



UTILITY TAX CONSIDERATION



The Camas City Council is looking to create a more stable revenue system and is considering implementing a utility tax. The proposed tax would be 1% on cable and telephone and 3% on storm water and solid waste.

The benefit of implementing this utility tax is to stabilize the city's funding system and provide offsetting property tax relief. Our budget is heavily dependent on property taxes. While this proposal would have very little impact on taxpayers, it creates a more stable funding source in times of recession. A utility tax would also give the Council greater flexibility in addressing the future needs of the city.

Do other cities collect utility taxes?

Camas and La Center are the only cities in Clark County that do not currently collect utility taxes.

How much are other cities collecting?

The other cities in Clark County are currently charging 6% for utilities—some have even higher rates for water and sewer. Camas does not intend to charge a utility tax on water, sewer, gas, or electricity.

How can taxpayers learn more?

You are invited to an Open House on November 10, 2016 at 6:00 pm in the Camas Public Library Community Meeting Rooms located at 625 NE 4th Avenue in Camas. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the proposal and give staff your feedback.

If you have questions or comments, please contact Pete Capell, your City Administrator, at (360) 834-6864 or by e-mail at pcapell@cityofcamas.us or Cathy Huber Nickerson, your Finance Director, at (360) 834-6864 or e-mail at chuber@cityofcamas.us.