

# ORDINANCE A

## ORDINANCE NO. 2015

**AN ORDINANCE** relating to the annual property tax levy; declaring the City Council's intent to increase the City's 2016 regular levy up to 101% along with new construction, annexation, refunds and growth in state-assessed property values from the amount levied the previous year.

WHEREAS, RCW 84.55.120 requires a taxing district that collects regular levies to hold a public hearing on revenue sources for the district's following year's current expense budget, including consideration of possible increases in property tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 84.55.120 and the City Charter, on November 17, 2015, upon due and proper legal notice, the Yakima City Council held a public hearing to consider the City's general government revenue sources for the 2016 current expense budget, and the total proposed property tax levy amount pertaining to 2016 revenues from real and personal property taxes; and

WHEREAS, RCW 84.55.120 provides that no increase in property tax revenue, other than that resulting from the addition of new construction and improvements to property in any increase in the value of state-assessed property, may be authorized by a taxing district, except by adoption of a separate ordinance or resolution, pursuant to notice, specifically authorizing the increase in terms of both dollars and percentage; and

WHEREAS, RCW 84.55.005 sets the limit factor for the increase in the regular property tax levy at the lesser of one hundred one percent or one hundred percent plus inflation, which is defined as the percentage change in the implicit price deflator (IPD) for person consumption expenditures for the United States as published for the most recent twelve-month period by the bureau of economic analysis of the federal department of commerce by September 25<sup>th</sup> of the year before the taxes are payable; and

WHEREAS, the applicable percentage change in the Implicit Price Deflator was 0.25%; and

WHEREAS, RCW 84.55.0101 allows a taxing district to use a limit factor of one hundred one percent upon a finding of substantial need by the legislative authority by a super-majority vote; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, after the public hearing on November 17, 2015, and after duly considering all relevant evidence and testimony presented, has determined that the City requires an increase in property tax revenue from the previous year above the rate of inflation, along with the addition of new construction and improvements to property and any increase in the value of state-assessed property, in order to discharge the expected expenses and

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obligations of the City, and as being necessary and in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Yakima; and

WHEREAS, the amount of property tax levied for collection in 2015 was \$17,676,090 for general government purposes; and

WHEREAS, the discretionary increase in property tax levied attributable to the inflation factor for collection in 2016 shall be in the amount of \$44,190, which is a percentage increase of one quarter of one percent (0.25%) from the previous year; and

WHEREAS, the discretionary increase in property tax levied attributable to substantial need for collection in 2016 shall be in the amount of \$132,571, which is a percentage increase of three-quarters of one percent (0.75%) from the previous year; and

WHEREAS, these discretionary increases in property tax levied for collection in 2016 combine to be in the amount of \$176,761, which is a percentage increase of one percent (1%) from the previous year; and

WHEREAS, the non-discretionary increases in property tax levied for collection in 2015 can only be estimated due to the absence of final values to be provided by the Yakima County Assessor, now, therefore,

### **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF YAKIMA:**

Section 1. The following increases in the regular property tax levy, over the amount of the previous year's levy, are hereby authorized to be cumulatively levied for collection in 2016:

- A. A discretionary increase of \$44,190, attributable to the inflation factor which is a percentage increase of one quarter of one percent (0.25%) over the amount levied for collection in 2015; plus
- B. A discretionary increase of \$132,571, attributable to the declaration of substantial need, which is a percentage increase of three-quarters of one percent (0.75%) over the amount levied for collection in 2015; plus
- B. An estimated increase of \$0 for recent annexations; plus
- C. An estimated increase of \$208,991 for new construction and improvements to property; plus
- D. An estimated increase of \$96,760 for a refund levy; plus
- E. An increase authorized by state law for state-assessed property values.

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Section 2. The City Clerk is directed to transmit and file a certified copy of this ordinance with the Board of Yakima County Commissioners and the Yakima County Assessor on or before November 30, 2015.

Section 3. Pursuant to Article VI, Section 2 of the Yakima City Charter, this ordinance shall take effect on November 17, 2015.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, signed and approved this 17th day of November, 2015.

ATTEST:

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Micah Cawley, Mayor

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City Clerk

Publication Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_