

CLARK COUNTY STAFF REPORT

DEPARTMENT: Clark County Council

DATE: May 3, 2022

REQUESTED ACTION: Council consideration of (1) proposing to the voters of Clark County at the August primary election a sales and use tax pursuant to RCW 82.14.450 for public safety and criminal justice purposes; and (2) a resolution requesting the cities within Clark County support the public safety sales and use tax proposition.

Consent Hearing County Manager

BACKGROUND

RCW 82.14.450 authorizes counties to impose a public safety sales tax at a maximum rate of 0.3%. Revenues from the tax are split with the cities, with 60% going to the county and the remaining 40% split amongst the cities based on population. One-third of revenue received must be used solely for criminal justice purposes defined in RCW 82.14.350 as “activities that substantially assist the criminal justice system.”

To impose the tax within the county, the proposed tax must be approved by a majority of voters in the county. The public safety sales tax may be imposed indefinitely or may include a sunset clause.

Per state law, this tax does not apply to the retail sale or use of motor vehicles, and the lease of motor vehicles for up to the first 36 months of the lease.

If the Council decides to proceed with proposing the sales and use tax to the voters, the Council may also wish to request formal support from the cities within Clark County. The second resolution for County Council consideration would request that the cities within the county approve their own resolution supporting the County Council’s decision to place this proposition measure on the ballot.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPLICATIONS

RCW 82.14.450 requires the title of the ballot measure to “clearly state the purposes for which the proposed sales and use tax will be used.” The Council will retain full policy and budgetary discretion for use of the funds within the parameters of state law and the enumerated purposes (if any) within the ballot measure title.

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY IMPLICATIONS

If approved by the voters, the Council will subsequently make budgetary appropriations for the new revenue. This may have administrative policy implications.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

N/A

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

YES	NO	
X		Action falls within existing budget capacity.
		Action falls within existing budget capacity but requires a change of purpose within existing appropriation
		Additional budget capacity is necessary and will be requested at the next supplemental. If YES, please complete the budget impact statement. If YES, this action will be referred to the county council with a recommendation from the county manager.

DISTRIBUTION:

Board staff will post all staff reports to The Grid. <http://www.clark.wa.gov/thegrid/>

LH

Lindsey Hueer
Senior Policy Analyst

Kathleen Otto
County Manager

Primary Staff Contract Name and Extension: Lindsey Hueer, x4157

APPROVED: *Karen Dill Bowen*
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON
CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL

DATE: *May 3, 2022*

SR# _____



APPROVED: _____
Kathleen Otto, County Manager

DATE: _____

24 WHEREAS, the Clark County Council finds the proposal to be in the public
25 interest, and if approved by the voters, the tax shall apply within all of Clark County.

26 NOW, THEREFORE,

27 BE IT ORDERED AND RESOLVED BY THE CLARK COUNTY
28 COUNCIL, STATE OF WASHINGTON, AS FOLLOWS:

29 A ballot proposition shall be submitted to the voters of Clark County at the
30 primary election in August 2022 in substantially the following form:

31
32 Clark County Proposition No. 11

33
34 Sales and Use Tax of 0.1% for Public Safety and Criminal Justice Purposes

35
36 The Clark County Council adopted Resolution 2022-05-03 proposing a sales and use tax
37 pursuant to RCW 82.14.450. If approved, a one-tenth of 1% sales and use tax will be
38 implemented. The revenue will be split between Clark County (60%) and the cities within
39 Clark County (40%) and used for public safety and criminal justice purposes pursuant to
40 RCW 82.14.450. Clark County will use its revenue share for public safety and criminal
41 justice purposes, including but not limited to, funding a body worn camera program,
42 increased staffing for the Sheriff's Office, and other expenses.

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45 Should this proposition be approved?

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47 _____ Yes _____ No

48
49 ADOPTED on this 3rd day of May, 2022.

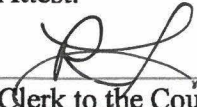
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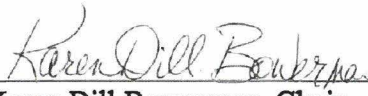
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CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

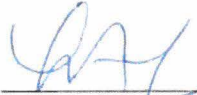
Attest:


Clerk to the Council *May 3, 2022*


Karen Dill Bowerman, Chair

Approved as to Form Only:
ANTHONY GOLIK
Prosecuting Attorney

Temple Lentz, Councilor

By: 
Leslie Lopez,
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Julie Olson, Councilor

Gary Medvigy, Councilor

Richard Rylander, Councilor



23 The Clark County Council requests the City Council of each of the cities in Clark
24 County to adopt a Resolution in support of the County Council's proposition to the voters
25 of the county for consideration of the one-tenth of 1% sales and use tax for public safety
26 and criminal justice purposes.

ADOPTED on this 3rd day of May, 2022.

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Attest:



Clerk to the Council

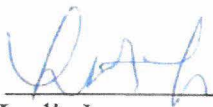
CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON



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