

Where do your property taxes go?

When you pay your property taxes, you are making an investment in your community. In the City's last three citizen satisfaction surveys, over 90% of respondents rated the City as an excellent or good place to live. These outcomes are the result of community support for the things that make a great city. Things like active and well maintained park systems with great amenities; a respected school district; active neighborhoods; excellent police and fire services; and a commitment to social services and housing affordability.

The Shoreline community's investment over the years through property taxes is one of the primary ways it has helped maintain and improve Shoreline's quality of life. Every dollar you pay in property taxes is split between the agencies that have helped Shoreline become a desirable place to live. Listed here are just a few of the services you get for your investment.

State Schools – 19¢

A portion of these dollars are allocated to local school districts for basic education. These funds are also disbursed to the State's community colleges and four-year universities and colleges.

Shoreline Schools – 37¢

The school district serves the cities of Shoreline and Lake Forest Park, operating 16 schools with an enrollment of around 9,000 students. The mission of the Shoreline School District is to provide a collaborative learning community that engages all students in learning the academic and work-life skills needed to achieve their individual potential and become responsible citizens.

King County Library District - 4¢

Funding provides a library system throughout all of King County with two libraries in Shoreline.

Port of Seattle – 1¢

The Port of Seattle is responsible for the operation of Sea-Tac airport, shipping terminals, and several marinas, plus various economic development initiatives throughout the Puget Sound region.

King County Medic One - 1¢

(Emergency Medical Services)

Funding provides advanced 911 services and basic and advanced life-support medic units.

City of Shoreline – 13¢

The City receives 13¢ of every property tax dollar. Two cents goes to repaying the 2006 voter approved Park Bond to acquire open space and to improve and construct trails, parks, and recreational facilities. The remaining 11¢ is used to provide basic public services such as police; park and athletic field maintenance; recreational programs; neighborhood support; street lights, traffic signals, right-of-way maintenance and street sweeping; jail services; social service funding; and emergency management, just to name a few.

Shoreline Fire District – 10¢

The Shoreline Fire Department provides 24-hour coverage for fire and medical emergencies. Although fire incidents have decreased over the years through gains made by fire prevention, the number of calls continues to increase; almost 80% of the Fire District's responses are medical emergency incidents. In 2015, Shoreline voters approved the Fire District implementing a user fee (Fire Benefit Charge). The result of the new funding source is that the Fire District reduced their portion of the property tax received from 15¢ to 10¢.

King County – 14¢

(Including the Flood and Ferry Districts)

Services provided by the County include property valuation, tax assessment, and collections; prosecution and incarceration of felons; public health; environmental programs; social services; and County-owned parks, open space, and recreation opportunities.

Low-Income Tax and Utility Assistance Programs

While the economy has improved for many people, those on fixed or low incomes may continue to struggle to make ends meet. A variety of programs offer tax and utility help to Shoreline seniors, low-income individuals and families, and people with disabilities. Contact the numbers below or visit the City's website for program details and eligibility.

Tax assistance programs

- ★ Property Taxes: King County (206) 296-3920
- ★ Garbage and Natural Gas Utility Tax Exemption: City of Shoreline (206) 801-2700

Utility assistance and Reduced rate programs

- ★ Seattle City Light and Seattle Public Utilities (water)
 - Seniors and persons with disabilities: City of Seattle Mayor's Office for Senior Citizens (206) 684-0268
 - Low-Income: Seattle Human Services Department (206) 684-0268
- ★ City of Shoreline (206) 801-2302
- ★ Hopelink (206) 440-7300
- ★ Ronald Wastewater (206) 546-2494
- ★ Shoreline Water District (206) 362-8100

Questions?

If you have questions regarding your property valuations, visit the Department of Assessments website at kingcounty.gov/assessor.aspx or call (206) 296-7300. For more information about Shoreline property taxes visit shorelinewa.gov or contact Shoreline Administrative Services Director Sara Lane at slane@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2301.

YOUR TAX DOLLAR



- State Schools 19¢
- Shoreline School District 37¢
- Library District 4¢
- Port of Seattle 1¢
- King County EMS 1¢
- City Operating Levy 11¢
- City 2006 Park Bond Levy 2¢
- Shoreline Fire District 10¢
- King County 14¢