

**Proposition No. 1**  
**Submitted by the City of DuPont**



**Official Ballot Title:**

The DuPont City Council has adopted Resolution No. 01-246, concerning property tax levy rates. This Resolution would increase the City of DuPont's regular property tax levy for collection commencing in 2003 to \$2.3288 per \$1000.00 of assessed valuation, with such rate to be subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits thereafter. Should City of DuPont Resolution No.01-246 be approved or rejected?

**Explanatory Statement:**

If approved by the voters, the City will be authorized to levy regular real property taxes at a rate not to exceed \$2.3288 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. The actual levy rate will be established by the City Council. The current levy rate is \$0.3288 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. The additional tax revenue would fund regular city operations. Voter approval for this increase is necessary because the increase exceeds statutory limitations.

**Statement For:**

DuPont has the second lowest city property tax in the State, and the lowest in Pierce County. Yet, DuPont is the second fastest growing city in Washington.

DuPont regular property tax collected in 2001 covered the cost of about 2.5 police officers. In order to provide adequate essential services, we must increase our revenue.

A \$2.00 increase in your city property tax means a house valued at \$150,000 would cost an additional \$25 per month. Of the 20 cities in Pierce County, this rate would move DuPont from 20<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> overall as to city tax.

To enjoy the quality of life we want, we need to invest in our city and our future. Please vote "Yes" for DuPont. Thank you. Endorsed and supported by DuPont Professional Firefighters L3829 and DuPont Police Officers Association L165.

*Committee Members Include: Lee Reid, Carlos Torres, Pat Murphy*

**Rebuttal of Statement Against:**

Opponents have defined the "Yes" campaign goals "unrealistic" and "grandiose". It is "unrealistic" that the second fastest growing city supports its essential services with the second-lowest city tax. The opponents claim they support "adequate police and fire protection, equitable wages...for city employees, and well maintained...streets", yet term a tax plan to pay for these services "grandiose".

We cannot have it both ways. If we desire these services, we need to pay for them.

*Committee Members Include: Lee Reid, Carlos Torres, Pat Murphy*

**Statement Against:**

The proposed levy is based on ideas that are unrealistic and grandiose. What is being asked for is a 608% increase in our property taxes. The increase is not targeted for specific improvements or designated for significant city services. The money generated by this tax increase would go into the General Fund, to be spent at the discretion of the City Council. What it amounts to is a blank check for a slate of ill-defined, vague, feel-good "cultural" projects. We are very much in favor of adequate police and fire protection, equitable wages and benefits for city employees, and well maintained parks and streets. The present proposal fails to take into account the reality of our little City of DuPont. Please vote no on this proposal and require Council specify use of money, reduce amount ask for and resubmit in the fall if it is still needed.

*Committee Members Include: Wayne L. Everett, David L. Warnick, Willard F. Shenkel*

**Rebuttal of Statement For:**

No statement was submitted.

*Committee Members Include: Wayne L. Everett, David L. Warnick, Willard F. Shenkel*