



# NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **City Council Adopts 2023 Budget**

*Budget includes funding for parks, infrastructure and senior center*

LAKE STEVENS, WASH. – The City Council adopted its 2023 budget on November 22, and it includes money for parks, infrastructure improvements, the senior center, and a new cost-saving program for the public works department.

“Our residents have been clear about their desire for infrastructure improvements and recreational activities,” Mayor Brett Gailey said. “This budget continues to support the city we all live in and enjoy while also attracting and retaining the skilled staff we need to deliver the services our community wants.”

The public works department will be implementing a leasing program for trucks, trailers and light-duty equipment that will save taxpayers about \$100,000 per year and improve efficiency. This program is part of the city’s ongoing efforts to seek opportunities and accreditation to improve service delivery and save taxpayer dollars.

The city has multiple capital projects underway that will continue in 2023, including the state’s SR9/204 roundabout project. The state is building two large roundabouts in this area to reduce traffic congestion, improve mobility, provide better access to businesses, and improve connections for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, and drivers.

The 2023 budget includes funding for improvements at Sunset Park, Frontier Heights Park, 20<sup>th</sup> Street Powerline Trail and extending the South Lake Stevens multiuse path to Highway 9. The city is also working to secure \$1.8 million in state funding to remodel the Cedarwood Community Center.

In April, the city will start collecting 0.2 percent sales tax (two cents on a \$10 purchase) to fund its newly created Transportation Benefit District (TBD). The TBD, which was approved by voters in November, will fund walkway and sidewalk connections to schools, street improvements and pedestrian safety projects. It will also be used to secure millions in grant funding to pay for larger traffic congestion relief projects in the city.

The Lake Stevens Senior Center will receive \$30,000. It is important to support a healthy community for everyone and this funding will help promote the emotional and physical well-being of the city’s older community members.

“Our 2023 budget reflects our priorities as a city to grow thoughtfully while maintaining quality of life for residents and supporting our shared vision of ‘one community around the lake,’” Council President Steve Ewing said.



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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](http://www.lakestevenswa.gov).*