

# Yakima Levy Lid Lift Fact Sheet

## Why has a property tax levy lid lift proposal been put on the November ballot?

- The City of Yakima raises revenue to pay for essential city services like police and fire protection, streets and sidewalks, parks, and other related services from three primary sources – sales tax, utility tax, and property tax
- State law caps – or puts a “lid” on - annual increases in property tax income for cities at 1%, unless voters approve a greater increase – commonly called a “levy lid lift”
- Costs to provide essential city services are increasing faster than the revenue used to pay for them.
- Because the capped property tax income is falling behind increasing costs, the City of Yakima is unable to maintain current levels of essential services
- The proposed property tax levy lid lift (Proposition 1) would raise about \$6 million more per year that would be available to pay for essential services

## What would increased property tax income pay for?

The property tax revenue would supplement the City's general fund, which pays for essential services like police and fire protection, streets and sidewalks, parks, and other related services. Because these services consume about 78% of the City's general fund, rejection of Proposition 1 would require that the City offset the \$6 million it would have raised by making significant cuts to these services. Such cuts would likely include reducing the number of police officers, closing a Yakima fire station, and reducing or eliminating other City programs and services.

## What would the proposed property tax levy lid lift cost Yakima property owners?

- If voters approve Proposition 1, the tax levy rate would go from the current \$1.84 per thousand dollars of assessed value to about \$2.46 per thousand dollars of assessed value
  - ◆ The owner of a \$200,000 home would pay about \$8.40 more per month in property tax
  - ◆ The owner of a \$356,000 home would pay about \$14.90 more per month in property tax
  - ◆ The owner of a \$600,000 home would pay about \$25.00 more per month in property tax

**\* General election ballots must be turned in or postmarked by November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 \***

*This information was prepared by the City of Yakima in response to questions and to provide facts about the proposed property tax levy lid lift.*

