



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Transportation Benefit District Measure on November General Election Ballot

Ballots will be mailed to voters beginning October 20

CITY OF LAKE STEVENS, WA – The city of Lake Stevens is asking voters to consider a sales tax increase to fund a Transportation Benefit District (TBD) on the November 8, 2022, General Election ballot. If approved, the TBD will help the city pay for safe walkway and sidewalk connections to schools, street maintenance, and traffic congestion relief.

The city asked community members earlier this year to weigh in on transportation improvements and based on that feedback developed a priority projects list. The top three items were more sidewalks to schools and around the lake, street maintenance for high-volume roads, and multiuse pathways for recreation. The full projects list can be found [here](#).

If approved by voters, the TBD will pay for those projects with a 0.2 percent sales tax or two cents on a \$10 purchase. The city estimates it would collect approximately \$1.5 million per year. Additionally, the TBD can be leveraged to secure millions more in grant funding to pay for larger traffic congestion relief projects in the city.

Why a sales tax?

This funding method ensures visitors who shop, dine, and recreate in Lake Stevens also help pay for city sidewalks, roads and trails they use. Seven cities in Snohomish County (Arlington, Lynnwood, Marysville, Monroe, Mukilteo, Snohomish and Stanwood) have TBDs funded by a voter-approved sales tax. The other way to fund a TBD is through a \$20 vehicle registration fee, which does not require voter approval and would only apply to Lake Stevens residents. The community survey found that most people preferred the sales tax option.

Ballots must be postmarked by November 8 or dropped in a ballot box by 8 p.m. Election Day to count. More information can be found on the TBD page on the city's website: www.lakestevenswa.gov.

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The City of Lake Stevens, Wash. (pop. 40,700) is located 36 miles north of Seattle in Snohomish County. The City shares the name of the lake it surrounds, and is nestled between the beautiful Cascade Range and Puget Sound. The City's vision is to be "one community around the lake" with a vibrant economy, modern infrastructure, and exceptional quality of life for residents and businesses alike. More information about Lake Stevens can be found at www.lakestevenswa.gov.