



TO: Mayor and City Council  
Cynthia Martinez, Interim City Manager

FROM: Steve Groom, Finance

DATE: October 1, 2019

RE: Tax Rate and Budget Public Hearings

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In the State of Washington, cities must hold three public hearings during the budget preparation process: one hearing on the property tax rate and two hearings on the budget itself.

RCW 84.55.120, the governing statute, requires that the property tax rate hearing must include consideration of possible increases in property tax revenues and must be held prior to the time the city requests the county to have the tax levied.

County figures on valuation have been received.

Staff is proceeding with levy calculation and city will be requesting the statutory maximum allowed, will take care to word our request as prescribed and follow the formulas for state assessed, personal property, annexations and new construction as well as previously-assessed property that is limited to the 1% increase.