

Proposition No. 1
KING COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM MAINTENANCE & OPERATION LEVY



Official Ballot Title:

The Board of Directors of the King County Rural Library District adopted Resolution No. 2001-22 proposing to restore its regular levy rate to \$0.50 per thousand dollars of assessed value upon all the taxable property within the District in 2002 for collection in 2003, thus increasing its regular property tax levy in excess of the limit factor provided for in RCW 84.55.0101, in order to provide continued funding for the normal operation and maintenance of the King County library system. Should this proposition be approved or rejected?

Explanatory Statement:

This proposition will authorize the **Library District** to **restore** its 2002 property tax levy rate to \$.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, for collection in 2003. This proposition is presented to provide voters the opportunity to exceed the limitation imposed by Initiative 747, which limits total property tax revenue to 101% of the previous year's revenue, regardless of the authorized dollar rate limitation of \$.50.

Approval of this proposition would allow the preservation of the current level of services, programs, resources, and building maintenance and repair at all 42 local community libraries.

Rejection of this proposition would lead to the Library District's revenue in 2003 being scaled back \$5.8 million from its pre-Initiative 747 level of support, necessitating cutbacks in library services, staffing and open hours, programming, acquisitions, and maintenance and repairs throughout the District.

Statement For:

Libraries are used more than ever. Budget losses from I-747 will reduce access unless funding is restored.

Library Services Help Students Succeed. In addition to books and materials available to adults, the library offers multiple services to help parents and teachers prepare students for academic success—such as homework help, tutoring, and special website pages.

Loss of Funds Will Hurt Library Service. Reduction of property tax funding will require existing services to be reduced, including books, open hours, computers, and maintenance.

Restored Funding to Begin in 2003. Voting **'approved'** restores funding limits in place before I-747. For a \$200,000 home, this means restoring \$8.80 in property taxes, allowing for inflation and keeping valuable services for students and families.

Library Use is Up! This year, items checked out increased 10%. Website visits increased 80%, to 18 million. These funds will allow us to *maintain services* needed by families and our communities.

Statement Against:

No statement was submitted against this issue.

*This space is available each election
for citizens and/or committees opposing measures
to publish a "Statement Against." For information, contact the
Pierce County Auditor's Office at (253) 798-7430.*

Committee Members Include: Miguel Llanos, Betty Rae Green, Mark W. Berry