

**Washington County
Measure No. 34-179**

**Public Safety Levy Renewal
Ballot Title**

Caption:

Renewal of Local Option Levy for Countywide Public Safety

Question:

Shall Washington County maintain public safety services by levying 42¢ per \$1,000 assessed value for five years, beginning 2011-2012? This measure renews current local option taxes.

Summary:

This measure would renew a local option property tax levy that expires in June 2011. Roughly 16% of Washington County's public safety workforce is funded by this expiring levy. These services are provided both inside and outside of cities, including:

- Supervising registered sex offenders;
- Operating the jail and work release center at full capacity, minimizing the early release of offenders;
- Investigating crimes and prosecuting criminals;
- Special enforcement teams, including Major Crimes, SWAT, Fraud and Identity Theft, Gang and Narcotics teams serving all areas of the county;
- Juvenile programs to reduce crime;
- Emergency shelters for women and children who are victims of domestic violence.

A five-year levy is proposed to replace the expiring four-year levy. The renewed levy would continue current public safety services at a fixed tax rate of 42¢ per \$1,000 assessed value, which is unchanged from the current rate.

Typical homeowners would pay about \$90 in 2011-2012. Assumes average assessed value (not market value) of \$215,089.

Estimated revenues for each year of levy:

\$20,353,000 in 2011-2012

\$21,065,000 in 2012-2013

\$21,802,000 in 2013-2014

\$22,565,000 in 2014-2015

\$23,355,000 in 2015-2016