

Special Election

April 26, 2016

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Pierce County Official
Local Voters' Pamphlet

Look for
your ballot
April 9 - 12

Voters' Pamphlet FAQ's

Why are there ballot propositions in this pamphlet that are not on my ballot?

Your ballot will include only the issues that you are eligible to vote on. Your ballot is based on the district in which you reside. To save election costs, this all-inclusive voters' pamphlet covers several districts, even if your ballot only contains one or two propositions.

Does everyone vote on Pierce County Advisory Vote No. 1?

No. Only voters in unincorporated Pierce County vote on this issue. Voters living in cities and towns are not eligible to vote on the advisory vote.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the propositions?

Please contact the district or committee. Each committee provides contact information with the statements submitted.

Statements are printed exactly as submitted. No spelling, grammatical or other corrections have been made. The Pierce County Auditor's Office does not confirm that the statements printed are true or fact.

Not registered to vote?

To register to vote, you must be:

- A citizen of the United States.
- A legal resident of Washington state.
- At least 18 years old by Election Day.
- Not under the authority of the Department of Corrections.

Deadlines for April 26 Election:

- Online or mail deadline is **March 28, 2016.**
- In person deadline (new Washington voters only) is **April 18, 2016.**

How to register:

- Online - PierceCountyElections.org
- By mail - Call us at (253) 798-VOTE and we will mail you a form.
- In person - Pierce County Election Center
2501 S 35th St, Suite C, Tacoma, WA 984
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Ballot Drop Boxes - No Stamp Required

Open 24-hours from April 8 through April 25. Closed promptly at 8 pm on April 26.

Anderson Island

Anderson Island Park and Ride
Yoman Rd (near Villa
Beach Rd)

Bonney Lake

Bonney Lake (South)
Park and Ride
Sky Island Dr E & 184th Ave E

Browns Point/

Northeast Tacoma
NE Police Substation
4731 Norpoint Way NE

DuPont

DuPont Ross Plaza
1500 Wilmington Dr

Eatonville

Barney's Corner
40512 Meridian E

Edgewood

Edgewood City Hall
2224 104th Ave E

Fife

Fife City Hall
5411 23rd St E

Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula

Gig Harbor Fire Station
6711 Kimball Dr

Key Center Fire Station
8911 Key Peninsula Hwy, KPN

Pt. Fosdick Safeway
4811 Pt. Fosdick Dr NW

Purdy Fire Station
5210 144th St NW

Graham

Graham Fire & Rescue
Station 91
10012 187th St E

Lakewood

Lakewood City Hall
6000 Main St SW

Lakewood (SR 512)
Park and Ride
10417 South Tacoma Way

Orting

Orting Public Safety Building
401 Washington Ave SE

Parkland/Spanaway

Parkland/Spanaway Library
13718 Pacific Ave S

Roy Y Park and Ride
SR 507 and Pacific Ave S

Puyallup/South Hill

Puyallup Library
324 South Meridian

South Hill Library
15420 Meridian E

Roy

Roy City Hall
216 McNaught Rd S

Steilacoom

Steilacoom Library
2950 Steilacoom Blvd

Sumner

Sumner Library
1116 Fryer Ave

Tacoma

72nd Street Transit Center
1319 E 72nd St

Central District
902 S L St

Kandle Park Police Substation
(parking lot)
5140 N 26th St

Pierce County Annex
2401 S 35th St

Pierce County Community
Connections (behind building)
3602 Pacific Ave

Tacoma Area Coalition of
Individuals with Disabilities
6315 S 19th St

Tacoma Dome Park and Ride
610 Puyallup Ave E

University Place

University Place
Fire Department
3631 Drexler Dr W

Voting Centers

Open April 26

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Services available:

- Accessible voting using touch screen equipment.
- Provisional ballots.
- Voting assistance from staff.
- Voter registration.
- Ballot drop off.

Gig Harbor Civic Center

3510 Grandview St
Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Pierce County Election Center

2501 S 35th St, Suite C
Tacoma, WA, 98409

Puyallup Library

324 South Meridian
Puyallup, WA 98371

Tacoma Area Coalition of Indi- viduals with Disabilities (TACID)

6315 S 19th St
Tacoma, WA 98466

To vote on a touch screen, bring photo ID and don't return your ballot.

For more information on accessible voting in Pierce County, call us (253) 798-VOTE (8683) or visit our website: PierceCountyElections.org

All drop boxes and voting centers close at 8:00 p.m. on April 26, 2016.

Maps, directions, and photos are available online: PierceCountyElections.org

Pierce County Special Election - Nonbinding Advisory Vote No. 1

Marijuana Production, Processing and Retail Sales

Complete resolution text at PierceCountyElections.org

Ballot Title

Should the Pierce County Council allow production, processing and retail sales of marijuana in specified zones in unincorporated Pierce County as provided in Ordinance No. 2015-27s?

Explanatory Statement

Pierce County Council Ordinance No. 2015-27s allows production, processing and retail sales of marijuana in specified zones in unincorporated Pierce County effective July 1, 2016. Before Ordinance No. 2015-27s becomes effective, the Council would like to hear from voters on the question of whether marijuana-licensed businesses should be allowed to operate in their communities.

The outcome of this vote is advisory only and shall not be binding on Pierce County.

Statement For

Vote Yes for Kids

Marijuana is already in our communities. We can let consumers continue to buy marijuana from criminals that intentionally sell to kids. Or, we can vote yes for state-licensed marijuana stores that check identification and keep marijuana out of the hands of children.

Vote Yes for Revenue

Unfortunately, politicians in Pierce County blocked the will of the people. Voting Yes on 1 restores our vote to allow State-licensed stores, creating millions of dollars in new revenue to fund Sheriffs, drug treatment facilities, and lower property taxes.

Vote Yes for Patients

Changes in state law are phasing out medical dispensaries in favor of state-licensed stores. Qualifying stores will be able to provide a safe environment where folks such as cancer patients can purchase medical marijuana.

Vote Yes along with police, doctors and educators

Let's put criminals out of business by allowing state-licensed stores in safe areas of our community. State-licensed marijuana stores are responsible, regulated, and create revenue. Vote Yes on 1!

Statement Against

We've seen a lot of new homes built in Pierce County. Building new pot shops among them is unwise.

Putting retail pot sales into family areas of our county will mean putting more marijuana around more kids. There will always be adults willing to buy products for underage users. Let's make that harder for them, not easier.

Pot shops in largely residential areas of our county send the message to our children that pot is like any other product. Really, marijuana usage in the developing brains of kids is tied to higher rates of schizophrenia and lower levels of academic achievement.

Pot shops are already becoming associated with increased challenges to neighborhoods, and an increased need for police activity—not what we want for areas with more kids! Voters agreed to legalize marijuana within certain limits. The proper location of pot shops should be among those limits. Reject this measure.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

The "No" committee statement is concerned about two things: keeping marijuana away from kids and keeping it away from residential areas. We agree! Only state-licensed marijuana stores check ID; criminals and gangs don't. Vote "Yes" to make it harder for kids to buy drugs. This measure limits stores to only 3 commercial zones—barring them from residential areas, parks, and schools. Don't fall for fear-mongering, vote "Yes" to keep marijuana away from neighborhoods.

Committee Members: Chuck West, Pam Smith, and Kelly Haughton, (253) 678-1707, info@tap502.org, www.tap502.org
The Alliance to Protect I-502

Rebuttal of Statement For

"Let's not delude ourselves: more pot does not equal less crime and less underage usage. Kids will get legal pot underage the same way they get alcohol underage. Making more opportunities for this makes no sense. Pot shops lowering property taxes with massive new revenue, or putting dealers out of business is total fantasy. At this point, legal pot remains an unproven social, legal and medical experiment. Shall we really experiment on our children?"

Committee Members: Brian Sonntag, briansonntag@harbornet.com and Mike Johnson

Bethel School District No. 403 - Special Election - Proposition No. 1

Bond to Improve Safety, Construct and Renovate School Facilities

Complete resolution text at
PierceCountyElections.org

Ballot Title The Board of Directors of Bethel School District No. 403 adopted Resolution No. 20 (15-16) concerning a proposition to finance construction, renovation and safety of schools. If approved, this proposition will authorize the District to replace or renovate six elementary, middle and high schools; construct one elementary school; replace failing roofs, plumbing and technology infrastructure; make earthquake, security and safety improvements; install energy-efficient heating and lighting; purchase a future school site; improve athletic fields and construct a school district/community swimming pool by issuing \$236,700,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within 20 years and levying additional property taxes annually to repay the bonds. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved or rejected?

Explanatory Statement Proposition 1 addresses student growth, equity and critical facility needs district wide. If approved, the District will replace, renovate or expand Bethel, Challenger and Graham-Kapowsin High Schools, Cedarcrest Middle School, and Evergreen and Naches Trail Elementary Schools; construct one elementary school and a school district/community swimming pool; purchase land for a future school and improve high school athletic fields. Seven elementary schools (Camas Prairie, Centennial, Elk Plain, Graham, Kapowsin, Rocky Ridge and Roy) and two middle schools (Bethel and Frontier) will receive HVAC replacements, emergency generators and/or building modifications.

Critical projects include replacement of failing roofs and portable classrooms; installation of new plumbing, heating and cooling systems, electrical and technology infrastructure; additional space for smaller class sizes; site and security improvements; and energy conservation measures. These improvements will upgrade existing facilities to address safety, code, health and educational standards.

If approved, the District will receive approximately \$81,900,000 in State matching funds to complete these projects. The estimated rate is \$0.65 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. Tax exemptions may be available to homeowners, age 61 or older, and disabled persons that meet certain income requirements. For information, call the Pierce County Assessor-Treasurer at 253.798.2169.

Statement For

Yes! School Improvements and Safety Upgrades Strong schools build strong communities. *Proposition 1 gives Bethel children safe, modern schools with the best environments for teaching and learning.*

Yes! Fix Overcrowded Schools and Prepare for Growth Enrollment is up by 1,400 new students with 3,000 more projected in just 10 years. *This bond preserves smaller class sizes and prepares our community for future growth. It improves 15 schools, creates desperately needed classroom space, constructs a community swimming pool and adds functional recreational spaces to improve health and wellness.*

Yes! Protect our Investments Bethel's sterling record of completing projects, combined with low financing and construction costs, means now is the best time to replace, renovate, and repair our older schools. *Proposition 1 ensures our schools meet current safety and health standards by updating roofs, plumbing, electrical, HVAC, fire sprinkler, earthquake, technology and security systems.*

Yes! Renew Your Commitment to Bethel Schools and our Children The research is conclusive: school facilities have a measurable impact on the achievement of our children. *Exercise your civic duty for our community... Vote Yes!*

Rebuttal of Statement Against

Research shows safe and equitable schools improve student achievement! Nearly 90% of Proposition 1 supports low class sizes, safety enhancements, and essential school renovations. Community health and wellness aren't luxuries. Fields and a pool provide recreational opportunities and maintain the district's federally-mandated Title IX compliance. For \$10.83 per month, the average homeowner ensures every student's access to quality schools and the same activities enjoyed in neighboring districts. Vote yes, our children are worth it.

Committee Members: Shannon Booth, (253) 753-0337, murphybooth@hotmail.com, Bob Benum, and Ed Burmester, www.yesbethelkids.com
Bethel Citizens Committee for School Support

Statement Against

Construction bond failed 1st time, needs to fail again. These aren't responsible bonds, bundling essential building projects (new elementary schools to alleviate overcrowding) with luxury items (swimming pool, high end athletic fields.) Our economy is recovering, not recovered. Many homeowners are barely keeping our homes. This bond forces another high tax burden many cannot afford.

How many students will actually benefit from a swimming pool and fancy athletic fields? Sports programs are important, but don't require top notch fields and facilities. Forcing everyone to pay for luxury items used by only a small percentage of students is unfair and irresponsible.

The district proposes busing 2nd and 5th graders to swimming lessons. How will they pay for the transportation? How will they find time in the school day? Our children have already lost recess, and untested subjects like science.

Stop the bullying. Don't hold our elementary students hostage! We teach kids not to bully, but bundling luxury items with necessities is bullying by our board. They are holding our overcrowded elementary school students hostage by forcing us to pay for expensive luxuries.

Rebuttal of Statement For

We do need new schools, but this bond covers too much that we *don't need*. We have "functional recreational spaces." A full 22% of this bond, \$51.8 million, is for the luxury items of a swimming pool and synthetic turf for fields, which the professional teams are removing due to excessive injuries. Bethel needs to rewrite this bond to cover necessities now, and finance luxuries when our economy has recovered. Facebook has details:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1535000980133141/>

Committee Member: Jennifer Smith
Responsible.School.Spending@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1535000980133141/>
Citizens for Responsible Education Funding

Eatonville School District No. 404 Special Election - Proposition No. 1

General Obligation Bonds - \$19,480,015

Complete resolution text at PierceCountyElections.org

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Eatonville School District No. 404 adopted Resolution No. 661 concerning a proposition for bonds. If approved, this proposition will authorize the District to make safety, security and technology improvements in all schools, construct a new multi-use facility at the high school, make track improvements at the middle school, and improve the gifted farm property for the STEM program; issue \$19,480,015 of general obligation bonds maturing within a maximum term of 25 years; and levy excess property taxes annually to repay the bonds, all as described in Resolution No. 661. Should this proposition be approved or rejected?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 will authorize Eatonville School District No. 404 to borrow \$19,480,015 by issuing general obligation bonds. In accordance with Resolution No. 661 approving this proposition, the bonds will provide funds to construct, equip, renovate and make certain capital improvements to the facilities of the District, including: safety, security and technology improvements at all schools, including communication system upgrades, building access controls, video call equipment, intercom upgrades and security enabled phones, switches, routers, additional wireless access, improved firewalls, volume and outdoor wireless access points and initiation of a program for student access to laptop technology; athletic facilities improvements include a new multi-use stadium facility at Eatonville High School, with lighting and speaker systems, and track and turf improvements at the Middle School; improvements to gifted farm property to meet building code requirements and upgrades to make it suitable for the STEM (science, technology, engineering & mathematics) program, and enable partnership for student teaching. The bonds would be repaid out of annual property tax levies over a period of 25 years. The levy rate is estimated to be \$1.24 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation, costing the typical homeowner (\$200,000 home) \$20.67 per month or \$248.00 per year.

Statement For

Your "Yes" Vote Has Long-Lasting Positive Impacts on our Community's Schools. Passing this measure will enable us to continue providing the children of our community a high-quality education by replacing worn-out, inadequate athletic facilities, installing safety and security measures, and increasing technology in all schools.

Passing the Measure Modernizes Athletic Facilities. Prop. 1 replaces our failing 1937 football stadium and grass fields with a safe stadium and artificial turf fields and tracks at EMS and EHS; increasing field use-ability for student and community groups while significantly conserving water.

Passing the Measure Increases Technology and Security in Our Schools. Prop. 1 upgrades connectivity in all schools, providing 21st Century tools for personalized learning; especially in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Security on school campuses will be improved and communication on busses will be modernized, shortening emergency response times.

A Local Measure for all Eatonville Schools. The measure maintains our schools as the focus of our community and ensures the continued quality education of all students in the district.

Committee Members: *Corrine Lucas, corrinelucas@hotmail.com, John Fisher, and Ronda Litzenberger Eatonville Citizens for Education*

Statement Against

No statement was submitted against this issue.

East Pierce Fire & Rescue Special Election - Proposition No. 1

Levy Lid Lift

Complete resolution text at PierceCountyElections.org

Ballot Title

The Board of Fire Commissioners of East Pierce Fire & Rescue adopted Resolution No. 795 concerning an increase in the District's regular property tax levy. For the purpose of maintaining current levels of fire protection and emergency medical services, Proposition No. 1 will restore the District's regular property tax levy to fifty cents (\$0.50) per thousand dollars (\$1,000) of assessed value for collection in 2017, thereby exceeding the revenue limitation in Chapter 84.55 RCW. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved or rejected?

Explanatory Statement

East Pierce Fire and Rescue, a fire district located in Pierce County (and partly in King County), is placing a lid lift proposition on the April 26, 2016 ballot. This proposition will authorize the property tax EMS levy rate to return to the previously voter-approved rate of \$.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The proposition is presented to provide voters the opportunity to exceed the limitation imposed by Initiative 747, which would otherwise limit total property tax revenue to 101% of the previous year's revenue, regardless of the authorized dollar rate limitation of \$.50.

This proposition meets the requirement of Initiative 747, which was enacted by the voters of the State of Washington in November of 2001, mandating that any increase in revenue of more than 1% be approved by the voters.

Approval of this proposition would allow maintaining the current level of services. Rejection of this proposition would lead to the loss of approximately \$600,000 in projected tax revenue, which would necessitate cutbacks in services, including the inability to increase the number of paramedics to address a rapidly increasing medical call volume and to keep pace with the rising costs of medical supplies.

Statement For

This is not a new tax! This is a request to *reauthorize* your previously approved Emergency Medical Services (EMS) levy rate of .50 cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation. Average of \$1.25 a month on \$250,000 home.

Your support of the EMS Levy has allowed the District to hire paramedics and support a fully staffed Advanced Life Support (ALS) program. In addition, the citizens of East Pierce Fire/Rescue enjoy the benefits of *Medic Unit transport to the hospital with no out of pocket expenses.*

Our goal is to continue to provide the highest level of emergency services that you authorized with the previous EMS Levy. Please join us in voting *yes* to maintain this quality of service to you and your loved ones.

Committee Member: *William Sandlian,*
dad1073@yahoo.com
Yes for Emergency Services

Statement Against

No statement was submitted against this issue.

Pierce County Auditor's Office
2501 S 35th St, Suite C
Tacoma, WA 98409



NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TACOMA, WA
PERMIT NO. 19

April 26, 2016 Special Election

Ballots will be mailed by April 8.

If you do not receive your ballot by Friday, April 15, contact us to request a replacement ballot.

Return your ballot early!

Mail your ballot by April 22, 2016 so it's postmarked by April 26, 2016. Or, use a postage-free drop box. (See page 3)

Ballot drop boxes close at 8:00 p.m. on April 26, 2016.

PierceCountyElections.org
pcelections@co.pierce.wa.us
(253) 798-VOTE (8683)
(800) 446-4979

