

ORDINANCE NO. 2009-11-072

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE 2010 BUDGET AND SETTING THE AD VALOREM AND FOREST EXCISE TAX LEVIES FOR 2010 AND ALSO SETTING FORTH THE PERCENTAGE AND DOLLAR RATE OF INCREASE FOR THE REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR 2010.

WHEREAS, pursuant to State statute (RCW 84.52.020), the City is required to submit to the County an ordinance setting the annual property tax levy on or before November 30th of each year; and

WHEREAS, the assessed valuation including the impacts of new construction and improvements, annexations, and changes in the state assessed utilities are not available from the County Assessor at the time of preparation of this ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the statutes require the adoption of the ordinance prior to the information being available from the County Assessor; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on October 19, 2009 to discuss the annual 2010 property tax levy and revenue estimates; and

WHEREAS, the Bellingham City Council desires to levy a regular property tax levy for 2010 that will include a 1% increase from the previous year in the amount of \$180,639, plus collect the value of new construction and improvements, the values of annexations, and changes in the state assessed utility valuations; and

WHEREAS, the estimated levy for the General Fund, including the 1% allowed increase and the estimate for new construction is \$12,381,717; and

WHEREAS, the estimated levy for the Firefighter's Pension Fund, levied at \$.225 cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation is \$1,971,499; and

WHEREAS, the estimated levy for the Greenways III Fund, including the 1% allowed increase and the estimate for new construction is \$4,259,315; and

WHEREAS, the City Council will levy such excess levies as are necessary to provide for the payment of the debt service on bond issues previously issued pursuant to vote of the citizens of Bellingham;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM DOES ORDAIN:

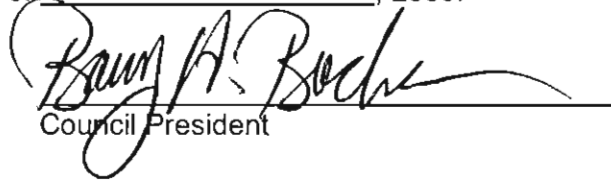
Section 1. The Ad Valorem and Forest excise taxes for the City of Bellingham for the 2010 budget are subject to the following levies:

- A. An increase in the regular property tax levy is hereby authorized for the 2010 levy in the amount of \$180,639, which is a 1% increase from the previous year. This increase is exclusive of additional revenue resulting from the addition of new construction and improvements to property and any increase in the value of state assessed property, and any additional amount resulting from any annexation that have occurred and refunds made.
- B. The following levy will be made to redeem the debt for the previously approved excess bond issue:

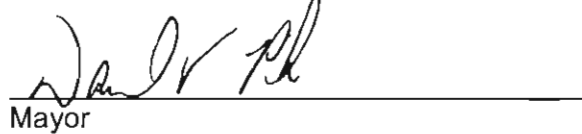
2001 Fire General Obligation – Approximately \$355,315.

Section 2. Upon issuance of the assessed valuation figures from the Whatcom County Assessor, the computations will be made administratively to reflect the legislative direction provided and attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated by reference herein.

PASSED by the Council this 23rd day of November, 2009.


Council President

APPROVED by me this 24th day of November, 2009.


Mayor

ATTEST 
Finance Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Office of the City Attorney

Published:

November 27, 2009

2010 Property Tax Ordinance.docx

City of Bellingham
City Attorney
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225
360-676-6903

**City of Bellingham
Estimated Property Tax**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
ASSESSED VALUATION								Estimated
Regular Levy (in thousands)	4,598,293	4,683,842	5,348,485	6,635,005	6,868,649	7,070,686	8,079,557	8,762,219
Includes estimated value of new const.	97,378	109,248	141,570	160,209	236,030	184,017	142,218	41,428
Includes estimated value of annexations	15,594	-	-	-	-	-	4,017	129,640
PROPERTY TAX LEVY RATE								
Property Tax Levy Increase not including new const and annex	0.00%	1.00%	6.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	0.00%	1.00%
General Fund Levy Rate	\$ 2.31693	\$ 2.35421	\$ 2.04020	\$ 1.68297	\$ 1.68677	\$ 1.70899	\$ 1.49912	\$ 1.41308
Fire Pension Rate	\$ 0.57000	\$ 0.57000	\$ 0.22500	\$ 0.22500	\$ 0.22500	\$ 0.22500	\$ 0.22500	\$ 0.22500
Voted Greenways Rate	\$ 2.88693	\$ 2.92421	\$ 2.56268	\$ 2.15558	\$ 2.48177	\$ 2.50892	\$ 2.23575	\$ 2.12418
Total Regular Levy Rate	\$ 0.04020	\$ 0.04344	\$ 0.06488	\$ 0.04884	\$ 0.05486	\$ 0.05197	\$ 0.04516	\$ 0.04631
Voted Excess Levy Rate								
RDA LIFT	\$ 2.92713	\$ 2.96765	\$ 2.62756	\$ 2.20442	\$ 2.53663	\$ 2.56107	\$ 2.28112	\$ 2.17070
Total City Prop Tax Levy Rate								
General Fund Levy	10,653,923	11,026,748	10,911,979	11,166,515	11,585,830	12,083,732	12,112,225	12,381,717
Fire Pension Levy	-	-	1,203,409	1,492,876	1,545,446	1,590,904	1,817,900	1,971,499
Voted Greenways Rate	2,621,027	2,669,790	1,591,067	1,642,894	3,915,130	4,065,150	4,133,744	4,259,315
RDA LIFT						1,273	1,697	
Total Regular Levy Rate	13,274,950	13,696,538	13,706,456	14,302,285	17,046,406	17,741,059	18,065,565	18,612,531
Voted Excess Levy Rate	182,209	200,592	344,366	320,965	372,805	363,365	361,162	355,315
Total Property Tax Levy	13,457,159	13,897,130	14,050,822	14,623,250	17,419,211	18,104,424	18,426,727	18,967,847
Percent of Change - Total	-0.72%	3.27%	1.11%	4.07%	19.12%	3.93%	1.78%	2.94%
CITY IMPACT ON HOME TAXES								
Regular Levy at \$300,000 value	\$ 866.08	\$ 877.26	\$ 768.80	\$ 646.67	\$ 744.53	\$ 752.68	\$ 670.73	\$ 637.25
Voted City Levy at \$300,000 value	\$ 878.14	\$ 890.30	\$ 788.27	\$ 661.33	\$ 760.99	\$ 768.32	\$ 684.34	\$ 651.21

Cumulative Banked Capacity \$ 56,499.86 \$ 57,064.86 \$ 234,206.31 \$ 234,206.31

ASSESSED VALUATION
EXCESS LEVY

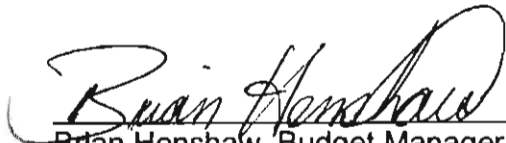
\$ 8,504,324,228.00

EXCESS LEVY REQUEST

2001 FIRE G.O.
\$0.04178 per thousand = \$ 355,315.00

TOTAL CITY LEVY
\$2.22117 per thousand = \$ 19,091,528.05

Dated this 23rd day of December, 2009.



Brian Henshaw, Budget Manager
City of Bellingham, Washington

Copy: Mayor Dan Pike
Bellingham City Council
John Carter, Finance Director