

**Washington County**  
**Public Safety Levy Replacement**  
**Ballot Title**

**Caption:**

Replacement Local Option Levy for Countywide Public Safety Services (9/10)

**Question:**

Shall Washington County enhance public safety services by levying 66¢ per \$1,000 assessed value for five years, beginning in 2026? (20/20) This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

**Summary:**

Measure replaces levy expiring in June 2026, and enhances funding for a wide range of countywide public safety services including:

- **Investigating and prosecuting** theft, car theft, break-ins and graffiti.
- **Prosecuting** child abuse and child pornography cases.
- **Preventing domestic violence** and **expanding emergency assistance for victims** harmed by it.
- **Combating the impact of deadly drugs** like fentanyl and dismantling drug trafficking organizations.
- **Fully funding the jail** to keep those with more dangerous charges in court-ordered custody.
- **Preventing crime** with mental health response teams, job training, employment and addiction services to keep youth and adults from returning to the justice system.

Since voters last approved the levy, state funding has decreased, and costs have increased. The same services cannot be maintained at the current rate. Replacement helps preserve public safety and keep up with inflation.

The replaced levy would set a fixed rate of 66¢ per \$1,000 of assessed value, an increase of 19¢. In 2026, typical homeowners with an assessed value (not market value) of \$348,600 would pay about \$230, or \$6 more per month.

Estimated levy amount for each year:

\$61,906,469 in 2026-2027

\$64,537,493 in 2027-2028

\$67,280,337 in 2028-2029

\$70,139,751 in 2029-2030

\$73,120,691 in 2030-2031