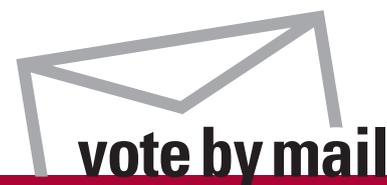


February 9, 2010 Special Election

King County

Official Local Voters' Pamphlet



Published by:



King County
Elections

For more information call 206-296-VOTE (8683) or visit www.kingcounty.gov/elections



King County

Department of Elections

Dear King County Voter:

It's election time again and even though there may be only a few issues to vote on in this election, each one is important. Make sure you read the directions and your ballot options top to bottom, front to back!

There have also been some changes made that may affect the way you return your ballot, beginning with this February special election. As many of you may be aware, King County had to make some hard choices to balance the 2010 operating budget. This included cuts to all departments in services that citizens want and depend on. Elections, like all other departments, was asked to identify services that could be reduced or eliminated without preventing our ability to successfully conduct elections.

As a cost savings measure, Elections has been asked to reduce the number of ballot drop boxes as well as the operational hours of accessible voting centers. We will continue to have two 24-hour ballot drop boxes available to voters who want to return their ballot without postage. (Locations and operating hours are listed on the next page of this pamphlet.)

Although there have been some cuts to services, we can all be proud of the strides made in our performance and the efficiencies achieved by becoming a vote-by-mail county. In last November's general election, there was not a single discrepancy in over 587,000 ballots counted. Conducting elections by mail has also substantially streamlined our election administration and, as a result, the need for so many temporary staff.

As we enter into a new decade, there will be many opportunities as voters for you to help shape it. Remember, every vote makes a difference. I encourage you to study the issues and cast your mail ballot by Tuesday, February 9.

Sincerely,

Sherril Huff
Director
King County Elections

Ballot drop boxes + accessible voting options

Attention: Elections has reduced the number of ballot drop boxes as well as the operational hours of accessible voting centers.

Ballot drop boxes

You can return your voted ballot at one of our drop box locations. Ballot drop boxes will be open on Friday, January 22 and **close at 8 p.m. on Election Day, February 9.**

King County Elections

9010 East Marginal Way S, Tukwila 98108

King County Administration Building

500 4th Ave, Seattle 98104

accessible voting centers

Voters with disabilities can cast a private and independent ballot at the following locations, dates and times.

King County Elections

9010 East Marginal Way S, Tukwila 98108

Weekdays, January 20 - February 8:

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 9: 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall

450 110th Avenue NE, Bellevue, 98009

Seattle, Union Station

401 S Jackson St, Seattle, 98104

Monday, February 8: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tuesday, February 9: 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Voter information

Registering to vote is easy

If you meet the following qualifications you can register to vote online, by mail or in person

To register to vote you must be:

- a citizen of the United States;
- a legal resident of Washington State;
- at least 18 years old by election day.

King County votes by mail

If you do not receive your mail ballot or lose your ballot, please notify King County Elections.

Registration deadlines

While you may register to vote at any time, there are registration deadlines prior to each election. You must register by mail or online at least 29 days before an election. If you are a new voter in Washington State, you may register in person at the King County Elections office up to 8 days before an election.

Keep your voter registration current

You can use the online or mail-in voter registration form to let King County Elections know when you move or change your name. You must re-register or transfer your registration at least 29 days before the election to be eligible to vote in your new precinct.

For more information, King County Elections can be reached at the following:

Voter hotline: 206-296-VOTE (8683)
1-800-325-6165
TTY 206-296-0109

Online: www.kingcounty.gov/elections

E-mail: elections@kingcounty.gov

In-person: King County Elections
9010 East Marginal Way S
Tukwila, WA 98108

Mail: King County Elections
919 SW Grady Way
Renton, WA 98057

King County Rural Library District Proposition No. 1

The Board of Directors of the King County Rural Library District adopted Resolution No. 2009-11 concerning an increase in the District's regular property tax levy. In order to provide continued funding for the normal operation and maintenance of the King County library system, this proposition would authorize the District to restore regular property tax levy rate to \$0.50 per thousand dollars of assessed value for collection in 2011, and to increase the levy in each year thereafter as allowed by chapter 84.55 RCW. Should this proposition be approved?

YES

NO

Statement in favor

KCLS libraries are busier than ever, but I-747 revenue restrictions will force reductions in library hours, resources and services unless we restore full funding for 2011. One year of revenue restoration will help KCLS maintain quality service.

KCLS helps families raise strong readers

Early literacy programs help families teach babies language skills that last a lifetime.

KCLS helps students succeed

KCLS helps children love learning, and enables parents to guide children to their highest educational goals. KCLS is even more important as school libraries cut services.

KCLS helps job-seekers

In 2009, thousands of residents turned to KCLS for help finding job-related information, resume-writing resources, computer skills classes, small business support, and financial research.

Voting "no" will force cuts in library services

KCLS has maintained quality libraries within a severely reduced budget since 2001 despite a 43% growth in use. Failure to restore the full legal property tax level for 2011 will force reductions in materials, open hours, computers, and maintenance.

One year of restored funding will maintain quality service

Voting **'approved'** restores full library funding for one year. For a \$400,000 home, that's just \$32 more in 2011 for libraries—less than one hardcover book.

Vote **Yes** on Proposition 1!

Rebuttal of statement in opposition

Libraries offer more than entertainment.

More than 1.2 million residents use KCLS' 45 libraries, choosing from 4 million books.

Adults find job leads, resume help and business tools.

Preschoolers build lifelong learning skills.

Students in 18 school districts get homework help.

Seniors stay active and involved in learning.

About \$32 more for one year ensures books, computers and learning tools for all.

KCLS is a solid investment in our future.

Yes on Prop 1.

Statement submitted by: Dean Smith, Rachael Levine, Doris Townsend TruthInTaxation@aol.com

Explanatory statement

King County Rural Library District (King County Library System or KCLS) receives 96% of its operating revenue from property taxes. Since 2001, State law has limited growth in property tax revenues to 1% annually without voter approval (a levy lid lift). In 2002, voters approved a one-year levy lid lift for KCLS to restore the full legally authorized rate limitation of 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. This temporary restoration sustained operations as planned for eight years, during which library usage increased 43%. Proposition 1 would authorize KCLS to restore its property tax levy rate to 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, for collection in 2011, and to use that levy amount as the basis for KCLS's property tax limitations in subsequent years.

Approval of this Proposition would enable KCLS to sustain library service at current levels at all 45 libraries, including programs, building maintenance, computers, new books and other materials. The restored revenue also would enable KCLS to maintain outreach services to elderly and homebound, low-income daycares and community centers.

Rejection of this Proposition would lead to 10-15% budget cuts across the organization beginning in 2011 in order to operate within current revenue restrictions, limiting funding for books, computers and building maintenance. Effects of these cuts may include increased wait times for popular book titles, reduced availability of computers and less frequent maintenance and upkeep of libraries. Library staff and hours of operation will be affected in future years without this short-term restoration of revenue.

Statement in opposition

Public libraries are important – together with education, police and other valuable services.

However, as public schools and government agencies reduce expenses during the worst recession since 1929, library management coldheartedly disregards thousands of unemployed, including families losing homes overburdened already by overassessed property taxes.

This should not surprise anyone.

The state Public Disclosure Commission's Compliance Director documented this same management's unlawful misuse of tax dollars for "communications [that] were not a fair and balanced presentation of the facts. The effort constituted a campaign promoting passage of Proposition 1, in violation of RCW 42.17.130" (www.pdc.wa.gov/archive/compliance/reports/pdf/2005/KingCoLibraryMemo.pdf).

Library Board members disciplined that Machiavellian lawbreaking by raising its CEO's salary to \$160,620.82.

Library officials also negligently refuse to address costly nonessentials.

Indeed, KCLS continues to buy advertising for its "entertainment" diversions, which multiply discipline problems, e.g., children left to play videogames, for hours, abandoned repeatedly at closing time (including by parents gambling at Emerald Downs according to Board discussion on December 15, 2009).

Taxpayers apparently cannot stop public libraries from becoming videogame arcades – disrupting research and reading – but we can decide that financing "entertainment" by raising property taxes on citizens being foreclosed out of their homes is **"An Indecent Proposal"** (KCLS Call Number VT-Fic-I).

Rebuttal of statement in favor

Government revenues are down – along with incomes of many taxpayers already generously supporting libraries with \$173.60 in annual taxes on "average" \$395,000 family homes – so library officials authorize \$1 million for this Special Election's costs to raise library taxes higher repeatedly.

Board Minutes document abuse of taxpayers from failures to save \$500,000 by simply waiting for this year's Primary **because** the CEO insists wastefully expensive Special Elections "turn out a lot of supportive voters" (8/25/2009).

Statement submitted by: Will Knedlik

Riverview School District No. 407 Proposition No. 1 Replacement Educational Programs Maintenance and Operations Levy

The Board of Directors of Riverview School District No. 407 approved Resolution No. 09-08, authorizing a replacement levy for education. This replacement levy funds district education programs and school operations, and authorizes the following excess levies to replace an expiring levy on all taxable property within the District:

<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2011	\$1.95	\$5,829,000
2012	\$1.97	\$6,069,000
2013	\$2.06	\$6,520,000
2014	\$2.06	\$6,730,000

Should this proposition be approved?

- YES
 NO

Statement in favor

By voting **YES** to renew Riverview School District's 4-year Replacement Educational Programs Maintenance and Operations Levy, you are helping to continue the quality education provided for all Riverview students. This 4-year levy replaces the current levy which expires in 2010.

Funds from this levy continue to bridge the 20% gap in the budget between what the state allocates for basic education and what Riverview needs to fund the programs currently being offered.

Passage of this replacement levy will ensure continued funding for additional classroom teachers to maintain smaller class sizes, for librarians, music teachers, PE teachers, special education services, counselors, coaches, educational assistants, custodial/maintenance costs, food service staff, staff training, after-school programs, textbooks/library books, gifted and remediation programs, extracurricular activities, and summers school programs.

Let's give our students the best possible chance for a quality education and bright future by voting **YES** to renew Riverview's 4-year Replacement Educational Programs M&O Levy. Let's work together to improve schools, one ballot at a time.

Don't delay! Please mark and mail in your ballot today! **Vote YES for schools!**

Statement submitted by: Wendy Tumbleson and Pam Werner

Explanatory statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of \$5,829,000 in property taxes within Riverview School District for collection in 2011, the levy of \$6,069,000 in taxes for collection in 2012, the levy of \$6,520,000 in taxes for collection in 2013 and the levy of \$6,730,000 in taxes for collection in 2014. In accordance with Resolution No. 09-08 approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited in the Riverview School District's General Fund to pay part of the educational programs and school operations of the District. If authorized by the voters and based on current assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$1.95 (2011 collection), \$1.97 (2012 collection), \$2.06 (2013 collection), and \$2.06 (2014 collection).

Statement in opposition

No statement submitted.

Statements in favor of and in opposition to a ballot measure are submitted by committees appointed by the jurisdiction. No persons came forward to serve on the committee and to write a statement in opposition. If you would like to be involved with a committee in the future please contact the jurisdiction.

Riverview School District No. 407 Proposition No. 2 Replacement Technology Capital Projects Levy

The Board of Directors of Riverview School District No. 407 adopted Resolution No. 09-09 concerning a technology levy. This proposition authorizes acquiring technology and equipment, including classroom computers; and authorizes the following excess levies for such purposes on all taxable property within the District:

<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2011	\$0.32	\$967,581
2012	\$0.31	\$967,581
2013	\$0.30	\$967,581
2014	\$0.30	\$967,581

Should this proposition be approved?

- YES
 NO

Statement in favor

As technology plays an increasingly important role in our classrooms, as well as in our business and support staff practices, Riverview must continue funding through the levy process as the state does not provide any direct funding for technology in schools. This 4-year Replacement Technology Levy will replace the current levy which expires in 2010.

Vote **YES** to give every student an equal chance to acquire the skills and knowledge needed to compete for jobs and college. This Replacement Technology Levy would enhance the educational environment by replacing existing outdated computers, improve classroom technologies, and upgrade emergency communications and safety systems, as well as continue to fund computer specialists and professional staff development.

Voting **YES** on this Replacement Technology Levy promises the continued 21st century education of our students.

Let's work together to improve schools one ballot at a time. Please mark and mail in your ballot now! **Vote YES for schools!**

Statement submitted by: Wendy Tumbleson and Pam Werner

Explanatory statement

Passage of Proposition No. 2 would allow the levy of \$3,870,322 in property taxes within Riverview School District No. 407 (the "District") for collection in the school years from 2010-2011 through 2014-2015. In accordance with Resolution No. 09-09 approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited in the District's Capital Projects Fund to pay part of the cost of construction, renovation, improvements and expansion of new and existing facilities, for technology improvements, and equipment and training to meet the current and future educational programs for its students. If authorized by the voters and based on current assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$0.32 (2011 collection); \$0.31 (2012 collection); \$0.30 (2013 collection) and \$0.30 (2014 collection).

Statement in opposition

No statement submitted.

Statements in favor of and in opposition to a ballot measure are submitted by committees appointed by the jurisdiction. No persons came forward to serve on the committee and to write a statement in opposition. If you would like to be involved with a committee in the future please contact the jurisdiction.

Riverview School District No. 407 Proposition No. 3 Transportation Vehicle Fund Levy

The Board of Directors of Riverview School District No. 407 approved Resolution No. 09-10, authorizing a levy for school buses. This levy funds new and replacement school buses and authorizes the following excess levy on all taxable property within the District:

<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2011	\$0.08	\$250,000
2012	\$0.08	\$250,000

Should this proposition be approved?

- YES
 NO

Statement in favor

Your **YES** vote for Riverview's 2-Year Transportation Levy will provide funding to ensure that our students continue to travel to and from school in safe, up-to-date buses. The last transportation levy request was in 2002.

Passage of this Levy will generate enough revenue, together with the state reimbursement dollars, to keep the fleet up to date for a ten-year period. The plan is to purchase 23 new buses over ten years. This 2-Year Transportation Levy of only \$500,000, along with state reimbursement dollars, will provide the estimated \$2,894,800 needed for the 23 new bus acquisitions over the next ten years.

Please mark and mail in your ballot today! **Vote YES for schools!**

Statement submitted by: Wendy Tumbleson and Pam Werner

Explanatory statement

Passage of Proposition No. 3 would allow the levy of \$250,000 in property taxes within Riverview School District for collection in 2011 and the levy of \$250,000 in taxes for collection in 2012. In accordance with Resolution No. 09-10 approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited into the District's Transportation Vehicle Fund and used to pay for new and replacement of school buses within the District. If authorized by the voters and based on current assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$0.08 (2011 collection) and \$0.08 (2012 collection).

Statement in opposition

No statement submitted.

Statements in favor of and in opposition to a ballot measure are submitted by committees appointed by the jurisdiction. No persons came forward to serve on the committee and to write a statement in opposition. If you would like to be involved with a committee in the future please contact the jurisdiction.

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Edition 5

King County produces all election materials in both English and Chinese. If you, or someone you know, needs language assistance, call King County Elections and request a ballot and voting material in Chinese.

為符合聯邦法律，此資料有中文版本。