

Fort Vancouver Regional
Library District

Proposition No. 1

Levy Lid Lift

The Board of Trustees of the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District adopted Resolution 2025-01 concerning its regular property tax levy. This proposition would authorize the District to restore its regular property tax levy to \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value for collection in 2026 to provide continued funding for the Library District’s operation and maintenance. The resulting dollar amount of the 2026 levy would be used for the purpose of computing subsequent levy limitations as provided by RCW 84.55. Should this proposition be approved?

To vote, use your official ballot.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

State law allows Fort Vancouver Regional Library (FVRL) to collect up to \$0.50/\$1,000 of assessed property value per year for general operations and maintenance. However, due to tax limitation laws, FVRL has collected at a rate below \$0.50/\$1,000 since 2014. Passage of this Proposition would restore FVRL’s levy rate to \$0.50/\$1,000 for 2026. The resulting 2026 levy amount would then be used to calculate all applicable tax limitations thereafter.

Approval of this Proposition would provide funding necessary to sustain FVRL’s operations and maintenance. Rejection of this Proposition would mean reduced funding for FVRL, necessitating reductions to library operations and maintenance.

STATEMENT FOR

Invest in Our Community’s Future: Vote Yes for Libraries, Vote Yes for Proposition 1.
We have a vital choice to make. Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries (FVRLibraries) are the heart of our community—connecting 550,000 neighbors across 4,200 square miles to books, technology, programs, and spaces for learning, and growth.

This levy provides 96% of the funding that keeps our libraries open and thriving. Without it, services will face deep cuts—fewer hours, fewer staff, fewer materials and hundreds of programs that support children, seniors, families, and job seekers. Libraries could close, services would shrink, and access for rural and underserved areas would be deeply impacted.

Libraries aren’t a luxury—they are vital to education, opportunity, and community well-being. A Yes vote means both sustaining what we love about our libraries, while adding more hours, more resources, and building a stronger, more resilient community for everyone who calls this region home.

Whether you visit often or not, strong libraries strengthen the entire community. Let’s protect this vital resource—today and for the future. Let’s keep them open, vibrant, and thriving—now and for future generations. Vote Yes on Proposition 1.

REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST

FVRL is wholly transparent in all operations and use of taxpayer funds with information publicly available. FVRL is audited annually by the State Auditors Office and submits an annual public library survey available online. FVRL has not had a levy lid lift on the ballot for 15 years although the population increase makes FVRL the 5th largest library district in the state. The Executive Director is the 7th highest paid among those peers.

Statement For and Rebuttal of Statement Against Submitted by:

Scott Anderson, Chair
scottanderson98648@gmail.com
Jan Oliva
Cheyenne Pantoja Wright

STATEMENT AGAINST

While library services are a pillar of a thriving community, the FVRL Board of Trustees has failed in their duty to utilize taxpayer funds in a prudent and transparent manner and has not earned the right to request an increase from the people they serve.

Since 2022, FVRL has failed to participate in the WA state public library wage study, leaving taxpayers in the dark as to how much of their money is going to executive salaries rather than being invested in the community. According to the WPEA, FVRL’s current Executive Director was hired at a salary of over \$200,000 while frontline workers made just over minimum wage. This would make FVRL’s Executive Director the second highest paid in the state, despite FVRL only serving the fifth largest population. Instead of pledging to cut bloated executive salaries should their levy fail to pass, the Board has instead declared that they will immediately cut frontline staff hours and services by 30%.

In addition to their lack of transparency, the Board and FVRL management have continually conceded to the demands of MAGA extremists, failing to provide vital services to marginalized groups, especially LGBTQ+ kids and families. Despite all other surrounding library systems providing these services, some with smaller budgets and populations, FVRL continues to cower in the face of a vocal minority.

Until FVRL and the Board can prove they are dedicated to financial transparency and properly serving our community, I urge you to vote no on this levy lift.

Statement Against Submitted by:

Amy Hotchkiss, Chair
ahotch83@gmail.com

No statement was submitted for:
REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR

For the complete text of the resolution, please visit: clark.wa.gov/elections/august-5-2025-primary-election
Measure statements are printed exactly as submitted. Clark County Elections does not correct punctuation, grammar, typos or inaccurate information.



Clark County Official Local
Voters’
Pamphlet

August 5, 2025 Primary and
Special Election

City of Vancouver Edition



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Published by the
Clark County Auditor’s Office



Ron Willis

Elected Experience
Elected to Ilwaco City Council

Other Professional Experience
Retired Director of the Oklahoma State Alcohol and Beverage Law enforcement Commission for licensing and enforcement Commission. Responsible for licensing and enforcement of all alcohol beverage laws, gambling laws and Tabaco laws. Retired LT Commander us Navy Reserve.

Education Master’s degree in urban education from Langston university. Bachelor’s degree in education from Langston university. AA degree in law enforcement from Clatsop collage.

Community Service Past member of the Pacific County, WA Veterans Affairs Commision. Past member of the Ilwaco city planning commission. Board member, on the long beach city/ pacific Boys & Girls club.

Statement I am concerned the use of the city streets and pirate property by campers/homeless street people. Apparently, nothing is being done to correct this situation other than throwing more of the taxpayer’s money at the problem.

The streets are in terrible condition with little being done to correct this mess. It will problem take several years to bring our streets back into useable condition

I am retired and have a lot of time to devote to the situation.

Phone 503-440-6228
Email rltate9@aol.com



Pooneh Gray

Elected Experience
No Information Submitted

Other Professional Experience
Yamhill County Mental Health, Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare, as a Qualified Mental Health Professional; State of Oregon, as the state’s Enhanced Care Coordinator. Responsible for providing treatment,

rehabilitation, skills training and transitional housing for individuals with severe mental illness and addiction. Real Estate business owner, developed public-private housing solutions for the most vulnerable.

Education Master’s degree in Psychology, University of Idaho, Bachelors WSU, Fort Vancouver High School

Community Service Member of the Oregon State Health Care Association. Supports Disabled American Veterans and American Red Cross. Advocate for crime victims and families who have been wrongfully incarcerated or lost loved ones to violent crime.

Statement Pooneh Gray was raised in Vancouver. She received her Bachelors from Washington State University and a Masters degree in Psychology from University of Idaho. For three decades, Pooneh has created transitional housing programs for the most vulnerable individuals in both the public and private sectors. Her work includes treatment, rehabilitation, and skills training. Recognizing that unsheltered street living is unsafe for everyone, Pooneh will advocate for a ban on urban camping while developing partnerships to assist the unhoused.

As a business owner Pooneh knows that tax increases are often passed onto working families and consumers by driving up the cost of everyday goods and housing. She supports policies that avoid unnecessary tax burdens and promote job creation.

Pooneh believes in giving victims a voice and supports funding for law-enforcement, emergency responders, and 911 dispatch centers. She will promote safe community environments by improving lighting, walkability, and clean community spaces. Pooneh is committed to working hard every single day for the people of Vancouver. She believes that great solutions come from listening to every voice in the community. “When we work together, we can create real, lasting change that reflects our shared values and goals”.

Phone 360-823-3511
Email Info@voteforpoonehgray.com
Website voteforpoonehgray.com



Kim D. Harless

Elected Experience
Vancouver City Councilmember, Position 1 (current); 2021 Clark County Charter Review Commissioner and Co-Chair

Other Professional Experience
Policy, Advocacy, and Community Engagement Manager, Native American Youth and Family Center’s Vancouver

Office (NAYA, current); PaintCare; Clark County Public Health & Environment Services; WSU Vancouver Sciences

Education Washington State University Vancouver, Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science; Clark College; Heritage High School

Community Service Board Member, Fourth Plain Forward; Chair, Lodging Tax Advisory Committee; Board Member, Southwest Washington Clean Air Agency; Alternate, C-TRAN Board of Directors; LULAC Councilmember; Former Vice-Chair, Clark County Food System Council; George C. Marshall 2021 Leadership Award Finalist; Leadership Clark County, 2019

Statement I believe in a Vancouver where every resident, regardless of background, is not just *surviving* but *thriving*. Vancouver has made significant advances in recent years, but there’s more work ahead.

Since being elected in 2021, I’ve worked hard to deliver on my promises to you: advancing our response to climate change; protecting the environment; expanding affordable housing; ensuring the voices of those most impacted are heard; making grants more accessible for small cultural organizations; promoting development that centers community voices; creating safer transportation options; and increasing shelter capacity and improving our homelessness response, which has become a model for other cities.

I understand the challenges families face in juggling time, energy, and resources, and I bring that lived experience to every decision. As a multi-racial single mother, with Native American and Chicano ancestry, I’m dedicated to the safety and resiliency of this community, and my entire professional and personal life has been rooted in public service.

I will lead with equity, accountability, and care as I continue fighting for the Vancouver we all believe in. This city helped shape who I am, and I’m proud to give back. I’d be honored to have your support to continue this work.

Phone 360-553-1343
Email info@votekimharless.com
Website votekimharless.com

You must *sign and date your return envelope* in order for your ballot to be counted!

- Sign in the signature box that has YOUR name printed on the envelope.
- If you are unsure about the signature in your voter registration record, we encourage you to call the Elections Office at 564-397-2345. We can provide a description of the signature you used when you registered to vote.
- Do NOT sign someone else’s name, even if you have power of attorney.
- Voting over the phone by having someone else fill out and sign your ballot is against the law. Voters can call us at 564-397-2345 to learn about the options for voting while they are out of town.
- Drop boxes are available if you don’t want your ballot or signature to go through the mail.
- Sign up to receive text messages regarding your ballot status. Text the word VOTE to 868392 (VoteWA).

Registering to vote

Registering takes only a few minutes, and you can do so in person, by mail or online at ***VoteWA.gov***.

You may complete a new voter registration form. Contact the Elections Office by mail, email, or phone for more information.

The deadline to receive new voter registrations and voter updates to existing registrations online, by phone or by mail is 4 pm Monday, July 28, 2025.

Lost or damaged ballot?

If you lose your ballot, or it becomes damaged, you can obtain a replacement ballot by contacting the Elections Office.

Clark County Elections Office

Phone 564-397-2345
Relay 711 or 877-833-6341
Email elections@clark.wa.gov
Mailing address PO Box 8815
Vancouver, WA 98666-8815
Street address 1408 Franklin Street, Vancouver

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Mailing address PO Box 8815, Vancouver, WA 98666-8815

Street address 1408 Franklin Street, Vancouver

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front panel mural by @anatheartist

FVRL

Clark County Official Local

Voters' Pamphlet

August 5, 2025 Primary and Special Election
Fort Vancouver Regional Library District Edition



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STATEMENT FOR

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Statement Against Submitted by:

Amy Hotchkiss, Chair
ahotch83@gmail.com

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