicle Excise Tax.** An excise tax of two and two-tenths percent (2.2%) of the value of the vehicle is imposed for the privilege of using a motor vehicle in the state of Washington. An additional clean air excise tax of two dollars (\$2) per vehicle is also assessed. Washington residents who register their vehicles in another state or foreign country are still liable for these taxes. *RCW 82.44.020*

**Disposition of State-Received MVET Revenue.** The motor vehicle excise taxes collected by the county auditor and returned to the state treasurer are distributed into several state general fund accounts. As of the end of the 1997 legislative session, there were 12 accounts. Counties are eligible to receive funds from three of them: 1.60% of the state-wide motor vehicle excise tax revenue is allocated to the county sales and use tax equalization account, 5.9686% is allocated to the county criminal justice assistance account, and 2.95% is allocated to the county public health account. Revenue from the county criminal justice assistance account is restricted to criminal justice purposes and cannot be used to replace existing funds. Revenue from the county public health account is restricted for local public health purposes. *RCW 82.44.110, 82.14.200, 82.14.310, 70.05.125*

**MVET Adult Court Costs.** To pay for part of the state's revision of the juvenile code in 1997, money was appropriated from the state's "county criminal justice assistance account," which is primarily motor vehicle excise tax, to counties to offset criminal justice systems costs associated with the prosecuting of juveniles in the adult court system.

**Travel Trailer Tax and Camper Tax.** The trailer tax is an annual tax imposed on the owner for the privilege of using a trailer in the State of Washington. The rate of tax is one percent of the fair market value of the trailer as determined by state statute, plus a surcharge of one-tenth of one

percent (0.1%). The owner of the trailer pays the tax at the time of registration with the Department of Licensing. *RCW 82.50.400, 82.50.410, 82.50.425*

## **Methodology for Calculating Revenue**

**Valuation of Vehicles.** Vehicles are valued based upon the manufacturer's base suggested retail price, excluding taxes and shipping, when the vehicle was first offered as a new vehicle. That number is then multiplied by a percentage based on the number of years the vehicle has been in service. As vehicles age, the value of the vehicle decreases. This assessed value is what the 2.2% excise tax is based on.

**Travel Trailer Tax and Camper Tax.** This tax is collected by the Department of Licensing. The state treasurer distributes 15% of this tax to cities, based on city population. Fifteen percent (15%) is distributed to counties, based on the percentage of revenue that the county contributes to the overall fund (for example, if a county's contributions equal 20% of all contributions, then the county receives 20% of the funds disbursed to all counties). The remaining 70% is allocated to the state's general fund for support of the common schools. All of the 0.1% surcharge is allocated to the state transportation fund.

**County Sales and Use Tax Equalization Account.** A set percentage of state-collected MVET funds are allocated to this account in the State's general fund. The revenue in this fund is allocated to counties based on whether the county is imposing sales and use tax at the highest possible rate and whether the county has collected at least 70% of the state-wide weighted average per capita sales and use tax for the unincorporated areas of all counties. If the county is imposing tax at its highest possible level and is not at least 70% of the state's weighted average, then the County is entitled to funds from this account so that the amount it received from this fund plus the amount it receives from sales and use tax is equal to 70% of the state-wide weighted average. Currently, Clark County does not qualify for funds from this account.

**County Criminal Justice Assistance Account.** A set percentage of state-collected MVET funds are allocated to this account in the State's general fund. These revenues are allocated to counties based on the following funding factor, which is the sum of:

- (1) the population of the county, divided by one thousand, and multiplied by two-tenths;
- (2) the crime rate of the county, multiplied by three-tenths; and
- (3) the annual number of criminal cases filed in the county superior court, for each one thousand in population, multiplied by five-tenths.

**MVET Adult Courts.** A set dollar amount is appropriated by the state legislature from the state’s county criminal justice assistance account for this purpose. The amount appropriated is dispersed to counties monthly in regular amounts.

**County Public Health Account.** A set percentage of state-collected MVET funds are allocated to this account. These revenues are allocated to counties based the actual city contributions to local public health in 1995 (1995 is the base year). Funds in excess of the base are distributed among the health jurisdictions based on incorporated population figures as last determined by OFM. After the East County annexation in 1997, the state legislature made a one-time fix to the City of Vancouver’s base amount, but the population shift anticipated from future annexations are not considered in the funding formula.

### **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

The funds available to the County are based on a percentage of all MVET revenue collected throughout the state, not just in Clark County. For this reason, the amount of revenue available to the County depends on the growth of vehicle ownership throughout the state and the value of those vehicles. The total state revenue is susceptible to fluctuation in the economy, as the purchases of durable goods like vehicles decrease in times of economic uncertainty and downturn.

The statute states that revenue available to counties in these accounts will not increase faster than the implicit price deflator for the previous year. Also, the total available MVET funds to be returned to municipalities may not exceed \$60 million. This means that as growth increases, the funds available in these accounts will not grow as rapidly. Conversely, if MVET revenues do not grow or even decrease, these limits set up a “cushion” where the amounts distributed by the state could still grow at the rate of the implicit price deflator. The effect is to average out increases and decreases in revenue over time and make the revenue source more stable.

This particular tax is also politically sensitive, being altered by Referendum 49, and may be subject to future changes in the political arena.

### **Accounting Details**

MVET Criminal Justice Assistance Fund	0001-000-000-336061-103
MVET Adult Courts	0001-000-000-336061-310
Travel Trailer & Camper Tax	0001-000-000-335001-818
Health District MVET	6902-300-887-335082-000

(Note that the Health District is not a County department and is considered an “Agency Fund” within the general ledger.)

# Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax

## Definition

The motor vehicle fuel tax, or “gas tax,” is an excise tax levied on each gallon of motor vehicle fuel sold in the state. Revenue from this source is distributed to cities, towns, counties, and the state.

## Statutory Authorization

**State Motor Vehicle and Special Fuel Tax.** The state currently levies a \$0.23 tax on each gallon of gasoline sold. This includes a base rate of \$0.17 per gallon dedicated to the State Motor Vehicle Fund and an additional \$0.06 per gallon which is dedicated to the support of the Rural Arterial Trust Account (RATA), the Urban Arterial Trust Account (UATA), state highways and similar programs. *RCW 46.68.095, 82.36.025*

**Rural Arterial Trust Account (RATA).** Those counties that during the preceding twelve months have spent all revenues collected for road purposes only for such purposes, including traffic enforcement, are eligible to receive RATA funds. If voters in a county authorize expenditures from this fund for other governmental services, then the county is still eligible to receive RATA funds. RATA funds are restricted for road construction projects approved by the County Road Administration Board (CRAB). *RCW 36.79.140, 36.79.150, 36.79.160, 47.26*

**10% Fuel Tax Surcharge.** Any county may levy, with the approval of its legislative body and a majority of the voters, an additional excise tax on motor vehicle fuel equal to 10% of the state-wide motor vehicle fuel tax rate. The proceeds of this tax are restricted to transportation purposes. The revenue is distributed within the county to the county and cities based on population. County population for purposes of distribution is equal to one and one-half of the unincorporated population of the county. *RCW 82.80.010, 82.80.080*

## Methodology for Calculating Revenue

**State-Imposed Gas Tax.** The State Motor Vehicle Fund, into which the gas tax goes, is limited by statute. This limit is calculated by multiplying the previous year’s limit by the average of the “state personal income ratio” for the past three years. If the projection exceeds this limit, the gasoline tax rate must be reduced (in half-cent increments) until the revenue projection falls below the limit.

Motor vehicle fuel taxes are distributed to cities, counties, and multiple state funds. The distribution breaks down as follows:



44.39%	State Highways
19.23%	Counties
10.70%	Cities
6.45%	Urban Arterial Trust Account
5.67%	Transportation Improvement Account
3.26%	Category C projects
2.37%	Puget Sound Capital Account
2.33%	Puget Sound Ferry Operation
1.96%	County Arterial Preservation
1.11%	Small City Account
1.09%	Rural Arterial Trust Account
1.50%	Administration (state)

The revenue in the Vehicle Fund that is dedicated for direct disbursement to counties is allocated using the following formula:

- 10% is distributed in equal amounts to each county.
- 30% is distributed according to a county's population. The equivalent population for a county equals 100% of the population in the unincorporated area plus 25% of the population in the incorporated areas.
- 30% is distributed based on a county's annual road costs. Road costs equal one twenty-fifth (0.04%) of the total county road replacement cost plus total estimated annual maintenance cost. This includes bridges. Costs are based on a state-wide cost-per-mile-per-roadtype rate. County roads are roads recorded in the county road log with the CRAB as of July 1st of each odd-numbered year.
- 30% is distributed based on county need. Need equals road costs minus the sum of half the county road fund property taxes collected for the last two years, half of the county road funds from the Federal Forest Reserve Board fund for the last two years, half of the timber excise tax in the last two years, and half of the motor vehicle license fees and motor vehicle fuel taxes refunded to the county for the last two years.

**Rural Arterial Trust Account Funds.** Every other year the CRAB meets to decide which projects will be funded out of RATA funds. RATA funds are intended to be supplemental to existing funds for projects. Project eligibility is based on four factors: (1) the financial effect of increasing the original allocation for the project upon other rural arterial projects either approved or requested, (2) whether the project for which an additional allocation is requested can be reduced in scope while retaining a useable segment, (3) whether the original cost of the project shown in the applicant's six-year

program was based upon reasonable engineering estimates, and (4) whether the requested additional allocation is to pay for an expansion in the scope of work originally approved. RATA funds are paid to the county after the project has been completed, although some special exceptions can be made.

**10% Surcharge.** Revenue from the 10% surcharge is distributed between the county and the cities based on population, with the county's population weighted. The county's population, for the purpose of distribution, is one and one-half the population of the unincorporated area. For example, if the county's unincorporated area has a population of 100,000 and the incorporated areas have a population of 200,000, then for the sake of distribution of this tax, the county's population would be 150,000 (one and one-half), for about 43% of the revenue, and the incorporated area population is still 200,000, for about 57% of the revenue.

### **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

The Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax has remained a stable and consistent source of revenue for the county's Road Fund, keeping pace with population in the county. It is sensitive to annexations; but only part of the distribution methodology is based on population, so the impact is not as drastic as other annexation-sensitive revenue. The gas tax represents the second largest source of revenue for the Road Fund at 15% of the fund's total revenue. For comparison, the Road Fund property tax is 52% of the Road Fund revenue.

The distribution of state-wide gas tax revenue is limited by state law to the growth rate of personal incomes in the state (which includes the impact of population growth), meaning that if incomes do not grow at the rate of construction inflation (which is very likely), then the gas taxes available for distribution to counties will decrease in inflation-adjusted dollars over the long run.

As of June 1999, the county did not collect the 10% surcharge.

### **Accounting Details**

Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax	1012-000-000-336006-890
Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax - RATA Funds	1012-000-000-334039-720

# State Forest Board Timber Revenue

## Definition

Revenue from this source are generated from timber on lands managed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). DNR manages land on behalf of eleven trusts; revenue generated by lands held in each trust is dedicated to particular purposes specified by the trust. A portion of the revenue generated by Trust 1 (State Forest Board Transfer) lands and Trust 2 (State Forest Board Purchase) lands is dedicated to the support of local government, as are revenues from State Forest Board Leases. This money is distributed to the County Treasurer, who in turn distributes it to local taxing districts in proportion to their property tax levy rates. This revenue comes mainly from the sale of timber standing on the land. Other sources include lease income and the sale of other valuable materials, such as gravel.

## Statutory Authorization

**Forest Board Transfers.** Forest Board Transfers is land which, at some time in the past, reverted to the county (usually because of delinquent property taxes). The county subsequently deeded the land to the state, free of charge. *RCW 76.12.030*

**Forest Board Purchases.** Forest Board Purchase is land which was bought outright by the Forest Board. *RCW 76.12.020*

**Forest Board Other.** These are fees charged for the use of Forest Board lands, such as lease income and the sale of valuable materials other than timber, such as gravel. *RCW 76.12.020*

## Methodology for Calculating Revenue

All revenue is generated by the sales of timber, or other valuable materials, leases, and so on. It is not tax revenue. The quantity of revenue depends primarily on what DNR sells at what price. DNR decides what to sell on the basis of its long-range forest management plans. Each sale proposed by DNR must be approved by the forest Board in its monthly meetings (held on the first Monday of each month). The sale is advertised in local newspapers, and notices are posted in the County Treasurer's office. A detailed prospectus is also published. The prospectus includes an estimate of the quantity (in board feet) of each major species of tree in the sale. This estimate is known as the "cruise." The prospectus also specifies a minimum bid and the date of the sale. These sales are conducted as auctions.

Revenue from a timber sale accrues to the state as the timber is actually harvested. DNR monitors harvesting activity to ensure that all trees cut are

duly paid for. The price the harvester pays is based upon his bid, and there are quarterly adjustments made by DNR to reflect changes in the timber market.

Most of these sales are made in the form of multi-year contracts, and the harvester has near complete discretion as to when to harvest the timber. (DNR contracts impose a deadline, of course, but the harvester is not required to actually harvest the full amount of the cruise estimate by the end of the contract--or any timber at all for that matter.) For this reason, the quantity of timber harvested--and the quantity of revenue generated--in any given period may vary significantly and is difficult to forecast. The variability of the price of timber only adds to this difficulty.

Each quarter, DNR provides the county with a projection of the timber revenue the county will receive over the next four quarters. This projection is based on direct interviews with the relevant harvesters to ascertain their harvest plans for the coming year. This projection appears to be the best revenue forecast available. The quarterly report also supplies forecasts for each contract in the county. Using this information, it is possible to attribute the projected revenue to specific code districts and trusts and thus to calculate the share which the County may expect.

**Forest Board Transfer Revenue.** Transfer lands are considered to be held in trust for local government; local government therefore receives the majority of the revenue. Twenty-five percent (25%) is retained by the state in the Forest Development Account. The remaining seventy-five percent (75%) is disburse to the County Treasurer in the county containing the land for distribution to local taxing districts.

Each disbursement is attributed by DNR to one or more tax code district. The Treasurer simply distributes the money to all taxing districts having levies in the code district in proportion to their levy rates. A large share of this revenue goes to the state school levy. Another large portion goes to school operating and maintenance levies.

**Forest Board Purchase Revenue.** Purchase lands were bought by the state, so the state keeps a large portion of the revenue accruing from them. Fifty percent (50%) of Purchase Land revenue is retained by the state in its Forest Development Account.

Of the remaining revenue, forty-seven percent (47%, or 23.5% of the total revenue) is retained in the state General Fund for the benefit of the public schools. This percentage is based on the statewide average ratio of the total of the state school levy and the school operating and maintenance levy to the total property tax levy. (Counties may require that the state substitute the

actual ratio in the code district to which the revenue is to accrue for this average ratio. At present, it does not appear to be in Clark County's interest to do so.)

The other fifty-three percent (53%, or 26.5% of the total revenue) is disbursed to the County Treasurer. The Treasurer distributes the revenue to all taxing districts having levies in the code district, excluding the state school levies, in proportion to their levy rates.

### **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

In the past, DNR revenue was a prominent source of income for the County. Currently, revenues have been drastically reduced due to actions by the EPA to limit logging to protect several species of animal. Forest product firms have deferred harvests until some of the issues surrounding harvest have been resolved. DNR is predicting that logging will increase along with the increase for forest products, but this remains to be seen. State Forest Board Timber revenues have established a stable average of about \$450,000 per year; however the trend does not look like it will increase with inflation, and will thus become a less significant source of funding as it drops in its relative importance to other revenue sources that are keeping pace with or exceeding inflation.

### **Accounting Details**

Forest Board revenues received by the County presently flow into three accounts and accrue to county funds which have their own property tax levies:

Forest Board Purchase--timber sales revenue	xxxx-xxx-xxx-335022-xxx
Forest Board Transfer--timber sales revenue	xxxx-xxx-xxx-395101-xxx
Forest Board Transfer and Purchase--other revenue	xxxx-xxx-xxx-362501-xxx

The follow county funds receive Forest Board Timber revenue, in proportion to their property tax levy:

- 0001 General Fund
- 1012 Road Fund
- 1019 Veterans Assistance
- 1952 Mental Health
- 1953 Developmental Disabilities
- 3085 Conservation Futures

# **PUD Privilege Tax**

## **Definition**

Since 1941, the Public Utility Districts (PUDs) have been subject to an excise tax in lieu of normal property taxes. This tax is levied for the privilege of operating facilities for generating and distributing electric energy.

## **Statutory Authorization**

**Privilege Tax Rate.** The excise tax rate for PUDs is two percent (2%) of the gross revenue derived from the sale or distribution of power, plus five percent (5%) of the first four (4) mills per kilowatt hour of the wholesale value of self-generated energy for resale or distribution to consumers by a district. *RCW 54.28.020, 54.28.040, 54.28.050*

**Additional Tax Levy.** There is also a surcharge of 7% of the privilege tax levied, imposed against the PUD. *RCW 54.28.020, 54.28.040, 54.25.050*

## **Methodology for Calculating Revenue**

Four percent of privilege tax levy collected and all of the surcharge tax levy is deposited into the state general fund. Of the remaining funds, 37.5% is distributed by the state to the state general fund for the benefit of the public schools. The remainder is disbursed to the counties in proportion to the gross revenue from sales made within each county.

The state requires that and “equitable” amount, as determined by the legislative authority of the county and not less than three-quarters of one percent (0.75%) of the utility’s revenues collected from the sale of electricity within incorporated areas, be distributed to those incorporated areas. The distribution percentage can vary from year to year.

## **Stability and Adequacy of Revenue**

Electricity rates are set by the PUD based upon the PUD’s operating costs. As such, the rates they charge take into consideration increases in per capita income and inflation, as these things affect their operational costs. Because the tax is a percentage of electricity sales, then the tax is also rated to increases in operational costs. This means that this revenue source is stable and will remain adequate in relation to increased expenses in the future. This tax is also impacted by annexation, but the impact seems to be less than the population differential from the annexation.

## **Accounting Details**

PUD Privilege Tax

0001-000-000-335004-919

## Other Intergovernmental Revenues

### Child Support Reimbursement

Clark County works in cooperation with the Washington Department of Social and Health Services, Office of Support Enforcement (OSE) to enhance Washington's child support enforcement effort. Costs incurred by this program include drawing, transporting, and testing of blood, guardian *ad litem* services, litigation and other costs. The county submits a budget to OSE each year for estimated costs and expenditures for the coming year. The county also maintains a cost allocation plan file with the OSE which describes the methods and procedures for determining the allowable direct and indirect costs of taking action prescribed by OSE for the actual allowable expenditures incurred in the execution of this program. Support payments are made by the responsible parent directly to the OSE. The county is reimbursed for 100% of program costs by OSE.

**Statutory Authority:** RCW 26.09.120

**Accounting Details:**

Child Support

0001-000-271-333901-000

### Juvenile Lunch Reimbursement

During the school year, the USDA reimburses schools for a certain number of meals served to children based on a needs formula. Because a school is located in the Juvenile Services facility, the county qualifies for reimbursement revenues. This funding is arranged by contract with the federal government. The revenue is received every 30 to 45 days during the Vancouver School District's school year.

**Statutory Authority:** RCW 13.04.145, 13.06.050

**Accounting Detail:**

USDA School Lunch Program

0001-000-231-331100-500

### Liquor Board Profits

The state of Washington maintains a monopoly on the sale of hard liquor at liquor stores. Additionally, the state regulates and requires licenses for establishments that serve hard liquor. License fees, permit fees, and liquor store revenues received by the Board are deposited into the Liquor Revolving Fund.

Distribution of revenues in the fund are distributed as follows:

1. \$500,000 is disbursed to the Board for administrative costs.
2. The revenue from Class H licenses (full service restaurants, full service private clubs, and sports entertainment facilities licenses) are as follows:
  - a) \$300,000 per biennium to the University of Washington to operate the state toxicology laboratory;
  - b) of the remaining:
    - i) 6.06% to the University of Washington and 4.04% to Washington State University for alcohol and drug abuse research and dissemination of research results; and
    - ii) 89.9% to the state general fund for the Department of Social and Health Services.
3. \$55 per license fee for Beer Retailer's Licenses Class A & B, up to \$150,000 annually, to the state general fund for juvenile alcohol and drug prevention programs for grades K-3.
4. 20% of the funds remaining from Beer Retailer's Licenses Class A & B, plus 20% of the revenue from Class D & E, goes to the state general fund for use by the Department of Social and Health Services.
5. One-fourth cent per liter of the tax imposed on all wine sold to wine wholesalers and the liquor control board (out of the 20.25 cent tax per liter) goes to Washington State University for wine and wine grape research.
6. Of the Remaining funds in the Liquor Revolving Fund:
  - a) 0.3% goes to boarder areas (cities or towns within 7 miles of the Washington-Canada border).
  - b) Of the then remaining:
    - i) 50% goes to the state general fund;
    - ii) 10% goes to counties, distributed based on the ratio of unincorporated population in the county divided by the total number of unincorporated population in the state; and
    - iii) 40% goes to cities, distributed based on the ratio of incorporated population in the city divided by the total number of incorporated population in the state.

**Statutory Authorization:** RCW 66.08.180, 66.08.190, 66.08.200

**Accounting Detail:**

Liquor Board Profits	0001-000-000-336060-950
Liquor Board Profits	1954-000-000-336060-950

## **Liquor Excise Tax**

The liquor excise tax is about 20.5% on the sales of hard liquor, plus \$2.44 per liter. Revenues are divided between the state (65%) and local governments (35%). Of the amount allocated to local government, cities receive 80% and counties receive 20%. Individual counties receive a portion of this 20% based on the county's unincorporated population as a percentage of the state's total unincorporated population. According to this formula, an annexation of unincorporated land to a city would decrease the County's revenue, but the increase to the city's revenue would be greater than the county's loss; thus, annexation results in a greater overall amount of revenue to the community from this revenue source.

The state collects and distributes the revenue in January, April, July and October. The county deposits 98% of its income in the General Fund and 2% into the Substance Abuse Fund for alcohol control and treatment programs.

**Statutory Authorization:** RCW 82.08.150, RCW 66.08.200

**Accounting Details:**

Liquor Excise Tax - General Fund 336062-940	0001-000-000-
Liquor Excise Tax - DWI Program 336062-940	1954-000-000-

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# **DEBT INSTRUMENTS**

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## Debt Instruments—Generally

The use of debt instruments, or borrowing, is a common practice in governments. Typically, bonds or notes are sold for the purpose of collecting large amount of money in a short period for the acquisition or construction of capital equipment or building. This money is then paid back with interest over a period of time from current operating revenue (taxes, fees, etc.).

There are several benefits to using debt for capital projects instead of using a “pay-as-you-go” method:

- Acquisition as needed. Usually, the capital project being considered is currently needed or will be needed in the short term. Waiting until funds are available from current expenses may take several years and cause an undue hardship on the program needing the capital.
- Intergenerational equity. Building a project now and paying later means that those who are gaining the benefit of the capital project are the same as those who are paying for it in user fees, taxes, etc. Saving now and building later means that the people enjoying the benefit may not be the ones who paid for it.
- Repayment in cheaper dollars. As inflation and increases in per capita income occur, the cost of the capital project becomes less burdensome to taxpayers than would full payment at the time acquisition.
- Enhanced stability. Repayment schedules for long term debt are calculated before the debt is issues. This means that the jurisdiction knows its future requirements and can plan accordingly.

There are some disadvantages to borrowing as well:

- The cost of interest. Interest adds to the total cost of the capital project.
- Encumbered future revenues. For long term bond issues, revenues in the future will be already allocated because of the current bond issue. This may have the effect of limiting programs or other capital projects in the future.
- Limits on the amount of debt. There are both statutory and market limits placed on how much debt a jurisdiction may have. Too much debt can decrease a jurisdiction’s bond rating making future debt issues more expensive by having higher interest rates or having to pay higher debt insurance.

The following sections detail the types of debt instruments that a county in the State of Washington may issue.

## General Obligation Bonds

General Obligation (GO) bonds are bonds sold by the County where the repayment of those bonds is guaranteed by the “full faith and credit” of the county. This means that the bonds are guaranteed by the county’s property taxing authority, although any funding source may be used to retire the bonds. For this reason, finding buyers for the bonds is relatively easy and investors are willing to accept a lower interest rate for the increased security.

There are two types of GO bonds that the county may sell.

**Councilmanic Bonds.** Councilmanic bonds may be sold without a public vote. Bonds are retired with payments from existing county revenue or new general tax revenue. However, ensuing debt is subject to a cap of one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the value of taxable property in the County. *RCW 39.36.020*

Councilmanic bonds don’t require a vote and thus may be initiated through the County’s legislative authority. However, if a new revenue source were used pay for the debt service, such as an additional sales tax or real estate excise tax levy, the County would have to comply with any enactment requirements associated with that revenue source. Councilmanic bonds have a lower debt ceiling than voter-approved bonds, although this ceiling was recently changed by the 1994 State Legislature, increasing it from .75% to 1.5% of the value of taxable property in the county.

**Voter Approved Bonds.** General Obligation bonds may also be sold when there has been a public vote approved by a 60% majority (the “supermajority requirement”), and voter turnout must be at least 40% of the voters who cast ballots in the last general election (the “validation” requirement). *RCW 39.40*

Voter approved bonds have a higher debt limit than Councilmanic bonds, at two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the taxable assessed value in the county. Like the Councilmanic bonds, any new revenue sources adopted for pay the debt service on a bond issue must meet the enactment requirements of that revenue source.

## Revenue Bonds

Revenue bonds are bonds that the county sells for capital acquisition or construction. Unlike GO bonds that are guaranteed repayment, revenue bond debt is retired by the revenue that the bonded project generates (or some other revenue-generating program that is linked to the revenue bond in the bond covenant). These revenues are typically fees and charges. Limits on the use and amount of revenue bonds are usually market driven

through investor faith in the adequacy of the revenue stream to support the debt service.

Interest rates on revenue bonds tend to be higher than general obligation bonds because their repayment is not guaranteed by the general taxing authority of the jurisdiction. The rate of interest may depend upon investor confidence in the revenue projections and accuracy of predicted future market conditions. Revenue bonds usually contain a debt covenant that dictates a minimum ratio that the revenue stream must maintain, usually 110% to 150% of the maximum annual debt service. Additionally, the jurisdiction is also often required to maintain a reserve fund to pay future debt service if the revenue sources are not adequate.

## Short Term Notes

Very often, a jurisdiction will incur costs for its capital projects or grant projects before the funds have been received from the sale of bonds (capital) or from other sources (grants). This is more of a cash flow problem than a revenue problem. To solve this problem, jurisdictions will issue notes. These notes are called Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) and Grant Anticipation Notes (GANs). Notes can also be issued in anticipation of taxes (TANs). These notes generally have a short term, from a few months up to two years, and are secured by the bond, grant, or tax revenue that is anticipated. These notes typically mature sooner than bonds and tend to have lower interest rates than bonds. This allows a jurisdiction to pay lower interest during the construction or acquisition of the capital as well as defer permanent financing until more favorable market conditions exist.

## Source

Much of the information on debt instruments comes from the article:

Leithe, Joni L. and James C. Joseph, "Financing Alternatives," Financing Growth: Who Benefits? Who Pays? and How Much? Edited by Susan G. Robinson. Washington D.C.: Government Finance Research Center of the Government Finance Officer's Association. 1991.



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# Appendices

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**Appendix A**  
**Revenue Histories by Source**

Appendix A  
Revenue Histories

Tax Revenue		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
<b>Property Tax</b>							
0001-000-000-311100-000	General Fund	17,943,336	20,094,944	22,615,115	24,911,439	27,503,888	30,275,493
1012-000-000-311100-000	Road Fund	13,181,384	15,463,123	17,098,489	19,564,600	16,169,280	18,399,382
1019-000-000-311100-000	Veterans	144,745	128,590	144,744	159,480	177,741	193,948
1952-000-000-311100-000	Mental Health	127,454	142,790	160,733	177,097	197,308	215,308
1953-000-000-311100-000	Developmental Disabilities	127,454	142,790	160,733	177,097	197,308	215,308
3085-000-000-311100-000	Conservation Futures	700,847	776,091	866,850	955,695	1,051,535	1,168,614
0001-000-000-397012-000	Road Fund Diversion Transfer	-	-	-	-	650,000	-
0001-000-000-311202-000	Road Fund Diversion	602,847	635,115	621,923	642,223	20,787	628,388
0001-000-170-319100-000	Pen. and Int. on Delinq. Taxes	1,786,284	1,703,965	1,850,914	2,069,742	2,393,799	2,601,952
xxxx-000-xxx-311100-000	Parks & Rec. Service Area	-	-	-	-	-	-
xxxx-000-xxx-311100-000	Affordable Housing	-	-	-	-	-	-
xxxx-000-xxx-311100-000	River Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Property Tax Total</b>	34,614,351	39,087,408	43,519,501	48,657,373	48,361,646	53,698,393
<b>Sales Tax</b>							
0001-000-000-313100-000	Regular and Optional	10,566,379	11,136,414	11,587,104	12,410,309	11,850,923	10,033,822
1009-000-000-313100-000	Self-Restricted Crim Justice Tax	3,114,753	3,225,919	3,298,473	3,511,949	2,988,678	3,315,780
0001-000-000-313150-000	GF-0.2% optional from Vancouver	1,533,176	1,891,567	2,216,381	2,441,245	3,005,948	5,149,780
0001-000-000-313170-000	Van Mall Annex Settlement	157,539	922,936	814,821	892,624	500,000	-
xxxx-000-000-313710-000	0.1% Criminal Justice	-	-	-	-	-	-
xxxx-000-000-313720-000	0.1% Detention Facility	-	-	-	-	-	-
xxxx-000-000-313???-000	1.0% Car Rental	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Sales Tax Total</b>	15,371,847	17,176,836	17,916,779	19,256,127	18,345,549	18,499,382
<b>REET</b>							
0001-000-xxx-317300-000	1% State Admin REET (old)	152,943	165,943	164,081	194,132	232,519	-
0001-000-xxx-317301-000	1% County Admin REET (old)	24,413	25,362	24,108	60,003	47,340	-
0001-000-170-317302-000	1% City Admin REET (old)	5,417	7,012	7,933	19,947	38,990	-
3052-000-000-317301-000	0.25% REET (old)	2,428,492	2,512,989	2,387,187	-	-	-
3056-000-000-317301-000	0.25% REET (old)	-	-	-	2,672,049	2,194,611	(760,109)
3081-000-xxx-317301-000	0.25% Additional REET (old)	-	-	-	858,945	2,194,611	-
0001-000-xxx-317310-000	1% State Admin REET	-	-	-	-	-	251,426
0001-000-xxx-317311-000	1% County Admin REET	-	-	-	-	-	47,917
0001-000-xxx-317312-000	1% City Admin REET	-	-	-	-	-	45,388
3056-000-xxx-317340-000	0.25% REET	-	-	-	-	-	3,130,645
3081-000-xxx-317350-000	0.25% Additional REET	-	-	-	-	-	2,372,412
3085-000-xxx-317370-000	1.0% Conservation Futures REET	-	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-000-31730x-000	0.5% REET in lieu of Sales Tax	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>REET Total</b>	2,611,265	2,711,306	2,583,309	3,805,076	4,708,071	5,087,679

Appendix A  
Revenue Histories

Tax Revenue		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
<b>Hotel/Motel Tax</b>							
3016-000-000-313300-000	Hotel/Motel Tax	127,167	119,420	141,542	151,970	110,024	93,828
	<b>Hotel/Motel Tax Total</b>	127,167	119,420	141,542	151,970	110,024	93,828
<b>Timber Excise Tax</b>							
0001-000-000-312100-000	Timber Excise Tax-General Fund	590,666	500,345	368,147	377,266	297,241	289,840
1012-000-000-312100-000	Timber Excise Tax-Road Fund	658,208	581,196	411,058	437,853	358,108	379,423
1019-000-000-312100-000	Timber Excise Tax-Veterans	3,782	3,202	2,358	2,417	1,923	1,859
1952-000-000-312100-000	Timber Excise Tax-Mental Health	4,200	3,556	2,620	2,686	2,134	2,064
1953-000-000-312100-000	Timber Excise Tax-Dev. Dis.	4,200	3,556	2,620	2,686	2,134	2,064
3085-000-000-312100-000	Timber Excise Tax-Cons. Futures	23,154	19,394	14,119	14,481	11,372	11,202
	<b>Timber Excise Tax Total</b>	1,284,210	1,111,249	800,922	837,389	672,912	686,452
<b>Leaseholder Tax</b>							
0001-000-000-318200-000	Leaseholder Excise Tax-GF (old)	57,741	89,474	77,042	80,556	137,213	-
1012-000-000-318200-000	Leaseholder Excise Tax-RF (old)	3,442	5,106	5,146	5,345	7,011	-
1019-000-000-318200-000	Leaseholder Excise Tax-Vets (old)	369	573	492	515	866	-
1952-000-000-318200-000	Leaseholder Excise Tax-M.H. (old)	410	636	547	572	983	-
1953-000-000-318200-000	Leaseholder Excise Tax-Dev. Dis. (old)	410	636	547	572	983	-
3085-000-000-318200-000	Leaseholder Tax-Cons. Futures (old)	2,258	3,464	2,946	3,086	5,251	-
0001-000-000-317200-000	Leaseholder Excise Tax-General Fund						93,740
1012-000-000-317200-000	Leaseholder Excise Tax-Road Fund						6,767
1019-000-000-317200-000	Leaseholder Excise Tax-Veterans						727
1952-000-000-317200-000	Leaseholder Excise Tax-Mental Health						667
1953-000-000-317200-000	Leaseholder Excise Tax-Dev. Dis.						667
3085-000-000-317200-000	Leaseholder Excise Tax-Cons. Futures						3,623
	<b>Total Leaseholder Tax</b>	64,630	99,889	86,720	90,646	152,307	106,191
<b>Land Use Tax</b>							
0001-000-000-311199-000	Land Use Tax-General Fund	570,405	944,614	633,813	1,056,397	788,980	635,964
1012-000-000-311199-000	Land Use Tax-Road Fund	102,714	188,123	136,540	164,644	195,069	146,167
1019-000-000-311199-000	Land Use Tax-Veterans	633	1,124	348	1,214	1,087	850
1952-000-000-311199-000	Land Use Tax-Mental Health	703	1,070	914	1,349	1,206	943
1953-000-000-311199-000	Land Use Tax-Dev. Dis.	703	1,070	914	1,349	1,206	943
3085-000-000-311199-000	Land Use Tax-Conservation Futures	3,863	6,782	4,929	7,272	6,427	5,121
	<b>Total Land Use Tax</b>	679,021	1,142,783	777,458	1,232,225	993,975	789,988

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Tax Revenue		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
<b>Federal" in lieu of"</b>							
0001-000-000-311115-000	Federal "in lieu of" Taxes-GF	8,612	7,401	7,378	6,689	8,051	7,828
1012-000-000-311115-000	Federal "in lieu of" Taxes-RF	9,530	8,532	8,352	7,337	9,545	9,644
1019-000-000-311115-000	Federal "in lieu of" Taxes-Veterans	55	47	47	41	52	48
1952-000-000-311115-000	Federal "in lieu of" Taxes-MH	61	53	53	46	58	53
1953-000-000-311115-000	Federal "in lieu of" Taxes-DD	61	53	53	46	58	53
3085-000-000-311115-000	Federal "in lieu of" Taxes-Cons. Fut.	337	286	283	248	308	290
	<b>Federal "in lieu of" Tax Total</b>	18,656	16,372	16,166	14,407	18,072	17,916
<b>Other Taxes</b>							
1010-000-300-318400-000	911 Excise Tax (old)	702,676	831,877	958,181	1,110,233	1,062,230	-
1010-000-xxx-317410-000	911 Excise Tax - Switch Access	-	-	-	-	-	1,041,019
1010-000-xxx-317420-000	911 Excise Tax - Radio Access	-	-	-	-	-	190,418
0001-000-000-317501-000	Gambling Excise Tax	882,845	760,609	712,569	575,693	505,041	595,042
xxxx-000-000-316300-000	Commercial Parking Tax	-	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-000-316200-000	Admissions Tax	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Other Taxes Total</b>	1,585,521	1,592,486	1,670,750	1,685,926	1,567,271	1,826,479
	<b>All Taxes Total</b>	56,356,668	63,057,749	67,513,147	75,731,139	74,929,827	80,806,308

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Permit & Fee Revenue		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
<b>Assessor and GIS</b>							
0001-000-110-341867-000	Title Company Access	36,900	36,900	36,900	36,900	36,900	36,900
0001-000-110-341410-000	Open Space Fees	1,770	7,710	6,300	10,941	3,720	10,950
0001-000-110-341600-000	Duplicating Xerox Services	4,526	5,281	4,032	4,167	4,331	3,782
0001-000-110-341866-000	Microfiche-Assessor	37,358	30,340	26,610	21,050	20,660	9,283
0001-000-110-334049-000	State Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-110-341411-xxx	Special Projects (old)	4,544	22,780	14,055	187,477	181,336	-
0001-000-110-341502-xxx	GIS Population Handbook (old)	5,853	4,024	2,802	3,596	2,726	(20)
0001-000-110-341500-xxx	Sale of Maps and Publications (old)	103,622	129,504	101,953	119,139	124,010	291
1007-000-110-341411-00x	Special Projects - GIS	-	-	-	-	-	29,190
1007-000-110-341500-00x	Sale of Maps & Publications	-	-	-	-	-	148,434
1007-000-110-341502-00x	GIS - Population handbook, Maps, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	740
1007-000-110-341607-00x	GIS - Shareware	-	-	-	-	-	11,550
1007-000-110-341608-00x	GIS - Digital Data	-	-	-	-	-	15,920
1007-000-110-349184-00x	GIS - Services	-	-	-	-	-	330,061
<b>Total Assessor and GIS</b>		<b>194,573</b>	<b>236,539</b>	<b>192,652</b>	<b>383,270</b>	<b>373,683</b>	<b>597,081</b>
<b>Auditor's Office</b>							
0001-000-140-341480-000	Motor Vehicle Fees	967,913	1,019,137	1,016,399	1,090,588	1,568,456	1,638,862
0001-000-140-322201-000	Marriage License-County	27,824	26,304	25,756	24,096	24,456	24,440
0001-000-140-322202-000	Marriage License-Family Court	27,824	26,304	25,752	24,096	24,456	24,440
0001-000-140-322203-000	Marriage License-Family Services	-	-	-	44,775	45,870	45,825
0001-000-140-341210-000	Recording Fees	644,304	663,304	528,043	623,934	662,546	939,178
1002-000-000-336040-xxx	Document Preservation/Modern	64,800	76,741	57,026	59,176	58,353	71,128
1002-000-140-341360-000	O&M-Recording Surcharge	97,036	103,006	79,593	92,744	87,473	125,521
5006-000-141-341910-000	Election Candidate Filing Fees	1,178	21,928	2,595	18,198	2,828	19,280
5006-000-141-341450-000	Election Services Reimbursement	250,742	453,028	680,889	628,324	680,521	366,261
<b>Total Auditor's Office</b>		<b>2,081,621</b>	<b>2,389,752</b>	<b>2,416,053</b>	<b>2,605,931</b>	<b>3,154,959</b>	<b>3,254,935</b>
<b>Community Development</b>							
1011-xxx-544-32xxx-000	Planning Permits	969,016	1,040,804	927,008	981,668	765,089	464,136
1011-xxx-544-34xxx-000	Planning Fees	1,471,669	1,087,061	1,012,985	939,834	863,087	2,329,574
1011-xxx-588-32xxx-000	Building Permits	1,308,895	1,986,939	1,657,369	1,953,667	1,262,911	2,132,402
1011-xxx-589-34xxx-000	Code Enforcement	-	-	750	2,790	49,724	3,912
1011-xxx-599-32xxx-000	Fire Marshall Permits	3,800	31,864	59,350	69,125	48,625	41,075
1011-xxx-599-34xxx-000	Fire Marshall Fees	11,418	171,093	145,326	147,292	120,055	181,700
1020-xxx-531-32xxx-000	Water Resources Permits (Planning) (old)	14,450	22,158	31,749	39,525	31,024	-
1020-xxx-531-34xxx-000	Water Resources Fees (Planning) (old)	4,232	487,281	596,868	480,473	905,760	12,280
1011-xxx-531-32xxx-000	Water Resources Permits (Planning)	-	-	-	-	-	60,960
1011-xxx-531-34xxx-000	Water Resources Fees (Planning)	-	-	-	-	-	1,038,158

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Permit & Fee Revenue		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
1011-xxx-566-32xxx-000	Animal Control Permits	183,833	215,706	215,166	206,620	205,827	197,624
1011-xxx-566-33xxx-000	Animal Control - from cities	106,999	103,788	117,672	129,586	247,878	294,627
1011-xxx-566-34xxx-000	Animal Control Charges	18,470	20,525	1,154	622	758	15,953
<b>Total Community Development Permits &amp; Fees</b>		<b>4,092,782</b>	<b>5,167,219</b>	<b>4,765,397</b>	<b>4,951,202</b>	<b>4,500,738</b>	<b>6,772,401</b>
<b>Impact Fees</b>							
3173-000-000-345850-000	Park - District 3 (to Vancouver)	-	-	-	15,661	2,115	-
3174-000-000-345850-000	Park - District 4	-	-	-	10,206	5,670	58,401
3175-000-000-345850-000	Park - District 5	-	-	-	5,670	57,933	55,143
3176-000-000-345850-000	Park - District 6	-	-	-	2,835	31,752	35,838
3177-000-000-345850-000	Park - District 7	-	-	-	2,268	30,051	37,989
3178-000-000-345850-000	Park - District 8	-	-	-	5,103	23,247	64,026
3179-000-000-345850-000	Park - District 9	-	-	-	11,340	62,370	88,850
3110-000-000-345850-000	Park - District 10	-	-	-	5,103	28,350	83,178
3060-000-000-345850-000	Traffic - Lakeshore Road Benefit	37,362	8,622	1,437	-	-	-
3061-000-000-345850-000	Traffic - Mt. Vista Road Fund	404,048	606,525	138,369	570,069	260,144	829,975
3062-000-000-345850-000	Traffic - Hazel Dell/Felida Road Fund	865,404	491,299	356,159	548,806	296,109	505,973
3063-000-000-345850-000	Traffic - Orchards Road Fund	587,462	855,488	712,159	600,320	520,893	470,536
3162-000-000-345850-000	Traffic - Sherwood Overlay Impact Fund	13,923	2,532	11,315	1,786	-	7,905
3163-000-000-345850-000	Traffic - Sifton Overlay Impact Fund	86,112	31,707	61,507	87,884	79,974	(75,053)
<b>Impact Fees Total</b>		<b>1,994,311</b>	<b>1,996,173</b>	<b>1,280,946</b>	<b>1,867,051</b>	<b>1,398,608</b>	<b>2,162,761</b>
<b>District Court</b>							
0001-000-210-338120-000	Shared Court Costs - SB6211 Billings (old)	-	-	-	-	70,844	690
0001-000-210-338121-000	Dist. Ct. Services - Vancouver (SB 6211)	-	-	-	-	49,500	-
0001-000-210-338128-000	SB 6211 - Camas	-	-	-	-	-	120,518
0001-000-210-338129-000	SB 6211 - Washougal	-	-	-	-	-	74,658
0001-000-210-341220-000	District Court Civil Filings	46,717	54,158	64,683	73,794	74,744	79,021
0001-000-210-341280-000	Small Claims Filings	13,260	14,643	14,616	15,450	14,588	17,073
0001-000-210-341240-000	Dispute Resolution Surcharge	-	-	53,850	-	-	-
0001-000-210-353100-000	Traffic Infraction Penalties	1,049,089	1,333,183	1,215,091	1,158,070	1,300,737	1,247,586
0001-000-210-353700-000	Other Non-Parking Infractions	941	3,585	2,784	2,471	4,179	7,625
0001-000-210-354000-000	Parking Infraction Penalties	2,719	4,022	3,628	4,409	11,463	7,667
0001-000-210-355200-000	DWI	219,523	222,704	167,355	165,180	157,955	186,431
0001-000-210-355800-000	Other Criminal Traffic Misdemeanors	425,736	446,019	310,817	350,821	297,029	318,297
0001-000-xxx-356900-000	Other Non-Traffic Misdemeanors	244,956	226,246	181,387	181,823	151,445	138,022
0001-000-210-357340-000	Warrant Fees	-	22,140	24,227	23,443	23,568	29,566
<b>Total District Court</b>		<b>2,002,941</b>	<b>2,326,700</b>	<b>2,038,438</b>	<b>1,975,461</b>	<b>2,156,052</b>	<b>2,227,154</b>

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Permit & Fee Revenue		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
<b>Sheriff &amp; Jail</b>							
0001-000-250-322901-000	Gun Permits	55,237	63,147	50,467	47,314	66,107	54,989
0001-000-250-338212-000	Yacolt Contract Reimbursement	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
0001-000-250-338238-000	US Marshall (old)	612,130	497,224	526,235	543,186	-	-
0001-000-261-338238-000	US Marshall	-	-	-	-	292,464	50,274
0001-000-250-338237-000	Immigration (old)	126,787	102,993	111,455	125,857	-	26,622
0001-000-261-338237-000	Immigration	-	-	-	-	150,230	123,933
0001-000-250-338219-000	Vancouver Law Enforcement Services	-	-	-	-	3,139,991	1,911,111
0001-000-250-338218-000	Vancouver Records Fee	-	-	-	153,000	883,932	932,589
0001-000-250-342100-000	Sheriff's Civil Fees	86,063	96,547	105,494	78,789	88,912	101,685
0001-000-250-342101-000	Sheriff-Fingerprinting	7,068	7,709	8,246	12,551	18,450	24,320
0001-000-250-342102-000	Sheriff's Sale Fees	9,167	4,770	2,590	3,115	3,017	3,521
0001-000-250-342103-000	Sheriff Records Reports	13,604	15,730	15,487	15,761	21,530	14,520
0001-000-250-342105-000	Sex Offender Registration	4,256	3,136	3,168	2,016	6,752	5,984
0001-000-250-342106-000	Sheriff's Alarm Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-261-33824x-000	Jail Services-Variou Jurisdictions	-	-	-	-	341,448	303,793
	<b>Total Sheriff &amp; Jail</b>	926,312	803,256	835,142	993,589	5,024,833	3,565,341
<b>Corrections</b>							
0001-000-430-338200-000	SB 6211 Charges (old)	-	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-430-338213-000	SB 6211 Charges - La Center	-	-	-	-	36	304
0001-000-430-338214-000	SB 6211 Charges - Camas	-	-	-	-	126,782	82,530
0001-000-430-338215-000	SB 6211 Charges - Ridgefield	-	-	-	-	127	129
0001-000-430-338231-000	SB 6211 Charges - Vancouver	-	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-430-338235-000	SB 6211 Charges - Battle Ground	-	-	-	-	1,937	796
0001-000-430-338239-000	SB 6211 Charges - Washougal	-	-	-	-	68,357	44,525
0001-000-430-338232-000	Work Crews	86,088	105,952	120,403	118,195	227,415	220,400
0001-000-430-349183-000	Work Crews-County Fair	-	-	33,900	34,250	50,869	44,617
0001-000-430-349814-000	Work Crews-Public Works	-	-	-	114,167	100,600	304,465
0001-000-430-349231-000	Work Crews-Sewage Treatment	-	-	-	-	24,048	20,162
0001-000-430-341700-000	Work Crews-Sale of Merchandise	-	19,777	33,483	122,433	99,793	223,197
0001-000-430-342903-000	Probation	162,630	131,372	144,663	172,651	107,306	163,508
0001-000-430-342915-000	Electronic Home Confinement	-	-	-	45,332	140,352	157,091
0001-000-430-341951-000	Indigent Defense Cost Recovery	62,536	60,943	60,285	57,905	62,323	65,344
0001-000-xxx-357270-000	Deferred Prosecution	32,117	58,948	60,562	67,875	61,134	53,274
	<b>Total Corrections</b>	343,371	376,992	453,296	732,808	1,071,079	1,380,342

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Permit & Fee Revenue		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
<b>Water Quality</b>							
1020-000-000-322131-000	Grading Premits	14,450	14,898	18,119	25,768	18,249	-
1020-000-000-322160-000	Wetland Premits	1,715	-	-	-	-	-
1020-000-000-322161-000	Wetland Premits	11,440	20,360	16,975	24,717	20,200	785
1020-000-000-322170-000	Flood Plain Permit	-	7,260	12,130	12,758	6,750	-
1020-000-xxx-341500-xxx	Sale of Maps & Publications	-	1,239	3,296	1,544	2,139	6
1020-000-xxx-341600-xxx	Duplicating Xerox Services	-	132	959	356	219	-
1020-000-xxx-341965-000	Clark College Reimbursements	4,202	-	-	-	-	-
1020-000-xxx-342205-xxx	Arson Investigations	-	-	33	2,676	-	-
1020-000-000-343120-000	Lacamas / Aquifer Fees from IRC	50,318	-	-	-	-	-
1020-000-000-343191-000	Wetland Predetermination	1,050	7,200	5,550	5,175	4,620	250
1020-000-000-343192-000	Water Quality Testing Fee	15,000	23,000	38,000	-	-	-
1020-000-xxx0343201-xxx	City of Vancouver Services	-	-	-	-	22,799	-
1020-000-000-367xxx-000	Donations	67,753	22,414	30,476	17,649	32,168	38,218
1020-000-xxx0397001-xxx	Transfer from 0001	-	106,386	496,233	276,110	194,981	207,837
1020-000-xxx-397011-000	Transfer from 1011	154,024	-	-	-	244,000	-
1020-000-xxx-397012-000	Transfer from 1012	439,004	420,776	137,793	171,597	80,382	110,005
1020-000-xxx-3970052-000	Transfer from 3052	-	14,631	398,904	317,509	303,207	-
1020-000-xxx-397413-000	Transfer from 4413	-	-	-	21,605	21,605	8,300
	<b>Total Water Quality</b>	758,956	638,296	1,158,468	877,464	951,319	365,401
<b>County Fair</b>							
4003-000-370-347401-000	Ticket Sales	643,215	-	-	-	-	-
4003-000-370-347402-000	Livestock Entry Fees	8,021	-	-	-	-	-
4003-000-370-347409-000	Horsebarn/Grandstand	66,468	-	-	-	-	-
4003-000-370-362300-000	Parking	98,826	-	-	-	-	-
4003-000-370-362500-000	Rental and Storage	195,674	-	-	-	-	-
4003-000-370-362800-000	Concessions	336,073	-	-	-	-	-
4003-000-370-362801-000	Carnival Receipts	174,225	-	-	-	-	-
4003-000-370-369900-000	Misc.	175,779	-	-	-	-	-
4003-000-370-397001-000	Interfund Transfer - General Fund	5,350	-	-	-	-	-
1003-000-xxx-347401-000	Admission to Grounds/Ticket Sales	-	643,051	-	-	-	-
1003-000-xxx-347402-000	Exhibit Revenue/Entry Fees	-	58,357	6,249	76,076	5,295	5,586
1003-000-xxx-347403-000	Carnival Receipts/Advance Ticket Sales	-	-	32,153	53,543	63,548	82,363
1003-000-xxx-347404-000	Parking/Credential Ticket Sales	-	-	26,966	16,447	12,315	32,337
1003-000-xxx-347405-000	Grand Stands/Gate Ticket Sales	-	-	572,344	543,519	639,409	697,132
1003-000-xxx-347407-000	Sponsorships	-	-	-	5,541	1,675	(225)
1003-000-xxx-347408-000	Stall Rental	-	-	3,536	3,059	2,335	2,170
1003-000-xxx-347409-000	Other Admissions to Gnds	-	80,370	-	381	340	6,464
1003-000-xxx-347473-000	-	-	-	-	(1,482)	(114)	-
1003-000-xxx-362300-000	Parking	-	86,638	-	-	-	-

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Permit & Fee Revenue		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
1003-000-xxx-362500-000	Rental & Storage Revenue	-	159,726	-	-	-	-
1003-000-xxx-362501-000	Rentals-DNR Other	-	-	-	-	95,637	97,255
1003-000-xxx-362504-000	Rentals-Elahan	-	-	-	(63)	72,644	82,554
1003-000-xxx-362506-000	Donations	-	-	-	-	-	165
1003-000-xxx-362507-000	Rent-Expo Area	-	-	-	(1,000)	77,811	83,274
1003-000-xxx-362508-000	-	-	-	-	-	915	820
1003-000-xxx-362509-000	Other Non Fair Rental Revenue	-	-	-	(150)	98,053	36,339
1003-000-xxx-362511-000	Building Rentals	-	-	44,055	85,069	2,225	-
1003-000-xxx-362512-000	Rental of Other Facilities	-	-	16,398	4,447	-	-
1003-000-xxx-362514-000	Storage Income	-	-	65,463	76,669	987	-
1003-000-xxx-362517-000	Rent-Expo Center	-	-	81,801	112,209	3,595	-
1003-000-xxx-362518-000	Rental-Insurance	-	-	-	475	95	-
1003-000-xxx-362519-000	Other Non-Fair Rental	-	-	82,902	78,142	421	-
1003-000-xxx-362800-000	Concession Fees	-	306,920	-	-	-	1,680
1003-000-xxx-362801-000	Carnival Receipts	-	196,893	251,597	251,020	268,191	298,692
1003-000-xxx-362802-000	Pre-Sale Carnival Income	-	-	11,151	12,340	49,799	36,008
1003-000-xxx-362803-000	Food Vender Income	-	-	115,252	128,123	135,464	180,485
1003-000-xxx-362804-000	Commercial Exhibit Income	-	-	181,488	182,275	203,999	195,599
1003-000-xxx-362805-000	Other Concessions inc.	-	-	4,133	1,125	898	3,675
1003-000-xxx-362806-000	Merchandise Sales Percent	-	-	-	3,583	5,679	9,601
1003-000-xxx-362809-000	Other Commercial Space	-	-	7,854	4,538	888	14,880
1003-000-xxx-369900-000	Other Misc. Revenue	-	143,493	4,742	-	22	-
1003-000-xxx-369910-000	Pay Telephone	-	-	-	2,325	1,186	612
1003-000-xxx-369921-000	Parking	-	-	85,761	85,190	94,534	147,555
1003-000-xxx-369922-000	Advertising Income	-	-	7,027	3,096	6,589	8,155
1003-000-xxx-369923-000	Camping Income	-	-	6,036	6,196	7,908	7,787
1003-000-xxx-369924-000	Sponsorship Income	-	-	18,994	32,902	37,145	63,706
1003-000-xxx-369926-000	Attraction Income	-	-	40,843	76,877	80,792	103,783
1003-000-xxx-369929-000	Other Miscellaneous Fair Revenue	-	-	848	55	257	428
1003-000-xxx-397001-000	General Fund Transfer	-	91,544	153,733	3,444	-	-
	<b>Total Fair</b>	1,703,631	1,766,992	1,821,326	1,845,971	1,970,537	2,198,880
<b>800 MHz</b>							
1005-xxx-xxx-342503-xxx	VHF Fire Emergency Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	23,715
1005-xxx-xxx-342800-xxx	Comm. Services 800 MHz Fees	-	-	-	-	23,034	209,160
1005-xxx-xxx-349281-xxx	800 MHz Fees	-	-	-	-	69,828	160,800
	<b>Total 800 MHz</b>	-	-	-	-	92,862	393,675

Appendix A  
Revenue Histories

Permit & Fee Revenue		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
<b>Golf Course</b>							
1008-xxx-xxx-347301-xxx	Green Fees					173,038	771,209
1008-xxx-xxx-347302-xxx	Driving Range Fees					291	1,351
1008-xxx-xxx-347304-xxx	Misc. Activity Fees					7	304
1008-xxx-xxx-362101-xxx	Golf Cart Rentals					1,396	6,402
1008-xxx-xxx-362102-xxx	Equip Rental					157	630
1008-xxx-xxx-362801-xxx	Merchandise					27,348	4,555
1008-xxx-xxx-362802-xxx	Food & Beverage					268	9,043
1008-xxx-xxx-362804-xxx	Lessons					89	353
1008-xxx-xxx-362805-xxx	Club Repair					2	9
1008-xxx-xxx-362806-xxx	Concessions Misc					756	-
1008-xxx-xxx-3699XX-xxx	Other Misc.					108,600	3,839
	<b>Total 800 MHz</b>	-	-	-	-	311,952	797,695
<b>EMS</b>							
1004-xxx-xxx-342513-xxx	EMS Admin Fee			112,224	32,049	393,335	307,527
1004-xxx-xxx-359201-xxx	EMS Fines			26,976	24,848	37,952	26,095
0001-000-312-342511-000	Medical Oversight Fee	77,460	83,640	45,520	-	-	-
0001-000-312-342400-000	Inspection Fees	725	-				
	<b>Total EMS</b>	78,185	83,640	184,720	56,897	431,287	333,622
<b>Indirect Charges</b>							
0001-000-000-349001-000	Indirect from 0001	31,893	32,718	34,836	26,032	57,439	58,988
0001-000-000-349004-000	Indirect EMS	-	-	-	-	-	2,236
0001-000-000-349005-000	Indirect Radio Communications	-	-	-	-	-	13,096
0001-000-000-349006-000	Indirect from 5006	96,803	111,310	74,795	111,075	61,381	13,442
0001-000-000-349009-000	Indirect from 1009	246,954	211,900	-	-	-	-
0001-000-000-349011-000	Indirect from 1011	542,930	697,262	670,407	689,979	613,501	610,013
0001-000-000-349012-000	Indirect from 1012	846,477	987,866	492,870	621,734	304,475	434,114
0001-000-000-349014-000	Indirect from 4014	191,109	79,514	69,244	79,060	79,000	36,300
0001-000-000-349017-000	Indirect from 1017	27,482	32,968	25,390	20,439	20,500	9,877
0001-000-000-349019-000	Indirect from 1019	-	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-000-349020-000	Indirect from 1020	71,836	136,326	73,141	89,307	133,529	70,047
0001-000-000-349022-000	Indirect from 1022	16,990	12,755	8,276	-	-	-
0001-000-000-349039-000	Indirect from "Urban Co."	6,610	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-000-349047-000	Indirect from 1047	13,327	19,681	15,997	-	-	-
0001-000-000-349053-000	Indirect from 3053	43,272	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-000-349082-000	Indirect from 4082	28,349	605	-	-	-	-
0001-000-000-349091-000	Indirect from 5091	157,235	123,924	82,513	91,566	88,931	117,596
0001-000-000-349093-000	Indirect from 5093	73,952	144,343	116,168	128,953	28,720	-
0001-000-000-349094-000	Indirect from 5094	-	-	-	-	76,796	98,540

Appendix A  
Revenue Histories

Permit & Fee Revenue		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
0001-000-000-349095-000	Indirect from 5095	-	-	544,709	674,285	518,076	656,753
0001-000-000-349413-000	Indirect from 4413	58,575	85,834	73,784	32,898	13,625	2,222
0001-000-000-349580-000	Indirect from 4580	46,520	58,193	47,098	44,085	39,568	21,492
0001-000-000-349645-000	Indirect from 6645	6,377	25,029	29,819	26,561	32,112	31,385
0001-000-000-349888-000	JTPA Indirect	(2,071)	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-000-349905-000	Indirect from 6905	-	8,642	-	38,652	38,137	40,010
0001-000-000-349916-000	Indirect from 6916	25,200	26,460	27,879	30,000	31,200	32,760
0001-000-000-349930-000	Indirect from 1930-Foster Grand Parent	4,404	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-000-349938-000	Indirect from 1938	106,105	26,289	-	-	-	-
0001-000-000-349952-000	Indirect from 1952	95,561	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-000-349953-000	Indirect from 1953	33,878	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-000-349954-000	Indirect from 1954	32,337	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Indirect Cost Revenue</b>		<b>2,802,105</b>	<b>2,821,619</b>	<b>2,386,926</b>	<b>2,704,626</b>	<b>2,136,990</b>	<b>2,248,871</b>
<b>Other Permits &amp; Fees</b>							
0001-000-360-321901-000	Cable Television Franchise Fees	619,999	679,973	721,483	785,786	632,282	600,395
0001-000-200-341230-xxx	Clerk's Fees-Civil, Probate, Domestic Filings	183,904	220,489	335,100	213,853	227,679	223,780
0001-000-200-341290-xxx	Clerk's Fees-Other Filings	18,374	39,361	29,346	23,132	23,189	24,445
0001-000-200-341340-000	Clerk's Fees-Certified Copies	40,494	46,504	59,224	126,116	129,212	138,639
0001-000-231-342703-000	Juvenile - Parent Diversion Assessment	-	20,600	30,650	28,990	25,815	27,905
0001-000-488-347511-000	Parks Fees - Lewisville	-	-	49,919	54,092	54,265	62,381
0001-000-488-347512-000	Parks Fees - Salmon Creek	-	-	28,227	30,588	29,368	34,844
0001-000-488-347513-000	Parks Fees - Vancouver Lake	-	-	32,702	27,641	21,588	25,055
0001-000-488-347514-000	Parks Fees - Frenchman's Bar	-	-	-	-	16,385	16,525
0001-000-488-347500-000	Parks Fees - Other Parks	90,285	113,841	1,364	403	5,348	4,884
0001-000-xxx-361109-000	Investment Interest-Treas.	1,970,915	1,899,143	1,878,587	2,074,853	2,445,671	2,643,744
1xxx-000-xxx-361109-00C	Investment Interest-Treas.	343,130	369,313	598,123	847,429	1,197,946	1,383,702
2914-000-xxx-361109-000	Investment Interest-Treas.	8,624	21,935	28,083	1,470	977	2,142
3xxx-000-xxx-361109-000	Investment Interest-Treas.	442,509	1,040,304	1,661,474	2,034,183	1,948,797	2,179,515
4xxx-000-xxx-361109-000	Investment Interest-Treas.	104,114	167,954	370,137	1,519,004	2,594,069	1,323,967
5xxx-000-xxx-361109-000	Investment Interest-Treas.	279,414	305,144	522,668	614,136	817,238	918,833
<b>Total Other Permits &amp; Fees</b>		<b>4,101,762</b>	<b>4,924,561</b>	<b>6,347,087</b>	<b>8,381,676</b>	<b>10,169,829</b>	<b>9,610,756</b>
<b>Total All Permits &amp; Fees</b>		<b>21,080,550</b>	<b>23,531,739</b>	<b>23,880,451</b>	<b>27,375,946</b>	<b>33,744,728</b>	<b>35,908,915</b>

Appendix A  
Revenue Histories

Intergovernmental Revenue		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
<b>MVET</b>							
0001-000-000-335001-818	Travel Trailer and Camper	40,636	46,469	50,165	50,941	54,680	59,448
N/A	Sales Tax Equalization Account	-	-	-	-	-	-
0001-000-000-336061-103	Crim. Just. Assistance Acct.	-	594,679	1,256,229	1,601,141	1,585,757	1,684,677
0001-000-000-336061-310	MVET CJA Adult Court Costs	-	-	-	-	2,596	11,602
6902-300-887-335082-000	Public Health Account	-	-	-	675,360	774,609	1,119,387
	<b>MVET Total</b>	40,636	641,148	1,306,394	2,327,442	2,417,642	2,875,114
<b>Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax</b>							
1012-000-000-336006-890	State-Imposed Fuel Tax	4,694,492	4,614,747	5,162,110	5,549,867	5,832,164	5,574,616
1012-000-000-334039-720	Rata Funds	392,554	445,979	464,592	482,390	501,848	526,501
1012-000-000-33600x-90x	10% Surcharge	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>MV Fuel Tax Total</b>	5,087,046	5,060,726	5,626,702	6,032,257	6,334,012	6,101,117
<b>State Forest Board Timber</b>							
0001-000-000-335022-336	FB Purchase-General Fund	19,560	132,467	10,319	10,935	29,135	3,517
1012-000-000-335022-336	FB Purchase-Road Fund	19,844	227,600	11,078	12,233	35,101	4,403
1019-000-000-335022-336	FB Purchase-Veterans Asst.	119	1,254	64	68	188	22
1952-000-000-335022-336	FB Purchase-Mental Health	132	1,392	71	75	209	24
1953-000-000-335022-336	FB Purchase-Dev. Dis.	132	1,392	71	75	209	24
3085-000-000-335022-336	FB Purchase-Cons. Futures	730	7,567	380	405	1,114	130
0001-000-000-395101-000	FB Transfer-General Fund	11,040	255,766	866,738	424,942	701,715	639,663
1012-000-000-395101-000	FB Transfer-Road Fund	11,201	272,968	917,217	475,361	844,790	788,872
1019-000-000-395101-000	FB Transfer-Veterans	67	1,566	5,259	2,623	4,537	3,934
1952-000-000-395101-000	FB Transfer-Mental Health	75	1,738	5,843	2,915	5,035	4,367
1953-000-000-395101-000	FB Transfer-Dev. Dis.	75	1,738	5,843	2,915	5,035	4,367
3085-000-000-395101-000	FB Transfer-Cons. Futures	412	9,448	31,484	15,719	26,831	23,701
0001-000-000-362501-000	FB Other-General Fund	5,998	13,029	11,874	8,856	10,117	7,204
1012-000-000-362501-000	FB Other-Road Fund	6,103	13,868	8,882	5,880	7,851	5,293
1019-000-000-362501-000	FB Other-Veterans Assist.	37	80	51	32	42	26
1952-000-000-362501-000	FB Other-Mental Health	41	87	57	36	47	29
1953-000-000-362501-000	FB Other-Developmental Dis.	41	87	57	36	47	29
3085-000-000-362501-000	FB Other Conservation Futures	224	482	305	194	249	156
	<b>Total State Forest Board Timber</b>	75,831	942,529	1,875,593	963,300	1,672,252	1,485,761

Appendix A  
Revenue Histories

Intergovernmental Revenue		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
<b>PUD Privilege Tax</b>							
0001-000-000-335004-919	PUD Privilege Tax	1,090,147	1,164,558	1,273,992	1,314,253	1,369,801	1,227,309
	<b>Total PUD Privilege</b>	1,090,147	1,164,558	1,273,992	1,314,253	1,369,801	1,227,309
<b>Liquor Excise Tax</b>							
0001-000-000-336062-940	Liquor Excise Tax-General Fund	172,093	169,487	169,387	270,433	101,263	141,229
1954-000-000-366062-940	Liquor Excise Tax-Alcohol Prev.	7,230	8,396	8,634	10,694	10,204	12,324
	<b>Liquor Excise Subtotal</b>	179,323	177,883	178,021	281,127	111,467	153,553
<b>Liquor Board Profits</b>							
0001-000-000-336060-950	Liquor Board Profits	344,915	344,815	303,449	256,173	392,874	386,224
1954-000-000-366060-950	Liquor Board Profits	14,462	16,840	15,687	14,941	21,027	45,122
	<b>Total Liquor Board Profits</b>	359,377	361,655	319,136	271,114	413,901	431,346
<b>Other Intergovernmental Revenue</b>							
4003-000-370-336021-119	Parimutuel Tax	102,665	-	-	-	-	-
1003-000-370-336021-119	Parimutuel Tax	-	69,558	58,198	43,998	53,311	58,337
0001-000-271-333950-630	Child Support Reim.-Federal	535,050	574,680	616,107	664,651	766,918	749,146
0001-000-231-331100-500	Juvenile Lunch Reimbursement	35,137	42,579	33,428	48,959	45,498	45,122
	<b>Total Other Governmental</b>	672,852	686,817	707,733	757,608	865,727	852,605
<b>All Intergovernmental Total</b>		7,505,212	9,035,316	11,287,571	11,947,101	13,184,802	13,126,805

Appendix A  
Revenue Histories

Enterprise Fund Revenue		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
<b>Salmon Creek WWTP Construction</b>							
4582-000-xxx-343801-000	Sewer Flow Charges	406,247	277,413	-	-	-	-
4582-000-xxx-343802-000	BG Sewer Charges	89,176	60,895	-	-	-	-
4582-000-xxx-343508-000	Sewer Connect Fee-Short Term	8,500	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Salmon Creek WWTP Construction Total</b>		503,923	338,308	-	-	-	-
<b>Sewer Debt Service Fund</b>							
4581-000-xxx-343801-000	Sewer Flow Charges	165,185	260,053	-	-	-	-
4581-000-xxx-343802-000	BG Sewer Charges	3,828	13,629	-	-	-	-
<b>Sewer Debt Service Fund Total</b>		169,013	273,682	-	-	-	-
<b>Wastewater Maintenance</b>							
4580-000-xxx-343500-000	Sewer Service Charges	87,380	-	-	-	-	-
4580-000-xxx-343506-000	CPU/LaCenter Treatment Plant	-	-	-	-	1,179	-
4580-000-xxx-343507-000	Sewer-City of Woodland	-	-	-	-	1,465	-
4580-000-xxx-343509-000	Sewer-Columbia Resources	-	-	-	-	10,209	15,437
4580-000-xxx-343513-000	Sewer-City of Camas	-	-	-	-	-	10,722
4580-000-xxx-343800-000	Other Utility Charges	2,231	-	-	-	-	-
4580-000-xxx-343801-000	Sewer Flow Charges-Hazell Dell	1,118,590	1,246,968	2,332,491	2,625,780	6,531,783	6,701,731
4580-000-xxx-343802-000	BG Sewer Charges	199,573	256,452	64,113	-	-	-
4580-000-xxx-348901-000	External Reimbursable	2,849	9,168	-	-	-	-
4580-000-xxx-349351-000	Reimburseable Workorder	-	-	2,477	637	1,338	3,939
4580-000-xxx-349391-000	Sewer-Internal Other Dept.	-	-	-	-	3,771	3,660
<b>Sewer Debt Service Fund Total</b>		1,410,623	1,512,588	2,399,081	2,626,417	6,549,745	6,735,489
<b>Burnt Bridge Creek</b>							
4413-000-000-343749-000	Sewer Services-Other	784,369	817,344	839,635	491,692	441,760	449,134
4413-000-000-367100-000	Donations	27,244	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Burnt Bridge Creek Total</b>		811,613	817,344	839,635	491,692	441,760	449,134
<b>Sewer</b>							
4082-xxx-xxx-343500-000	Sewer Service Charges	(357)	92,126	-	-	-	(39)
4082-xxx-xxx-343800-000	Other Utility Charges	-	2,231	941	-	-	-
4082-xxx-xxx-343801-000	Hazel Dell - Sewer Charges	-	159,998	-	-	-	-
4082-xxx-xxx-343818-000	Admin Fee	-	1,750	-	-	-	-
4082-xxx-xxx-3699xx-000	Other Misc. Revenue	19,757	-	(979)	-	-	81
<b>Sewer Total</b>		19,400	256,105	(38)	-	-	42
<b>Solid Waste</b>							
4014-000-xxx-343102-000	Compost Sales	-	-	-	-	-	2,067
4014-000-xxx-343700-000	Chipping Days Fees	50	-	-	-	-	-
4014-000-xxx-343705-000	Household Haz. Waste Fees	13,288	-	-	-	-	-
4014-000-xxx-343706-000	Compost Bin Sales	-	-	14,064	2,580	3,435	70

Appendix A  
Revenue Histories

<b>Enterprise Fund Revenue</b>		Actual 1993	Actual 1994	Actual 1995	Actual 1996	Actual 1997	Actual 1998
4014-000-xxx-343710-000	Recycling Fees-Single Family	1,140,284	1,286,524	1,030,821	899,839	131,424	-
4014-000-xxx-343711-000	Recycling Fees-Multi-Family	131,038	329,053	231,100	324,914	259,256	203,471
4014-000-xxx-343720-000	Sale of Recycled Materials	59,138	-	1,739	175,256	222,679	289,891
4014-000-xxx-343830-000	Solid Waste Management Fee	1,599,148	1,426,262	2,838,954	1,599,022	1,718,829	1,145,550
4014-000-xxx-348901-000	External Reimbursable	11,468	-	-	-	-	-
4014-000-xxx-349370-000	BP Tire Clean-up	-	-	-	-	50,000	-
		2,954,414	3,041,839	4,116,678	3,001,611	2,385,623	1,641,049
<b>All Enterprise Fund Total</b>		<b>5,868,986</b>	<b>6,239,866</b>	<b>7,355,356</b>	<b>6,119,720</b>	<b>9,377,128</b>	<b>8,825,714</b>

**Appendix B**  
**1999 Potential Revenue Report**



AUDITOR

LIZ LUCE

October 8, 1998

Dear County Commissioners:

I am pleased to present to you the attached "Potential Revenue Sources" report. In it, you will find a brief summary of possible new revenue sources for the County. Note that all of these sources would require BOCC action to implement.

This report is an update to the report presented to the BOCC during the budget preparations and discussions in late 1997 for the 1998 Budget. There have been some additions of potential revenue sources in this report. They include a Parks and Recreation Service Area property tax levy, an Affordable Housing District property tax levy, and a Commercial Parking tax.

With each description of each potential revenue source is an estimate of the annual revenue that could be generated. Some of these revenues are dedicated for particular expenditures, while others are available to the general fund.

Annexations or incorporations of parts of the county's unincorporated areas impact some of these revenue sources. Attached at the end of the report is a schedule that estimates the impact that particular annexations would have on the new revenue source. The annexation areas listed are geographic areas that have been defined in the City of Vancouver's Annexation Blueprint. The annexation dates are approximate, based on information in the Annexation Blueprint. Please note that revenue impacts of these annexations are presented in 1998 dollars. The actual amount of financial impact depends on changes in those geographic regions between now and any annexation as well as the timing of the annexation itself.

I am committed to providing you relevant information to aid in your decision-making process as we enter into the next budget cycle. If you need additional financial information or would like the information in the attached report presented in a different format, please tell me or Glenn Olson, and I will be happy to provide it.

Sincerely,

John Ingram  
County Finance Director

1200 FRANKLIN STREET • P.O. BOX 5000 • VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON 98666-5000

(360) 397-2241 • FAX (360) 397-6007

# **Potential Revenue Sources**

Revised September 1998

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## **Introduction**

The purpose of this document is to identify additional revenue sources that may be available to the County under certain circumstances. The first section of this report details the types of revenues available, the amount available, and any restrictions there may be on the expenditure of these funds. The second section is a summary sheet listing each of the potential revenue sources described in the first section. The third section forecasts the impact of particular annexations on these potential revenue sources, in non-inflated 1998 dollars, according to the latest schedule of annexations by the City of Vancouver.

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# Potential Revenue Sources

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## 1. 0.5% Optional Sales Tax

Source: R.C.W. 82.14.030 (2)

Clark County currently imposes a five-tenths of one percent (0.5%) sales and use tax on any taxable event for general governmental purposes in the unincorporated area. This tax is called the "0.5% base local sales tax." In addition to this amount, the County collects 15% of the sales and use taxes collected in the incorporated areas.

The County may impose an additional five-tenths of one percent (0.5%) sales and use tax, called the "local option sales tax." Currently, the County collects three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) sales and use tax in the unincorporated areas and fifteen percent (15%) of the three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) sales and use tax in the incorporated areas.

Of the three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) the County collects in the unincorporated areas, 0.2% has been dedicated by the County to a Special Law Enforcement Fund. The remaining 0.1% is allocated to the general fund.

The County has the option of enacting the remaining two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) sales and use tax in the unincorporated areas.

Increase from 0.3% to 0.4% optional local sales tax	\$1,743,500
Increase from 0.3% to 0.5% optional local sales tax	\$3,487,000

## 2. 0.1% Sales and Use Tax - Criminal Justice Assistance Act

Source: R.C.W. 82.14.340

The BOCC may enact by resolution or ordinance, subject to repeal by the voters, a sales and use tax of one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) on all taxable events throughout the county. If enacted, the County would receive 10% of revenues generated, plus a portion of the remaining 90% based on population. Cities would receive the remaining amounts.

This revenue must be used exclusively for criminal justice purpose and cannot be used "to replace or supplant existing funds." The revenue may be used for capital expenditures. These funds are in addition to the criminal justice funds that are provided by the state out of Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes (MVET).

In 1998, there were 162,640 (49.6%) persons in the incorporated areas and 165,360 (50.4%) in the unincorporated areas. These numbers are used to estimate this potential revenue.

	<u>County Revenue</u>	<u>Cities Revenue</u>
0.1% Criminal Justice Assistance (CJA) Sales and Use Tax	\$1,982,000	\$1,598,000

# Potential Revenue Sources

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### **3. 0.1% Sales and Use Tax - Juvenile Detention Facilities and Jails**

*Source: R.C.W. 82.14.350*

The BOCC may enact, by a simple majority in a county-wide vote, a sales and use tax of one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) on all taxable events throughout the county. This 0.1% is in addition to other sales and use tax limits.

These revenues must be used solely for financing, design, construction, operating, or maintaining a juvenile detention facility or jail. Counties may develop joint ventures to colocate the facilities. Because this tax is imposed county-wide, the amount collected is not impacted by annexations or incorporations.

0.1% Detention Facility Sales and Use Tax	\$3,580,000
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### **4. Car Rental Tax - Public Sports Facilities**

*Source: R.C.W. 82.14.049*

The BOCC may impose a sales and use tax in addition to other sales and use tax limitations, on car rentals throughout the county at a rate of one percent (1%).

The revenue from this source may only be used for acquiring, constructing, or operating public sports stadium facilities or for the acquiring, constructing or operating of youth or amateur sport activities or facilities. Currently, there are four counties imposing this tax: King, Pierce, Snohomish and Spokane.

1.0% Car Rental Tax	\$74,000
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# Potential Revenue Sources

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## **5. Additional REET for Conservation Areas**

Source: R.C.W. 82.46.070; R.C.W. 36.32.570

The County may impose, with voter approval, a real estate excise tax (REET) on the sale of real property *in the entire county* at a rate of up to one percent (1%) of the selling price. This revenue is dedicated by statute to acquiring and maintaining local conservation areas. The REET for conservation areas requires voter approval by a simple majority. The tax may be imposed in increments, up to the 1.0% limit. This tax is in addition to the 0.5% REET the county currently collects.

The revenue collected from this tax may be used only for the acquisition and maintenance of conservation areas. Conservation areas are defined as “land and water that has environmental, agricultural, aesthetic, cultural, scientific, historic, scenic, or low-intensity recreational value for existing and future generations, and includes, but is not limited to, open spaces, wetlands, marshes, aquifer recharge areas, shoreline areas, natural areas, and other lands and waters that are important to preserve flora and fauna.”

A plan for the expenditures of this revenue must be prepared and adopted by the Board at least 60 days prior to the election. Prior to the adoption of the plan, the elected officials of cities in the county must be consulted, and a public hearing must be held to obtain public input. All expenditures must conform to this plan. The tax could be collected starting 30 days after the election as which the tax is authorized.

1.0% Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) for Conservation Futures	\$16,900,000
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## **6. Motor Vehicle License Fee**

Source: R.C.W. 82.80.020

The BOCC may impose by ordinance or resolution a Motor Vehicle License Fee, not to exceed \$15 per vehicle, for each vehicle subject to licensing. The Department of Licensing would collect the fee and distribute it back to the County, minus a 2% administrative fee. The funds are distributed between the County and the cities based on population, with additional weight given to the County. These revenues are restricted to the preservation of roads, streets, and other transportation improvements. There is a six month waiting period between passing the BOCC resolution and collection of this fee. The estimate is an annual number and assumes collection begins January 1, 2000.

\$15 Motor Vehicle License Fee	\$1,650,000
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# Potential Revenue Sources

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## **7. 10% Surcharge on Fuel Tax**

*Source: R.C.W. 82.80.010; R.C.W. 82.80.080*

The BOCC may levy, with the approval of a simple majority of registered voters in a general or special election, additional excise taxes equal to ten percent of the state-wide motor vehicle fuel tax rate on each gallon of gas or special fuel (except propane-powered vehicles) collected throughout the county. The tax would be collected by the Department of Licensing and distributed monthly to the County. The County would allocate funds to cities based on population percentages, weighted toward the County. These funds are restricted to transportation purposes.

The surcharge would equal 2.3 cents per gallon. Based on fuel tax revenue projections, the additional 10% surcharge would yield the following additional revenue for the County:

10% Surcharge on Fuel Tax	\$800,000
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## **8. Additional 2% Hotel/Motel Sales Tax**

*Source: Substitute Senate Bill 5867 (452 Washington Laws 1997)*

The County currently collects 2% of the state's 6.5% sales and use tax collected from hotels and motels in unincorporated areas for transient lodging. The County may impose an additional 2% sales and use tax, not subject to other sales tax limits, on hotels and motels throughout the unincorporated part of the County. This tax may be imposed by ordinance or resolution and does not need voter approval.

If this tax is levied, the BOCC must appoint a five-person advisory board made up of at least two people from the hotel/motel industry, at least two people from activities funded by this revenue, and an elected official of the County. An elected official of a city may sit on the advisory board as a non-voting member. This advisory board makes recommendations to the BOCC about how to appropriate the funds. The funds are restricted to be used for promoting tourism or acquiring and maintaining tourism-related facilities.

For the purpose of this estimate, it is assumed that the County imposes the 2% tax and that only those cities that currently collect hotel/motel tax will seek the additional 2% and credit that against the County's 2% tax.

Additional 2% Hotel/Motel Tax	\$95,000
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# Potential Revenue Sources

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## **9. Commercial Parking Tax**

*R.C.W. 82.80.030*

The County may impose a tax on commercial parking in the unincorporated area. This tax can be imposed on either the commercial parking business, or on the individual parking the motor vehicle.

The county may write the ordinance with a variety of options. The tax may apply to all parking for which a fee is paid, whether paid or leased, including parking supplied with a lease of nonresidential space. The tax may be a fee per vehicle, or a percentage of the parking charge. The tax rate may vary with zoning or location of the facility, the duration of the parking, or the time of entry or exit, the type or use of the vehicle, or other reasonable factors. The tax may exempt carpools, vehicles with handicapped decals, or government vehicles.

The proceeds from this tax may be used only for transportation purposes.

Commercial Parking Tax	\$ Unknown
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## **10. Property Tax - Road Fund - Expenditures for Traffic Enforcement**

*R.C.W.36.33.220; R.C.W. 36.79.140*

Road Fund property tax revenue is restricted for use on roads. Statute allows for two exceptions for this: the "Traffic Enforcement" diversion and the "Other County Services" diversion. This second diversion will be discussed in the next Additional Revenue Option.

The Traffic Enforcement allocation allows the County to divert Road Fund property taxes away from the Road Fund into the General Fund. The amount diverted must be the same as or less than the cost of traffic enforcement in the County. If the allocation exceeds this cost, then the County is not eligible for Road Arterial Trust Account (RATA) funds from the state.

Traffic Enforcement costs for the County were estimated for 1998 to be approximately \$1.6 million. For some time, the County has diverted about \$650,000 each year to the general fund for traffic enforcement costs. If the Board continues this practice, then the additional revenue available would be \$936,000.

Diversion of Additional Road Property Tax for Traffic Enforcement	\$936 ,000
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# Potential Revenue Sources

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## **11. Property Tax - Road Fund - Expenditures for Other County Services**

*R.C.W.36.33.220; R.C.W. 36.79.140*

Road Fund revenues are restricted for use on roads (including traffic enforcement) only. However, state law does allow for taxes collected from this levy *that are not yet allocated to the Road Fund* may be expended for “any service to be provided in the **unincorporated** area of the county” rather than strictly for road purposes. If the County expends funds for non-road uses (excluding traffic enforcement), the County is not eligible to receive state funds from the Rural Arterial Trust Account (RATA), which average about \$0.5 million per year. If voters approve a diversion of funds away from the Road Fund, the County would still be eligible for RATA funds.

Diversion of Road Property Taxes for “Other County Services”	\$21,000,000
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## **12. Property Tax - General Fund - “Substantial Need” Increase**

*Source: Washington State Constitution, Article VII, Sec. 2; R.C.W. 84.52.043, 84.55.010, 84.55.050*

The County’s general fund property tax is levied against property throughout the entire county. In November 1997, the voters passes Referendum Bill 47, limiting levy increases to 100% of the highest of the last three levies plus a factor for inflation (the Implicit Price Deflator (IPD) currently about 0.85%), plus new construction at the previous year’s millage rate.

Referendum Bill 47 allows the BOCC to increase its levy above the “100% plus inflation” rate, up to 106%, if two-thirds of the Board passes an ordinance or resolution stating a finding of “substantial need.” There is no criteria listed in the Bill for determining “substantial need.” This increase is limited to one year, but the increase can be incorporated into the base levy for subsequent years.

For every 1% increase in the levy over the IPD	\$319,000
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# Potential Revenue Sources

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## **13. Property Tax - General Fund - Excess Levy**

*Source: Washington State Constitution, Article VII, Sec. 2; R.C.W. 84.52.043, 84.55.010, 84.55.050*

The County may also impose a levy increase greater than 106% when authorized by the voters at a general or special election (as provided for in the State Constitution). The voters must approve the tax by a “supermajority” of 60% and voter turnout must equal at least 40% of voter turnout in the previous general election. Excess levies may be a one-time increase upon which future levies are based, or they can be limited with a subsequent reduction at the end of the levy period. Revenues would depend on the increase authorized.

For every 1% increase in the levy over 106%	\$319,000
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Note: There is a statutory millage rate limit of \$1.80 per \$1,000 of assessed value. In 1998, the rate was at \$1.61661. If the assessed value of property in the county increases less than the percentage increase allowed each year (or the percent levy increase approved by the BOCC), then the millage rate will increase toward the \$1.80 limit.

## **14. Property Tax - Road Fund - “Substantial Need” Increase and Excess Levy**

*Source: Washington State Constitution, Article VII, Sec. 7; R.C.W. 84.52.043, 84.55.010, 84.55.050*

Road Fund property taxes are levied in the same manner as General Fund property taxes, with a few exceptions. First, the tax levy applied only to the unincorporated area. Second, the maximum rate limit is \$2.25 per \$1,000 in assessed value. Third, the funds, once deposited in the Road Fund, are restricted to road purposes.

It has been forecasted that an increase of the Road Fund property tax levy at the “100% plus inflation” limit would increase the levy rate to above the statutory limit of \$2.25. Additionally, if the Board chose to impose a levy higher than \$2.19 (the same rate as in 1998), then some junior taxing districts would lose their levies.

Because the “100% plus inflation” amount is above the statutory limit, the “substantial need” increase and the excess levy options are not available to the Board to increase road fund revenues.

“Substantial Need” Increase or Excess Levy	\$0
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# Potential Revenue Sources

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## **15. Property Tax - General Fund and Road Fund- Lid Lift**

*Source: Washington State Constitution, Article VII, Sec. 2; R.C.W. 84.52.043*

State law limits the property tax millage rate to \$1.80 for the General Fund and \$2.25 for the Road Fund. The actual rates for 1998 were \$1.61661 for the General Fund and \$2.19000 for the Road Fund. These rate “lids” may be raised, permanently or for a limited period, by voter approval. The additional revenues may also be unrestricted or restricted to a particular use. Voter approval to raise the lid must be by 60% majority (a “supermajority”) and voter turnout must be at least 40% of the last general election. This option is not constrained by the Referendum Bill 47 limits.

Generally, the lids would not be raised unless the County were collecting revenues at the lid level. It is expected in 1999 that the general fund levy will not reach its lid, but the road fund levy will.

Road Fund Lid Lift - for every \$0.01 increase in the Road Fund Levy	\$96,200
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## **16. Parks and Recreation Service Area**

*Source: R.C.W. 36.68*

The County may create a Parks and Recreation Service Area (PRSA) for the purpose of financing, acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining, or operating any park, playground, senior center, activities center, zoo, aquarium and recreational facility as defined by state law.

The PRSA would be a “quasi-municipal corporation” with independent taxing authority. The three County Commissioners would serve as the governing body for the PRSA if the service area is in unincorporated area only. If the PRSA includes any incorporated area, then the makeup of the governance body can be established by interlocal agreement.

The PRSA may be established by resolution by the BOCC. If the PRSA contains city area, then that city’s governing body must also vote to accept the creation of the PRSA.

The PRSA may impose a regular property tax levy no greater than \$0.60 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The levy must be approved by a 60% majority of voters in the service area, and the vote is subject to validation requirements. The levy may be imposed for up to six years on a single vote. The PRSA governing body may also issue general obligation bonds for capital projects, and assess an excess levy to pay the bond’s debt service requirements, with approval of 60% of voters in a special or general election.

PRSA regular property tax levy	Depends upon the size and location of the service area
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# Potential Revenue Sources

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## 17. Affordable Housing Property Tax Levy

*R.C.W. 84.52.105*

The counties may impose an additional regular property tax levy up to fifty cents (\$0.50) per one thousand dollars of assessed value each year for up to ten years to finance affordable housing for very low-income households when specifically authorized to do so by a majority of voters of the county. If both the county and a city impose a levy, the levy of the last jurisdiction to receive voter approval is reduced so that the combined rate does not exceed fifty cents (\$0.50) per one thousand dollars of assessed value in any taxing district.

This tax may not be imposed by the county until the BOCC declares the existence of an emergency with respect to affordable housing to very low-income households, and the legislative authority adopts an affordable housing finance plan in conformity with state and federal laws regarding affordable housing. Very low-income is defined as being at or below 50% of the median income for the taxing district. The \$1.80 general fund and \$5.90 total millage rate limits do not apply to this tax levy. The 1% limit and the percentage levy increase limits do apply to this levy.

Affordable Housing Property Tax (if no city imposes)	\$4,863,000
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## 18. Non-Voter Approved General Obligation (GO) Bonds

*Source: Washington State Constitution, Article VIII, Sec.6; R.C.W. 39.36.020*

Non-voter approved general obligation bonds may be sold without a public vote, but must be retired with existing county revenue or new general tax revenue. Non-voter approved general obligation bonds and other indebtedness are subject to a cap of one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the value of taxable property in the County. New bonds would not require a vote and thus could be initiated through BOCC action. However, if a new revenue source is created for debt service, the County would have to comply with any enactment requirements associated with that revenue source.

# **Potential Revenue Sources**

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## **19. Revenue Bonds**

*Source: Washington State Constitution, Article VIII, Sec. 6; R.C.W. 36.67.510*

Revenue bonds may be sold with the intent of paying principal and interest owing with the revenues generated by the improvements that are financed by the bonds, typically by means of fees and charges. For example, revenue bonds could be sold to fund a public sewer system that will generate revenue through utility charges to customers. Other funds may be dedicated to assist with repayment; however, the improvements should generate sufficient revenues to pay all bond costs. Limits on the use and amount of the revenue bonds are usually market driven through investor faith in the adequacy of the revenue stream to support debt service.

Total County indebtedness may not exceed one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the value of taxable property in the county without approval of 60% of the voters. Additionally, total County indebtedness may never exceed five percent (5%) of the value of taxable property in the county.

## Clark County Potential Additional Revenue Sources for 1999

Options	Maximum 1999 County Revenues	Voter Approval	Annex Sensitive	Restrictions	Comments
<b>Non-Property Taxes</b>					
1 Sales Tax (regular local option) (.2%)	\$3,487,000	No	Yes	No Restrictions.	
2 Sales Tax (CJA Authority) (0.1%)	\$2,040,000	No	Yes	Restricted to Criminal Justice expenditures.	
3 Sales Tax (Detention) (0.1%)	\$3,622,000	Yes	No	Restricted to building or operating detention facilities.	Not impacted by new annexations and incorporations.
4 Sales Tax (Car Rentals) (1.0%)	\$74,000	No	No	Restricted to building sports facilities or operating youth and amateur sports programs.	
5 Additional REET for Conservation Areas (1.0%)	\$15,200,000	Yes	No	Must be used to acquire or maintain local conservation areas according to adopted plan.	May be imposed in increments up to 1.0%.
6 Motor Vehicle License Fee (\$15 per vehicle)	\$1,613,000	No	Yes	Restricted to transportation improvements.	
7 10% Fuel Tax Surcharge	\$800,000	Yes	Yes	Restricted to transportation improvements.	
8 Additional Hotel/Motel Tax	\$95,000	No	Yes	Restricted to promoting tourism or building/maintaining tourist-related facilities.	Requires the creation of a 5 person panel to recommend expenditure of funds to BOCC.
9 Commercial Parking Tax	\$ Unknown	No	Yes	Restricted to transportation improvements.	

<b>Property Taxes</b>					
10 Road Tax diverted for Traffic Enforcement	\$1,568,000	No	Yes	None.	This revenue is the total cost of traffic enforcement currently paid out of the Gen. Fund.
11 Road Tax diverted for "Other County Services"	\$21,000,000	No	Yes	Must be used for services to unincorporated areas only.	Must be diverted before reaching Road Fund. May decrease potential for other state revenue.
12 "Substantial Need" Increase - General Fund	\$300,000 for every 1% increase	No	No	Requires a finding by the BOCC of a "substantial need" to impose increase.	Requires separate resolution to impose.
13 Excess Property Tax Levy - General Fund	\$300,000 for every 1% increase	Yes	No	No Restrictions	This is an increase above the 106% limit.
14 "Substantial Need" Increase or Excess Levy - Road Fund	\$0	No	Yes	Restricted to transportation projects. May be diverted to General Fund, with implications.	Not available because of \$2.25 levy rate limit.
15 Property Tax Lid Lift - Road Fund	\$96,200 for every \$0.01 increase	Yes	Yes	Restricted to transportation projects. May be diverted to General Fund, with implications.	If increased too much, could hit the overall \$10 millage rate set in state constitution.
16 Parks & Recreation Service Area Levy	Depends on area	Yes	No	Capital and maintenance of parks and recreation facilities within the service area.	The service area can be the whole county, or a subsection of the county.
17 Affordable Housing Levy	\$4,863,000	Yes	No	Must be expended according to affordable housing plan.	BOCC must declare the existence of an affordable housing emergency.

### **Notes**

Sales tax projections assume a revenue sharing agreement with Vancouver.

The option "Property Tax Road Funds diverted to General Fund" is the complete forecasted Road Fund levy for 1999. A large diversion would probably cause the county to lose some state road funds.

There is an additional option of a .5% REET in lieu of the optional .5% sales tax. This option is not presented because it would result in a net revenue loss to the county.

There is the option of establishing interlocal agreements with other jurisdictions regarding the impact on revenues that annexations or the imposition of a new tax may have.

**Potential Revenues for 1999  
By Annexation Area**

Revenue Lost to Annexation	<u>BBC</u>	<u>Evergreen East</u>	<u>Orchards</u>	<u>Hazel Dell South</u>	<u>North Van. Mall</u>	<u>Lakeview</u>	<u>Minnehaha</u>	<u>Hazel Dell</u>
<u>Annexation Date (1)</u>	<u>3/31/99</u>	<u>3/31/99</u>	<u>1/1/00</u>	<u>1/1/01</u>	<u>1/1/01</u>	<u>1/1/02</u>	<u>1/1/04</u>	<u>1/1/05</u>
<b>Non-Property Tax Revenue</b>								
Additional 0.2% Sales Tax	15,800	61,100	458,000	8,400	56,500	700	161,400	877,700
CJA Sales Tax	9,400	36,300	272,000	5,000	33,600	400	95,800	521,200
Detention Sales Tax	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Conservation Futures REET	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle License Fee	7,200	28,000	216,300	3,800	25,900	300	74,600	427,900
10% Fuel Tax Surcharge	2,700	10,500	78,500	1,400	9,700	100	27,700	150,500
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>35,100</b>	<b>135,900</b>	<b>1,024,800</b>	<b>18,600</b>	<b>125,700</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>359,500</b>	<b>1,977,300</b>
<b>Property Tax Revenue</b>								
Traffic Enforcement Diversion	12,900	49,900	374,000	6,900	46,200	600	131,800	716,800
"Other Services" Diversion	132,400	428,200	2,971,400	55,900	479,800	7,700	1,235,800	5,302,500
Substantial Need Increase-GF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Excess Prop Tax-GF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>145,300</b>	<b>478,100</b>	<b>3,345,400</b>	<b>62,800</b>	<b>526,000</b>	<b>8,300</b>	<b>1,367,600</b>	<b>6,019,300</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>180,400</b>	<b>614,000</b>	<b>4,370,200</b>	<b>81,400</b>	<b>651,700</b>	<b>9,800</b>	<b>1,727,100</b>	<b>7,996,600</b>

**Annual Revenue Received by County After Each Annexation  
(In Constant 1998 Dollars)**

	<u>If No New Annex</u>	<u>BBC</u>	<u>Evergreen East</u>	<u>Orchards</u>	<u>Hazel Dell South</u>	<u>North Van. Mall</u>	<u>Laveview</u>	<u>Minnehaha</u>	<u>Hazel Dell</u>
<b>Non-Property Tax Revenue</b>									
Additional 0.2% Sales Tax	3,487,000	3,471,200	3,410,100	2,952,100	2,943,700	2,887,200	2,886,500	2,725,100	1,847,400
CJA Sales Tax	2,040,000	2,030,600	1,994,300	1,722,300	1,717,300	1,683,700	1,683,300	1,587,500	1,066,300
Detention Sales Tax	3,622,000	3,622,000	3,622,000	3,622,000	3,622,000	3,622,000	3,622,000	3,622,000	3,622,000
Conservation Futures REET	15,200,000	15,200,000	15,200,000	15,200,000	15,200,000	15,200,000	15,200,000	15,200,000	15,200,000
Motor Vehicle License Fee	1,613,000	1,605,800	1,577,800	1,361,500	1,357,700	1,331,800	1,331,500	1,256,900	829,000
10% Fuel Tax Surcharge	800,000	797,300	786,800	708,300	706,900	697,200	697,100	669,400	518,900
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>26,762,000</b>	<b>26,726,900</b>	<b>26,591,000</b>	<b>25,566,200</b>	<b>25,547,600</b>	<b>25,421,900</b>	<b>25,420,400</b>	<b>25,060,900</b>	<b>23,083,600</b>
<b>Property Tax Revenue</b>									
Traffic Enforcement Diversion	2,300,000	2,287,100	2,237,200	1,863,200	1,856,300	1,810,100	1,809,500	1,677,700	960,900
"Other Services" Diversion	21,000,000	20,867,600	20,439,400	17,468,000	17,412,100	16,932,300	16,924,600	15,688,800	10,386,300
Substantial Need Increase-GF	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
Excess Prop Tax-GF	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>23,810,000</b>	<b>23,664,700</b>	<b>23,186,600</b>	<b>19,841,200</b>	<b>19,778,400</b>	<b>19,252,400</b>	<b>19,244,100</b>	<b>17,876,500</b>	<b>11,857,200</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>50,572,000</b>	<b>50,391,600</b>	<b>49,777,600</b>	<b>45,407,400</b>	<b>45,326,000</b>	<b>44,674,300</b>	<b>44,664,500</b>	<b>42,937,400</b>	<b>34,940,800</b>

**Appendix C**  
**Tax Code Districts**

## Tax Code Districts

The concept of a “tax code district” chiefly pertains to property taxes. However, many revenue sources (e.g. State Forest Board revenue) use code districts as part of their distribution systems.

Washington State law allows a multitude of local taxing districts, including cities and counties, fire districts, cemetery districts, school districts, library districts, port districts, public utility districts, hospital districts, park districts, and mosquito control districts. These districts often partially or completely overlap one another. As a result, the state is divided into a confusing patchwork of overlapping jurisdictions in which each area of overlap has its own configuration of property tax rates. The system of code districts is an attempt to sort this situation out for administrative purposes.

A code district is simply an area that is not split by any taxing district boundary. This means that, within a tax code district, every piece of property is in the same school district, the same fire district, the same library district, the same city, et cetera. Within a code district, all pieces of property are subject to the same property rates, levied by the same taxing districts.

Code districts are used for three principal purposes. First, they are used to determine the rate of property tax applicable to a particular piece of property. Second, they are used by the Treasurer to distribute property taxes received by the county to appropriate taxing districts.

The third use is more complicated. Code districts are used to distribute certain non-property tax revenues, such as State Forest Board revenues. In these cases, a taxing district will usually receive a percentage of the revenue to be distributed equal to its district. For example, if a fire district’s \$1.00 per thousand levy is one-fourth of the total levy in a particular code district, the fire district would receive one-fourth of the revenue accruing to that code district.

Code districts only change when taxing districts change their boundaries or when an entirely new taxing district is created. The most common kind of boundary change is the annexation of an unincorporated area by a city.

## **Appendix D**

### **Statutory Restrictions on the Imposition of Fees**

## **Statutory Restrictions on the Imposition of Fees**

The legal authority for charging fees is contained in numerous statutes which are roughly divided into elected official areas, e.g. Auditor's Fees, Clerk's Fees, etc. The statutes are supplemented by case law in which the courts have interpreted the statutes for various fees and assessments. The general rule is that counties are not allowed to charge fees or collect revenues for anything that is not specifically authorized by the state. This general rule severely limits the county's ability to generate new revenue sources or even to increase existing fees and assessments. If the county wants to increase its revenues, it has two courses of action: 1) it can work within the parameters of existing state law, as interpreted by the courts; or 2) it can successfully lobby the state legislature to create new law.

The county is constantly creating new services, but there is always the problem of determining whether it is covered by existing taxes or whether the costs of providing the service can be reimbursed by the imposition of a fee. If the service is part of the "inherent process" of a department, it should be paid for by existing taxes. The creation of a new fee, in this case, would be considered an illegal tax. If the service falls outside of the "inherent process," a fee can be charged. There are no guaranteed guidelines for what is an illegal tax and what is a legal fee. Therefore, any ideas about how to increase revenues must be analyzed on a case-by-case basis, taking into account existing statutes and case law.

One of the principal factors affecting county fees charged for photocopying public records is the Public Records Act (RCW 42.17). The act is liberally construed by the courts and covers any record that the county may have on file (including electronic records). The Act says that the county must provide the public with any information that it has, unless it is specifically exempted by the Act, and that "no fee shall be charged for the inspection of public records." However, "agencies may impose a reasonable charge for providing copies of public records and for the use by any person of agency equipment to copy public records, which charges shall not exceed the amount necessary to reimburse the agency for its actual costs incident to such copying" per RCW 42.17.300.

The Interlocal Cooperation Act (RCW 39.34) allows the county to charge other agencies for work done at their behest if they can negotiate such an agreement. Clark County has several of these agreements with various local governments. However, this Act does not extend to private corporations or to individuals. Fees charged in conjunction with an interlocal agreement are allowable under the Act.

Some county fees are authorized by the Washington Administrative Code (WAC), particularly in the Sheriff's Department. The WAC fees are generated by those state agencies which are given rule-making authority by the state legislature, like the Department of Licensing. The WACs are, therefore, the administrative equivalent of the legislative RCWs and function in much the same manner.

Fees not covered by state statute can be authorized by the Board of County Commissioners via resolution, either as part of the annual budget process or in a separate hearing. If a resolution is to be codified, it is sent out for printing, after which it is added to the code as an amendment. The fact that the fee is incorporated into the code does not make it more onerous to change than a fee adopted by simple resolution. In fact, codifying a fee provides an easily accessible record of fee implementation and changes to the fee over time.

Most of the county's fees are authorized by state statute or Board resolution, but some fees can be created and implemented by the courts or other elected officials. In this regard, elected officials have co-equal status with the Board of County Commissioners. For example, the Prosecuting Attorney operates a diversion program wherein designated persons are given an alternative to jail if they comply with the program's provisions and pay a fee. There is nothing in the statutes authorizing diversion programs, but it is within the authority of the Prosecutor to operate such a program if: 1) it is not prohibited by statute, and 2) it is not an inherent part of his responsibilities and therefore covered by taxes.

Most elected official fees are contained in RCW 36.18, but miscellaneous fees and the authority to implement and control programmatic fees may be found throughout the statutes. There is no centralized system for ascertaining which statutes apply to which department, but elected officials and department heads typically have a good understanding of what fees exist within their areas of responsibility because professional associations and conferences routinely provide the latest information about statutory fee changes.

## **Appendix E**

### **Personal Property and Excise Taxes on Timber**

## **Personal Property and Excise Taxes on Timber**

Standing timber sold separately from the land upon which it stands is considered to be the personal property of the purchaser. It is therefore subject to the personal property tax. This applies to timber on all DNR-managed lands, not only forest Board Transfer and Purchase land. All timber standing and owned by a private person or corporation on January 1 of any year should be added to the tax rolls for that year by the County assessor. This includes timber under contract and not yet harvested.

Persons harvesting timber on state land are required to pay the state timber harvest excise tax (a percentage of the stumpage value of the timber harvested). They do not pay any county timber harvest excise tax. RCW 34.33.077 provides that the property taxes paid on standing timber may be applied by the harvester as a credit against the state timber harvest excise tax. Improved collection of the personal property tax on standing timber would, therefore, cause a loss of revenue to the state but would place no additional burden on the harvester.