

# PRIMARY ELECTION

August 6, 2024

Ballots are mailed July 9, 2024



**Mason County Auditor's Office  
Elections Department - Vote Center**

411 N 5th St  
PO Box 400  
Shelton, WA 98584

[www.masoncountywaelections.gov](http://www.masoncountywaelections.gov)  
(360) 427-9670 ext. 470

[elections@masoncountywa.gov](mailto:elections@masoncountywa.gov)



Mason County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet



# Vote Center Locations and Hours

## Shelton Location:

411 N 5th St – Second floor

Monday – Friday	9:00am – 4:00pm
Saturday, August 3	9:00am – 1:00pm
Election Day	9:00am – 8:00pm

## Belfair Location (Temporary):

460 NE Old Belfair Hwy – Back of building

August 1, 2 & 5	9:00am – 4:00pm
Saturday, August 3	9:00am – 1:00pm
Election Day	9:00am – 8:00pm

## Contact Information:

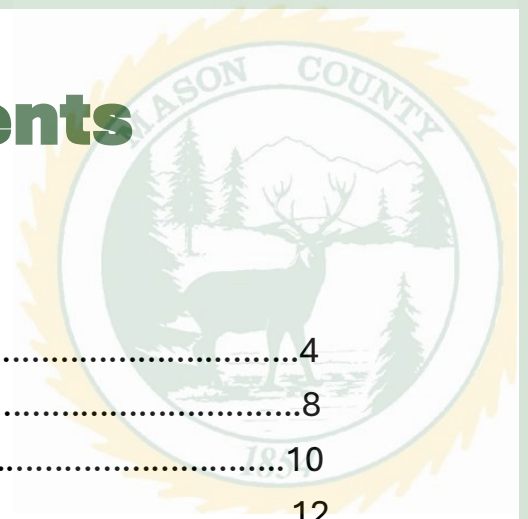
(360) 427-9670 ext. 470

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## Who donates to campaigns?

View financial contributors for state and local candidates and measures:

### Public Disclosure Commission

[www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov)  
1 (877) 601-2828

## Major Political Party Contact Information

### Mason County Democrat Party

[mkcorr87@gmail.com](mailto:mkcorr87@gmail.com)  
PO Box 1272, Shelton, WA 98584  
[www.masoncountywademocrats.org](http://www.masoncountywademocrats.org)

### Mason County Republican Party

[info@masoncontyrepublicans.com](mailto:info@masoncontyrepublicans.com)  
PO Box 326, Shelton, WA 98584  
[www.masoncountyrepublicans.com](http://www.masoncountyrepublicans.com)





Steve Duenkel  
Mason County Auditor  
360-427-9670 ext. 468  
sduenkel@masoncountywa.gov



Dear Voter;

“The duty is ours”. This is part of a quote from John Quincy Adams who dedicated his life in service to his country. Adams’s career started at the age of 14 where he served in Europe as the secretary to the Ambassador to Russia. Later, Adams was appointed Ambassador to the Netherlands, Portugal, Russia, the United Kingdom, and Prussia. He was elected U.S. Senator, appointed Secretary of State, and later elected the 6th President of the United States as a member of the Democratic-Republican Party. Finally, Adams served as a member of Congress from the State of Massachusetts where he served for 17 years and became the most prominent national leader vehemently fighting (unsuccessfully) to end slavery. Adams earned the reputation as the “Hell Hound of Abolition”, and he also fought for the rights of women and Native Americans. Adams ultimately passed away after suffering from a massive stroke on the House floor and died two days later in the Speaker’s room in the US Capitol building. The freshman Congressman from Illinois, Abraham Lincoln was among those at John Quincy Adams’s side when he gave his last breath.

As citizens we are also called to duty. One of the ways we can fulfill our civic duty is by voting in elections. I encourage all who are eligible to register to vote and express your inherent power with your vote. Encourage eligible family members and friends to register to vote and vote as well. Your vote matters and will contribute to the electoral outcomes that will shape the future of Mason County, Washington State, and the Nation.

Please take time to confirm your voter registration address and mailing address at [VoteWa.gov](http://VoteWa.gov) and update it if necessary. Please also invest the time and effort to learn about the candidates and measures on the ballot. The information in your Voter’s Pamphlet is an excellent place to start.

Your Elections Department team remains steadfastly committed to administering your elections with integrity and ensuring that every legal vote is counted correctly. If you have questions or need assistance with voter registration or voting, contact Elections Department staff (Marie, Susan, and Kailey) by telephone at 360-427-9670 Ext. 470, or by e-Mail at [elections@masoncountywa.gov](mailto:elections@masoncountywa.gov). Feel free to stop by the Vote Center at 411 N 5th Street in Shelton, or the temporary Vote Center located behind the Sheriff’s North Precinct Business Office at 460 NE Old Belfair Highway.

And for those of you curious about the complete quote by John Quincy Adams, “The duty is ours. Results are God’s.”

Sincerely at your service!



# Voting Instructions

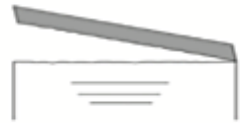
1. The ballot packet for the August Primary Election will be mailed on July 9. The packet will include your official ballot, a security sleeve, and a postage-paid return declaration envelope.



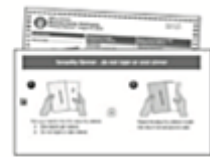
2. To vote the ballot, use a dark ink pen to completely fill in the oval to the left of your choice. Do not use a felt tip marker. Vote for one in each race.



3. Remove the stub at the top of your ballot.  
If you forget to remove the stub, your ballot will still be counted.



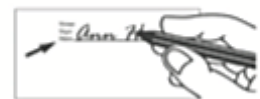
4. Place your voted ballot into the security sleeve.  
If you forget the security sleeve, your ballot will still be counted.



5. Put the ballot/security sleeve into the return declaration envelope and seal.



6. **Sign and date your return declaration envelope.** Your signature on the return declaration envelope is required for your ballot to be counted.



7. Return your ballot by mail or by depositing in a ballot drop box.



Ballot must be postmarked **no later than August 6,**  
or in a drop box **by 8:00pm, August 6.**



# Return Your Ballot Quickly by Mail or Ballot Drop Box

**Mail** – No postage is required to return your ballot via the US Postal Service

Use the return postage paid envelope.

For your ballot to be counted:

**It must be postmarked on or before August 6, 2024 – Election Day.**

We recommend mailing your ballot no later than August 2.

## **Ballot Drop Box – Convenient, Safe and Secure**

Ballots are collected regularly by two election staff to maintain ballot chain of custody.

For your ballot to be counted it must be deposited in a ballot drop box

**before 8:00pm on August 6, 2024 – Election Day.**

## **Ballot Drop Box Locations**

**Auditor's Office – Mason County Offices, 411 N 5th St (alley) - Drive-thru**

**Building 1 – Mason County Offices, 411 N 5th St (main entrance)**

**Vote Center – Mason County Offices, 411 N 5th St (second floor)**

**YMCA - Shelton Family YMCA, 3101 N Shelton Springs Rd - Drive-thru**

**Kamilche - Fire District No. 4 Station, 3660 SE Old Olympic Hwy**

**Dayton - Fire District No. 16 Station, 4650 W Dayton Airport Rd - Drive-thru**

**Grapeview - Horton Community Center, 4350 Grapeview Loop Rd**

**Allyn – Port of Allyn, 18560 E State Route 3**

**Belfair - New Sheriffs Office/North Precinct , 460 NE Old Belfair Hwy**

**Union - Chevron Station, 1031 E McReavy Rd**

**Skokomish - Twin Totems Store, 19390 US-101 - Drive-thru**

**Hoodsport - Hood Canal Visitor Center, 150 N Lake Cushman Rd**



August						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY

# Important Election Dates



## July 3

Official Logic and Accuracy Test (details on page 14) at 9:00am

## July 29

Last day to receive new voter registration and updates online or by mail for the August 6 Election.

After July 29, new voter registration and updates must be done in person by 8:00pm August 6, Election Day.

## August 6

Election Day - Tabulation at 8:00pm



## August 8

Random Audit (details on page 14) at 2:00pm

## August 14

Risk Limiting Audit (RLA) (details on page 14) at 9:00am

## August 20

County Election Certification at 2:00pm

Observers are welcome!



# For information on the Federal and State candidates

<http://www.sos.wa.gov/elections>

For a customized Voters' Guide sign in to [www.VoteWA.gov](http://www.VoteWA.gov)

## **Federal and State Races on the Ballot:**

U.S. Senator

Congressional District 6, U.S. Representative

Governor

Lt. Governor

Secretary of State

State Treasurer

State Auditor

Attorney General

Commissioner of Public Lands

Superintendent of Public Instruction

Insurance Commissioner

Legislative District 35, State Representative Position 1

Legislative District 35, State Representative Position 2

Supreme Court, Justice Position 2



# How to Register to Vote or Request a Ballot

## How to Register to Vote

### Online

Create an account at [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov) – A Washington state-issued driver license, permit or ID card is required. (must be received no later than July 29 to participate in the current election) A ballot will be mailed.

### By Mail

Print a form online: [masoncountywaelections.gov](http://masoncountywaelections.gov)

Mail it to: PO Box 400, Shelton, WA 98584

(must be received no later than July 29 to participate in the current election) A ballot will be mailed.

### In-Person

Visit a vote center (see page 2 for locations and hours).

## Request a Ballot

### Online

Print a replacement ballot packet at [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov)

### In-Person or by Mail

Visit or contact the Mason County Election Department - Vote Center (see page 2 for locations and hours).

To receive a ballot by mail, it must be requested no later than 8 days before election day to ensure you receive it in time to vote. If less than 8 days, visit a vote center in-person.

## Verify or Update Voter Information

Online at [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov) or contact the Mason County Election Department – Vote Center at (360) 427-9760 ext. 470 or email [elections@masoncountywa.gov](mailto:elections@masoncountywa.gov) (see page 2 for locations and hours).

Your residential address determines the districts (School, Fire, PUD, etc.) for which you vote, your mailing address can be different.

Crime survivors can vote safely with a  
protected voter record. For more information:

Phone: 1 (800) 822-1065

Online: [www.sos.wa.gov/acp](http://www.sos.wa.gov/acp)

## Mason County Commissioner District 1 4-Year Term



### Ted Jackson

(Prefers Republican Party)

#### Contact

(360) 801-0503

tedforcountycommissioner@gmail.com

901 E Soderberg Rd

Allyn, WA 98524

#### ELECETED EXPERIENCE

Ted served as a Port Commissioner for the Port of Allyn. Past President of the Public Safety Insurance Board. Past Executive Board Member Washington Council of Police and Sheriff's.

#### OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ted Worked over 30 years in law enforcement. Washington State Fish and Wildlife Officer, retired as a sergeant. A city Assistant/Interim Police Chief. Ted also worked as a Mason County Deputy and is currently the Executive Director of a Non-Profit in Mason County.

#### EDUCATION

Graduated from Eastern Washington University. Studied at Washington State University.

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Washington Chaplin Foundation Board

Hunter Education Instructor

Allyn Day's Volunteer

Oysterfest Volunteer

North Bay salmon recovery task force

#### STATEMENT

As a former law enforcement officer, active community supporter, proud husband, father and concerned resident of Mason County for over 27 years, I've witnessed firsthand the growth, changes and challenges that lie ahead. I believe that putting people first in these trying times is crucial to all our success. Transparency, accountability and integrity need to be at the cornerstone for everyone elected person.

I believe I possess these qualities.

I will work to support public safety and develop partnerships to improve our infrastructure and expand economic growth.

I will work to improve our transportation issues.

I will work to build a new jail.

I will bring the public and non-profit organizations together to find reasonable options to address homelessness.

I want to empower businesses, schools, families, and government to collaborate in solving issues that impact Mason County.

It has been our privilege to live, raise our children and work in Mason County for over 26 years.

## Mason County Commissioner District 1 4-Year Term



### William "Will" Harris

(Prefers Republican Party)

#### Contact

(702) 250-4301

Harris4MasonCounty@gmail.com

Harris4MasonCounty.com

PO Box 2102

Allyn, WA 98524

#### ELECETED EXPERIENCE

No prior elected experience

#### OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Career USAF Engineering Officer achieving the rank of Colonel.

Entrusted to lead a 1,000-person organization to provide engineering, public works, logistical, security, other support services with an annual \$100 million budget .

Licensed Washington State Professional Engineer (PE)

Certified Project and Risk Management Professional (PMP / RMP)

Small Business Owner

#### EDUCATION

BS Civil Engineering, St Martin's College, Lacey, WA

MS Civil Engineering, University of Illinois

Master of Strategic Studies, Air University

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Currently serving on the Mason County Planning Advisory Commission (PAC)

Currently serving on the Transportation Improvement Program

Citizen Advisory Panel (TIP-CAP)

Scouting adult leader for 20 years

#### STATEMENT

I'll support our sheriff and courts to improve public safety and reduce crime. I'll fight for our rural community to boost economic development, find affordable housing solutions, and responsibly manage growth. I'll work towards compassionate and effective solutions to combat addiction and homelessness. I'm a career US Air Force veteran who served our country around the world and in the Gulf War. My experience includes leading project teams to successfully deliver multi-million-dollar construction efforts combined with leading an 820-person Public Works Directorate to Unit of the Year Honors and a 1,000-person community support organization. I have responsibly managed annual budgets of \$100 million as well as a \$2.8 billion construction program. I've brought diverse organizations together to develop collaborative solutions to difficult problems. I have dealt with and resolved challenging personnel issues. These are the qualities and strengths needed on our Board of Commissioners. I met my wife, Eileen, at Saint Martin's College. In our 40 years of marriage, we've raised four children and have been blessed with three grandchildren. I have the skills, proven performance, and dedication to serve as your County Commissioner. I will listen to you and make fiscally responsible community-based decisions that protect your individual rights.



## Mason County Commissioner District 1 4-Year Term



### Randy Neatherlin

(Prefers Independent Party)

#### Contact

(360) 731-3849

Randy@vote4randy.com

Vote4randy.com

PO Box 1234

Allyn, WA 98524

#### ELECTED EXPERIENCE

Port of Allyn Commissioner 2008-2013

Mason County Commissioner 2013-2024. Chaired or represented Mason County on Law Enforcement Officer / Fire Fighter Board, Audit Committee, Finance Committee, Board of Health, Regional Transportation, West Sound Alliance (BYPASS), Economic Development Council, Risk Pool, Clean Air Agency, Hood Canal Coordinating Council, Memorial Hall (Veterans), Association of Counties, and many more.

#### OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lifelong entrepreneur owning many businesses, 3 while in High School. Manager Woolworth Corporation, Regional Manager Colonial Corporation and much more.

#### EDUCATION

Six Sigma Black Belt, A.A.S., B.S.B.M., and M.S. in Management.

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Coached over 1,000 kids, Rotary, Kiwanis, Masons, Shriners, School committees, and much more.

#### STATEMENT

I'm a true independent representing everyone. Being an (R) or (D) does not make you Fiscally Conservative, Anti-Environment, Pro-Tax or Anti-Gun. We're all different and I represent you that way. Don't forget, even a broken watch is right twice a day. I believe in small government, being fiscally conservative and living within our means. I believe in individualism. You be you; I'll be me and don't force beliefs on others. Environment is important but prove the issues and solutions are real. I consider, protecting your rights and personal safety is the paramount duty of government. We've invested heavily in Law-Enforcement. \$9.6m in 2013 and today it is \$17.8m. We have not raised county taxes in years. Hard to believe when your State, FIRE, E.M.S., Schools, Ports, etc. may have doubled but NOT your county tax. In 2017 your General fund tax was, \$1.31 per \$1,000, in 2024 you only paid \$0.72cents. I've CUT the budget when needed and found new revenue streams. We had \$175k cash on hand mid-year 2016. In 2024 we have over \$25 million, the best fiscal position in our county's history.

I pride myself on always being there for you and always being accessible.

**In the Primary, only the voters who reside in County Commissioner District 1 will be able to vote. In November, all Mason County voters will be able to vote on both County Commissioner Districts 1 and 2.**

**In the August Primary the two candidates who receive the most votes will advance to the November General Election**

**Each candidate for a partisan office may state a political party that he or she prefers. A candidate's preference does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party, or that the party approves of or associates with that candidate.**



## Mason County Commissioner District 2

### 4-Year Term



#### Richard Beckman

(Prefers Republican Party)

#### Contact

(360) 358-5567

vote@richardbeckman.com

<https://vote@richardbeckman.com/>

PO Box Y

Shelton, WA 98584

#### ELECTED EXPERIENCE

Past President of Mason County Association of Realtors; Voted Realtor of The Year; Past Government Affairs chair for the Realtors; Currently representing Mason County Government as their Real Estate Broker. Past State Realtor Committee Member.

#### OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Small business owner; Successfully managed a real estate firm for over 17 years where I've managed properties, infrastructure, and have been a good steward of my clients assets.

#### EDUCATION

Degree in Information Systems Technology; Real Estate Broker

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Volunteered with United Way and OysterFest; Homeless Shelter Board Member, Shelton Valley Christian School Board Member, City of Shelton Infrastructure Task Force, and MCAR Board Member; Little League Coach.

#### STATEMENT

I've had a lifelong interest in politics and have a passion for improving this community. My experience in business and dealing with the public has prepared me to excel in this position. I believe we will thrive when we work together as a community.

Being a problem solver, I believe we can work together to make Mason County an equal growth opportunity for all citizens.

I believe taxpayers should always have a voice regarding the growth and development of their county. There should be equal respect between the government and citizens. We need strong, fair and just enforcement of the law to keep our citizens safe. We need fiscal responsibility so that Taxpayers who shoulder the cost of growth receive value for their hard-earned tax dollars. Private Property Owners and Taxpayers should not have their rights infringed on without due process. I will push back on burdensome growth management regulations and streamline the building permit process. County Commissioners handle crucial tasks like building permits, infrastructure, and budgets; areas where real estate brokers excel. This makes me the most qualified candidate to lead post-election.

Let's make Mason County into a thriving community.

We're Better Together

Thank you for your support!

## Mason County Commissioner District 2

### 4-Year Term



#### Tom Beben

(States No Party Preference)

#### Contact

(360) 229-3230

tom@bebenformasoncounty.com

bebenformasoncounty.com

PO Box 1370

Shelton, WA 98584

#### ELECTED EXPERIENCE

No Information Submitted

#### OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Thomas (Tom) Beben has been a business owner in Mason County since 2007. He and his wife Monica (Mo) established Smoking Mo's restaurant in Shelton and now own High Steel Beer Co., a restaurant and wholesale distributor of craft beers. Tom also coaches basketball at Oakland Bay Junior High.

#### EDUCATION

Tom holds a B.A. in history from Coker College and recently was honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award.

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Tom is a member of The Shelton Rotary Club. In 2018, he was selected as the Shelton Mason County Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year.

#### STATEMENT

I believe in Mason County.

Mason County has given me the opportunity to live the American Dream, and now it would be my honor to pay that forward to our community. I want to see Mason County progress and thrive, and to do it in a way that pays respect to our past and supports the people and industries that built our foundation.

I have a vision for the opportunities and potential of our county, and I want to help us achieve our potential by using existing resources to efficiently boost economic growth. We should celebrate and promote the idea that we aren't just the gateway to the Olympics; rather we are the playground of the Olympic Peninsula! We're not just on the way, we're a destination. We have all the right ingredients to capture visitors' time, enthusiasm, and dollars. We just need to invest in this bold idea.

I am committed to all aspects of the role of County Commissioner. I believe that my business experience, deep relationships with local people and organizations, and my ability to listen with an open mind to all sides of an issue make me the best candidate to represent District 2.

## Mason County Commissioner District 2

### 4-Year Term



#### Pat Tazwell

(Prefers Republican Party)

#### Contact

(360) 229-8974  
tarzwell4mc@hcc.net  
51 E Ann Arbor Dr  
Shelton, WA 98584

#### ELECETED EXPERIENCE

Mason County Republican Party State Committeeman; Precinct Committee Officer, (Brockdale); Past Chair of the 35th Legislative District Committee Republicans.

#### OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder, President and CEO of AlphaTest, manufacturer of micro-electronic test equipment - Awarded 3 patents.  
Cerprobe Corp. - Director of the Research and Development Department - Awarded 2 patents.  
Bashas Grocery Stores - Assistant Manager  
Yellow Front Department Stores - Assistant Manager

#### EDUCATION

Phoenix College, Physics and Calculus plus basic courses  
Various professional development courses over the years

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Shelton Centennial Lions  
Community Lifeline  
United Way Day of Caring  
Boaz Project  
Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts  
Youth Sports Coach

#### STATEMENT

My wife Sandy and I are active members in the community. Married for 47 years, we raised 3 children, and have 5 grandchildren. I've been a small business owner of a manufacturing company for 33 years, and have been awarded 5 patents. As a business owner, I work for my customers; as your commissioner, I will work for you. While solving the challenges facing my customers, I have developed innovative approaches to find solutions within a limited budget. I look forward to using that same skill set as your commissioner to tackle the problems facing Mason County. Our rural community has many of the same problems as urban communities, but with limited resources to tackle those problems. Families are struggling with the rising costs of gas, food, utilities, and housing. Creating a sustainable budget and keeping taxes low is one of my top priorities to ease the burden at your kitchen table. I will fight to make life better for our families by tackling challenges like rising crime, drug addiction, homelessness, and the rising cost of living. I'll stand for more resources for public safety, streamlining county government for economic development: for more housing, and to update our aging infrastructure.

**In the Primary, only the voters who reside in County Commissioner District 1 will be able to vote. In November, all Mason County voters will be able to vote on both County Commissioner Districts 1 and 2.**

**In the August Primary the two candidates who receive the most votes will advance to the November General Election**

**Each candidate for a partisan office may state a political party that he or she prefers. A candidate's preference does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party, or that the party approves of or associates with that candidate.**



# Elections Are Secure and Accurate

Tabulation equipment is certified by the Washington Secretary of State and the Federal Election Assistance Commission. The system is never connected to the internet.

## Official Logic and Accuracy

- Before each election, a public logic and accuracy test is conducted to ensure that voting equipment is ready for use and properly prepared to count ballots.
- The logic and accuracy test is verified by independent observers and the Office of the Secretary of State.

## Random Audit

- Random audits are conducted prior to the certification of each election.
- Batches to be audited are randomly selected.
- The audit compares the vote totals from the tabulation system to a hand count of votes with the physical ballots.

## Risk Limiting Audit (RLA)

- An RLA is an additional audit of randomly selected ballots.
- The ballots are compared to the tabulation system record.
- An RLA can verify that no significant error occurred and that there were no undetected problems.

Observers are welcome!

**To learn more, contact the  
Mason County Elections Department  
(360) 427-9670 ext. 470  
[elections@masoncountywa.gov](mailto:elections@masoncountywa.gov)**

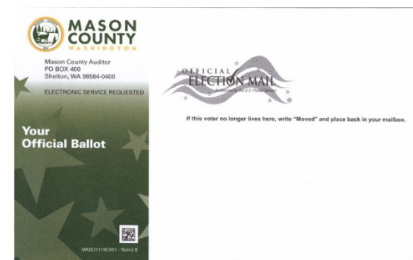
# Help Keep Voting Rolls Up To Date

If you receive election mail for someone not in your household, indicate why on the envelope and send it back to us. This helps keep the voter rolls up to date.

## Examples of Election Mail:

- Ballot
- Confirmation Card
- Signature Update form
- Voter Registration Card
- Verification Letter

Write "moved"  
"deceased" or  
"no longer at  
this address"  
on the envelope

A form from Mason County Auditor, Elections Department, PO Box 400, Shelton, WA 98584. The form is titled "Confirm or update your address for voting purposes". It has fields for "Residential Address on record" and "Mailing Address on record". Below these are fields for "New Residential Address (required if different)" and "New Mailing Address". There is a checkbox for "I am no longer a resident of Washington State. Please cancel my voter registration." and a section for "Signature of voter (required to confirm, update or cancel)" and "Date". A large 'X' is marked in the signature field. A note at the bottom states: "I received this form from the back of this voter registration form because I am a citizen of the United States, I will have lived at this address in Washington for at least thirty days immediately before the next election or which I vote, I am at least sixteen years old, I am not disqualified from voting due to a court order and I am not currently serving a sentence of total confinement under the jurisdiction of the department of corrections for a Washington felony conviction, and I am not currently incarcerated for a federal or state/capital felony conviction."

## **Fire Protection District No. 6 Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services**

The Board of Mason County Fire Protection District No. 6 adopted Resolution No. 286, concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations. This proposition authorizes the District to restore its regular property tax levy to \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation to be levied in 2024 and authorizes annual adjustments by the greater of 1% or annual CPI-W for Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue as reported in June of the levy year for each of the five succeeding years. The dollar amount of the levy in 2030 shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations as provided by Chapter 84.55 RCW.

### **Should this proposition be approved?**

- Levy...Yes
- Levy...No

## **Explanatory Statement**

Mason County Fire Protection District No. 6 (“District”), serving the citizens of Union, is placing a multi-year lid lift proposition on the August 6 primary ballot. The District’s \$1.50/\$1,000 regular levy rate has fallen to approximately \$1.03/\$1,000 due to statutory limitations. Passage of this proposition would re-authorize the District’s regular levy rate to \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, in order to sustain fire protection and emergency medical services (EMS) to those within the District’s service area.

Re-authorization of the regular levy rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, for collection in 2025, will be coupled with annual increases by the greater of 1% or the annual CPI-W for Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue as reported in June of the levy year. This will maintain an effective level of service. The dollar amount of the levy collected in 2030 would be used to calculate future levy increase limits.

If approved by voters, this levy lid lift would result in an increase in property taxes of \$235.00 per year (\$19.59 per month) for a \$500,000 median-value home.

### **Prepare by:**

Eric T. Quinn  
Attorney at Law  
(253) 590-6628  
[ericquinn@firehouselawyer2.com](mailto:ericquinn@firehouselawyer2.com)





## Argument For The Measure

We live in a wonderful village type retirement community. We are blessed with an abundance of wilderness, art, music, golf and whatever else our hearts may desire. Another lesser-known blessing is the Union community has its very own Union Fire Department. With the trend of bigger fire districts absorbing smaller fire districts the Union Fire Department remains exclusively devoted to the community of Union. We want the Union community to know this is NOT a new tax! This tax has been in place since 1962. The Union Fire Department is humbly asking for the tax to be renewed. With the RENEWAL of this levy the community of Union will keep their fire department strong and independent. With passage the Union Fire Department will reestablish the community center portion of the fire hall free of charge for the taxpayers of the Union Fire Department. In our opinion, Union is a facility poor community and a place to hold meetings or gatherings for free would be a community asset. The Union Fire Department also pledges to maintain all operational programs at or above current levels.

We see this as an opportunity for a double win for the community of Union. A win in keeping the Union Fire Department delivering high quality emergency services for years to come and a win in reestablishing the community center portion of the fire hall free of charge. We ask you to give great consideration to voting yes on this measure. Extensive levy information available at [mcfcd6.com](http://mcfcd6.com).

### Prepared By:

Clint Volk

[chief@mcfcd6.com](mailto:chief@mcfcd6.com)

Spencer Jones

## Argument Against The Measure

No argument submitted.

### Notice to Voters:

**Statements are printed exactly as submitted. Election Department staff does not make corrections or verify statements for the truth or fact.**



## **North Mason Regional Fire Authority Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services**

The Board of North Mason Regional Fire Authority adopted Resolution No. 24-01, concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations. This proposition authorizes North Mason Regional Fire Authority to restore its regular property tax levy to \$1.11 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be assessed in 2024 and collected in 2025. The funds will be used to maintain and improve fire protection and emergency medical services, replace apparatus and equipment, and provide for firefighter safety. The maximum allowable levy in 2024 shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations as provided by chapter 84.55 RCW.

### **Should this proposition be approved?**

- Levy...Yes
- Levy...No

## **Explanatory Statement**

North Mason Fire Authority provides emergency fire protection and medical services to its citizens. The maximum regular levy rate for Washington fire authorities is \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Due to the statutory 1% limitation on property tax increases, North Mason Fire Authority's current levy rate has dropped to \$0.81 per thousand. If approved by the voters, this proposition will authorize the Authority to restore its levy rate to \$1.11 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2024 for collection in 2025. The Authority previously levied at a rate of \$1.49 in 2008. The dollar amount levied in the 2024 year shall serve as the Authority's future tax levy base.

The Authority's Governing Board has determined that this proposition is necessary to maintain an effective level of services, fire fighter staffing, equipment and facilities in light of rising costs, rising demands and the continued growth of our community. Approval of this measure will allow the Authority to maintain the level of fire protection and emergency medical services provided to its citizens.

### **Prepared by:**

Brian K. Snure  
Attorney for District  
612 S. 227th St.  
Des Moines, WA 98198-6836  
(206) 824-5630



## Argument For The Measure

The North Mason Regional Fire Authority (NMRFA) is facing a critical need for a fire levy restoration to adapt to community growth and cover escalating operating costs. Despite a state-mandated limit that only allows the fire levy to increase 1% annually, the NMRFA has refrained from adjusting its fire levy for 15 years. During this period, emergency call volume surged by 53%, while operating expenses, including fuel, insurance, labor, and supplies, skyrocketed.

In a bid to avoid burdening voters, the Fire Authority has utilized various alternative funding sources, amassing over \$6 million in funding. However, as North Mason's population expands and operational expenses soar, sustaining current operations becomes increasingly challenging. Since its establishment at \$1.49 in 2008, the fire levy rate has dropped significantly to \$0.81, positioning the NMRFA to have one of the lowest levy rates among Fire Districts in Mason and Kitsap Counties. Among these 15 districts, only Hamma Hamma and Bainbridge Island have lower fire levy rates.

While exploring alternative funding avenues persists, the NMRFA must seek voter support to restore the fire levy to \$1.11. This adjustment is vital to accommodate service growth demands and uphold existing operations. We appeal to voters to approve this restoration, ensuring continued efficient emergency response and community safety.

### Prepared By:

Citizens for Public Safety

Kelly McIntosh

wah1961@msn.com

Ryan Cloud

Katie Musgrave

## Argument Against The Measure

Property tax will increase. This is a restoration tax, which means your payment will increase by 30¢ per \$1,000.

*Example 1.* Your house has been valued at \$100,000, so if this *passes*, your property tax will *increase* by \$30 for the year ( $\$100,000/1,000 * 30¢$ ).

If you pay property tax twice a year, that's an increase of \$15 per payment.

If you pay property tax monthly with your mortgage payment, that's an increase of \$2.50 per payment.

*Example 2.* Your house has been valued at \$471,310, so if this *passes*, your property tax will *increase* by around \$142 for the year ( $\$471,310/1,000 * 30¢$ ).

Twice yearly payments will increase by \$71; monthly payments will increase by about \$12.

To check the value of your home, go to [masoncountywa.gov/assessor/](http://masoncountywa.gov/assessor/), then click on Property/Parcel Information on the left. Your property's assessment may have gone up OR down since you last checked it.

### Prepared By:

Cheryl Williams

gammwill@msn.com

## Notice to Voters:

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# Accessible Voting Unit

The Accessible Voting Unit is a voting assistance device that enables voters with visual impairments, cognitive/learning disabilities, or limited mobility to vote independently and with privacy.

Accessible voting is available starting 18 days before Election Day

Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm and Election Day 9:00am - 8:00pm

To use the Accessible Voting Unit or for more information, visit or contact our office at (360) 427-9670 ext. 470 or [elections@masoncountywa.gov](mailto:elections@masoncountywa.gov).

## Accessible Voting Units are Located at:

### **Shelton Location:**

411 N 5th St - Second floor

Monday-Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Saturday, August 3 9:00am - 1:00pm

Election Day 9:00am - 8:00pm

### **Belfair Location (Temporary)**

460 NE Old Belfair Hwy - Back of building

August 1, 2 & 5 9:00am - 4:00pm

Saturday, August 3 9:00am - 1:00pm

Election Day 9:00am - 8:00pm



### **Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC)**

The committee updates the plan of outreach strategies for Mason County Elections to provide accessible services to voters with disabilities in our community and to ensure it is within statutory authority and maintains compliance with local, state and federal legal requirements.

To volunteer to be a committee member or for more information, visit our website [www.masoncountywaelections.gov](http://www.masoncountywaelections.gov) or contact our office (360) 427-9670 ext. 470 or [elections@masoncountywa.gov](mailto:elections@masoncountywa.gov).



# YOUR *Signature* MATTERS

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## VOTER REGISTRATION

*Mason Voter*

## BALLOT ENVELOPE

~~Mason Voter~~



# IMPORTANT REMINDERS

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The ballot envelope can only be signed by you, the voter.

**NO ONE CAN SIGN FOR YOU.**

Your signature on the ballot envelope will be compared to your signature in your voter registration record.

Your Driver License signature *may* be your signature on your voter registration record.

A power of attorney **cannot** be used to sign on the behalf of a voter.

If your signature does not match or you forgot to sign your return declaration envelope, we will send a letter to notify you. You will have until the day before certification to get the letter back to us so your vote can count.

You can check your ballot status at  
[VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov)



## 17-year-old Voters

17-year-olds who will be 18 by the November General Election can vote in the August Primary Election.

Voters who are eligible to vote in the Primary Election are called “Primary Only Voters”.

Primary Only Voters are eligible to participate in races that are selecting candidates for the General Election. They are not eligible to vote on measures or races that do not advance to the General Election. Primary Only Voters’ ballots will only have the races that they are eligible to vote on.

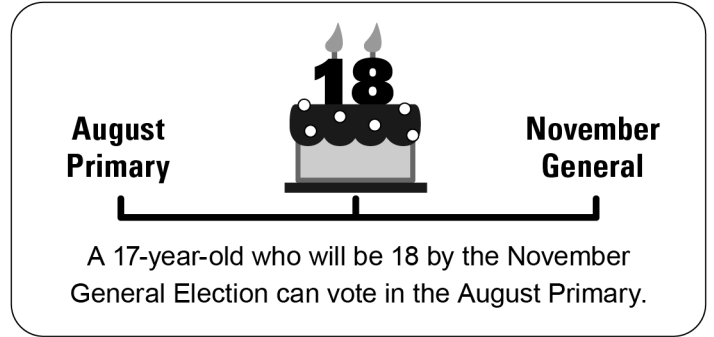
16 and 17-year-olds can pre-register and will automatically be registered when they are eligible to vote.

Pre-registering can be done:

Online at [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov)

Through Department of Licensing

At the Mason County Auditors Office Elections Department



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## Felony Conviction and Voting Rights

Felon voting rights are restored when you are no longer serving a sentence of total confinement in prison. You must register to vote, even if you were previously registered.

Registering to vote can be done:

Online at [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov)

Through Department of Licensing

At the Mason County Auditors Office Elections Department



# Opportunities to Observe the Elections Process

It is the Mason County Election Department's duty to conduct transparent, accessible, fair, and accurate elections.

Voters can be confident in the security of their ballot and that each vote is counted the way the voter intended. We invite all to observe firsthand the process of conducting an election and witness the journey of ballots. Up to six observers can be in the ballot processing center at a time due to the size of the space. There will be a link on the current election page of our website for the 24-hour livestream of our ballot processing room and ballot drop boxes beginning July 9, 2024.

To observe the process, each observer must attend Observer Training. The Observer Training reviews each step in the process and communicates the rules of observer conduct.

The next Observer Training is on:

July 11, 2024

5:00-6:00pm

Commissioner Chambers

411 N 5<sup>th</sup> St., Shelton

The local political parties coordinate their observers, see page 3 for their contact information.

Observers who are not associated with a political party can contact the Elections Department to schedule a date/time to observe.

Opportunities to observe the August Primary Election begins July 9, ballot processing begins July 15.

Opportunities to observe the November General Election begins October 8, ballot processing begins October 14.

For more information visit:

<https://masoncountywaelections.gov>

## **Would you like to Volunteer to help with Elections?**

To find out if we are needing additional help during the Election

Contact (360) 427-9670 ext. 470 or

email: [elections@masoncountywa.gov](mailto:elections@masoncountywa.gov)



Mason County Auditors Office  
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Shelton, WA 98584

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ECRWSS

## Vote Early! Return Early!

**Ensure your vote is counted**



### Are you ready?

- Are you registered to vote?
- Is your address current?
- Have you changed your name?
- Do you know the location of your nearest ballot box?

Check your status, register to vote, or update your record at:

[www.VoteWA.gov](http://www.VoteWA.gov)

For More Info. Contact Us: 360-427-9670 ext. 470