

Pro and Con Committees for Parks and Public Safety Levy Lid Lift

The City of Mount Vernon Seeks Community Members to Serve on Pro and Con Committees for Upcoming Public Safety and Parks Levy Lid Lift.

On July 9, 2025, the Mount Vernon City Council approved the Public Safety and Parks Levy Lid Lift ballot measure resolution for placement on the November 4, 2025, ballot.

The ballot measure includes funding for increased police and fire staffing, vehicles, and equipment, and park operations and maintenance, parks capital projects to include 3 playground replacements, parks staffing, community and youth recreation programming (i.e., community events and youth summer programs). The total proposed annual levy lift amount is \$3,900,000 in 2026.

Financial analysis identified that the City can no longer depend entirely on traditional revenue sources as a means of funding cyclical maintenance requirements, major capital projects, and police and fire personnel to meet the interests of the public. Without additional revenue, the City will be required to substantially reduce basic services to the citizens of Mount Vernon, including services related to public safety, parks and other community services.

Pro and Con Committees Requirements:

Each Committee will be limited to three appointed committee members, but the committee can have an unlimited number of people assisting them to prepare the statements. Arguments may consist of up to 250 words. Hyphenations count as 2 words. May use up to 4 headings, each 15 words or less. Headings are calculated as part of the total word count. No more than 5 paragraphs are allowed for arguments.

To qualify, a member must reside in the City of Mount Vernon. The primary role of each is to prepare a statement in favor of or in opposition to the ballot measure respectively.

Each committee is required to submit their respective statements to Skagit County Elections office by August 15, 2025. Rebuttal statements (75 words/one paragraph limit) are due to the Skagit County Elections office by August 20, 2025.

All materials are due by 4:30pm on the day of the deadline.

How to apply for Pro and Con Committees

If you are interested in serving on one of these committees, please apply by submitting an application to the City Clerk, Becky Jensen, by email: beckyj@mountvernonwa.gov or mail to Becky Jensen, 910 Cleveland Ave, Mount Vernon, WA 98273. Please limit your application statement to 300 words.

Applications can be found on the City's website:

<https://www.mountvernonwa.gov/1352/Levy-Lid-Lift>

Application Deadline

The deadline for submitting an application for serving on the Pro and Con Committees is 11:00am on Friday, July 18, 2025.

The City Council will review the applications and make appointments to the pro and con committees at the City Council meeting on July 23, 2025.

Requests for application can also be made by calling 360.336.6211