

City Council Meeting Agenda

May 19, 2025

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA), the Vancouver City Council meeting will be open to in-person attendance. Options for viewing and/or participating in the meeting remotely will also be accommodated. The City Council will be attending this meeting in person.

All City Council workshops and meetings are broadcast ([live closed captioning available](#)), CVTV cable channels 23 / HD 323, and on the [City's Facebook page](#).

Public testimony will be accepted regarding any matter on the agenda below. Advance registration will be required.

Unless otherwise announced by the Presiding Officer, each speaker may testify once for up to three minutes under each public testimony opportunity below and will be asked to provide their name and city of residence for the record.

Testimony will be accepted in the following manner:

- **Written comments submitted in advance:** [Email comments to the City Council](#) until 12:00 p.m. May 19, 2025. Comments will be compiled and sent to the City Council and entered into the record.
- **In-person or remote testimony during the meeting:** Register in-person at City Hall. In-person registration is open until 6:30 p.m. on May 19, 2025. Instructions will be provided on-site. Register to testify online. Online registration is open until 12:00 p.m. on May 19, 2025.

Visit the [city's website](#) for more information and to register under Public Participation or call the City Manager's Office at (360) 487-8600.

Further instructions for accessing the virtual meeting (for remote testimony) will be provided upon registration.

Upon request, printouts of agenda materials will be provided, including large print.

Workshops: 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Vancouver City Hall - Council Chambers - 415 W 6th Street, Vancouver WA

Districting Charter Amendment

(Approximately 1 hour)

Aaron Lande, Program and Policy Development Manager, aaron.lande@cityofvancouver.us

Cultural Access Program Introduction

(Approximately 45 minutes, to immediately follow the previous workshop)

David Perlick, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services,
david.perlick@cityofvancouver.us

Council Dinner / Administrative Updates (6:00 - 6:30 PM)

Regular Council Meeting

6:30 PM

Vancouver City Hall - Council Chambers - 415 W 6th Street, Vancouver WA

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order and Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

Minutes - May 12, 2025

Proclamations

National Public Works Week

Taiwanese American Heritage Week

Community Communication

This is the place on the agenda where the public is invited to speak to Council regarding any matter on the Agenda not already scheduled for Public Hearing. (Separate instructions are provided for offering testimony on Public Hearing when applicable.) This includes the option to testify about Workshops. Members of the public addressing Council are requested to give their name and city of residence for the audio record. Speakers are to limit their testimony to a total of three minutes for all items combined.

Consent Agenda

The following items will be passed by a single motion to approve all listed actions and resolutions. There will be no discussion on these items unless requested by Council. If discussion is requested, the item will be moved from the Consent Agenda and considered separately – after the motion has been made and passed to approve the remaining items.

1. Celebrate Freedom Program Agreement Between the City of Vancouver and The Historic Trust

Staff Report: 102-25

Request: On Monday, May 19, 2025, authorize the City Manager, or designee, to sign the Celebrate Freedom Agreement.

David Perlick, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services,
david.perlick@cityofvancouver.us

2. Resolution Amending Waterfront Gateway Impact Fee Waiver

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Vancouver amending the partial impact fee exemption approved by Resolution M-4332.

Staff Report: 103-25

Request: On Monday May 19, 2025, adopt an amended resolution modifying the 80% exemption to park and traffic impact fees for the Vancouver Waterfront Gateway

affordable housing project.

Bryan Monroe, Associate Housing Project Coordinator,
bryan.monroe@cityofvancouver.us

3. Approval of Claim Vouchers

Request: Approve claim vouchers for May 19, 2025.

Public Hearings

The following item(s) are scheduled for public hearing. Members of the public addressing Council are requested to give their name and city of residence for the audio record. Unless otherwise announced by the Presiding Officer, speakers are to limit their testimony to three minutes for each public hearing.

4. Amendment to Vancouver Municipal Parking Code related Downtown Access Mobility and Parking Plan

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Parking Code for the City of Vancouver under Vancouver Municipal Code (VMC) Titles 19 and 9; amending VMC sections 19.040.070 relating to On-Street Permits; 19.13.010 relating to payment transferability; 19.11.030 relating to parking meter fees designated; 9.92.10 relating to Carpool permit eligibility; 9.92.020 relating to Carpool permit parking hours; 9.92.040 relating to Carpool Permit rate; providing for severability; and setting an immediate effective date.

Staff Report: 100-25

Request: On Monday, May 12, 2025, upon second reading and a public hearing, approve the ordinance, amending the Vancouver Municipal Parking Code to implement the Downtown Access Mobility and Parking Plan.

Gabe Montez, Parking District Manager, Gabriel.Montez@cityofvancouver.us

Communications

A. From the Council

B. From the Mayor

C. From the City Manager

Homeless Situation Report

Community Forum

This is the place on the agenda where the public is invited to speak to Council regarding any matter. Members of the public addressing Council are requested to give their name and city of residence for the record. Speakers are to limit their testimony to a total of three minutes. Up to 90 minutes will be allotted for the Community Forum.

Adjournment

City Hall is served by C-TRAN. Route information and schedules are available online at www.c-tran.com. You also may reach C-TRAN at (360) 695-0123 for more information on times, fares, and

routes.

Anyone needing language interpretation services or accommodations with a disability at a Vancouver City Council meeting may contact the City Manager's staff at (360) 487-8600 (RELAY: 711). Assistive listening devices and live Closed Captioning are available for the deaf, hard of hearing and general public use. Please notify a staff person if you wish to use one of the devices. Every attempt at reasonable accommodation will be made. To request this agenda in another format, please also contact the phone numbers listed above.



MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 19, 2025

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Mayor Pro Tem Erik Paulsen, Councilmember Ty Stober, Councilmember Sarah Fox

RE: **Districting proposals**

CC: Aaron Lande, Program and Policy Manager and Nena Cook, City Attorney

The Vancouver City Council's ad hoc districting subcommittee was tasked with developing proposals of possible next actions for the Council to take to advance consideration of election by district in the City of Vancouver. Based on Council's conversations from April 28th and May 5th, below are the five proposals of the districting subcommittee.

Proposal A: 2025 ballot measure to amend City Charter

Source: 2019 Charter Review Committee proposal

- Three districts with two Councilmembers representing each district
- Nominated by district in primary and elected at-large in general election
- Candidates must live in the district to run and must remain residents of the district while in office
- Mayor continues to be elected at-large
- Creates a Districting Commission, made up of citizens who are not currently elected officials or candidates for office as well as a non-voting GIS analyst
- The Districting Commission would develop the districting plan and district boundaries
- Effective for the 2027 general election

Proposal B: 2025 ballot measure to amend City Charter

Source: 2024 Charter Review Committee proposal

- Four districts with one Councilmember representing each district

- Districted Council candidates would run within their own district for both the primary and general elections
- Two Councilmember seats elected at-large, city-wide
- Mayor continues to be elected at-large
- Creates a Districting Commission, made up of citizens who are not currently elected officials or candidates for office as well as a non-voting GIS analyst
- The Districting Commission would develop the districting plan and district boundaries
- Effective for the 2027 general election

Proposal C: 2025 advisory vote

Source: Council deliberations

Question: Should the Vancouver City Council appoint a Districting Committee to develop a 2026 ballot measure to amend the Vancouver City Charter to allow for election by districts for municipal elections?

Proposal D: 2026 ballot measure to amend City Charter

Source: Council deliberations

- Each councilmember appoints one representative to a Districting Committee that begins meeting in summer of 2025
- Districting Committee is charged with conducting community engagement and developing a 2026 ballot measure to amend the Vancouver City Charter to allow for election by districts in municipal elections

Proposal E: 2026 ballot measure to amend City Charter

Source: Council deliberations "Option 3A"

- Council-led community education and engagement
- Could potentially include topics beyond just districting (term limits, public financing, etc)
- Councilmembers commit (to the extent possible) to use this engagement process to develop a 2026 ballot measure to amend the Vancouver City Charter to allow for election by districts in municipal elections

Laying the Foundation: Vancouver Cultural Access Program Overview

Stacey Donovan
Cultural Services Manager
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
May 19, 2025

Linda Reid
Commissioner
Culture, Arts and Heritage
Commission

Manny Cawaling
Executive Director
Inspire Washington

Workshop Agenda



Background &
Legislative
Context



Program
Landscape &
Learning



Local
Foundations &
Early Direction



Council
Feedback &
Discussion



Background & Legislative Context

Vancouver's Ordinance

- Ordinance M-4480 councilmanic approval on Dec. 2, 2024
- Strong public support to build capacity for culturally specific nonprofits
- Up to \$7 million in annual funding
- Collection began April 1
- Policy proposal due July 1;
Policy adoption by Oct. 1



Background & Legislative Context

What is Cultural Access?

Cultural Access is a publicly funded program that expands community access to cultural programs in science, heritage and the arts.

- Created by state legislature in 2015, providing taxing authorities to cities and counties to expand cultural access for 7 years
- Up to 0.1% increased sales tax or equivalent amount through property tax
- City or county council authorizes by a public vote or councilmanic authority



Background & Legislative Context

What is the Legislative Intent?

- Increase public access to cultural activities
- Expand cultural education activities for public school students at schools and cultural facilities, including transportation costs
- Provide sustainable funding for community nonprofit science, heritage and arts organizations
- Greater economic prosperity and competitiveness within the community through broad community investment



Background & Legislative Context

Who is Eligible for Cultural Access Funding?

Eligible recipients must be:

- Nonprofit, 501(c)3 organizations or have eligible fiscal sponsor
- Advancing and preserving the visual or performing arts, heritage, technology and science
- Providing programming or experiences to the general public

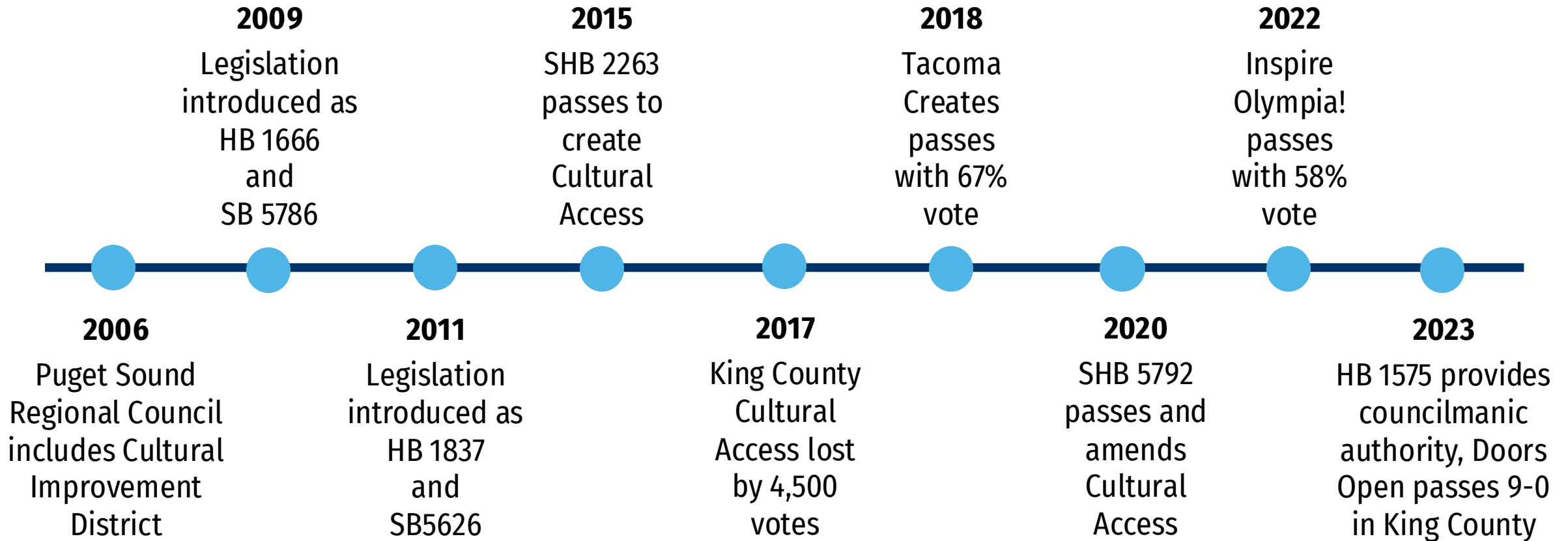
Those not eligible include:

- State agencies
- City governments
- Private foundations
- Radio/television broadcasting network or stations
- Cable communications systems
- Internet-based communications ventures or services



Background & Legislative Context

History of Cultural Access in Washington



Background & Legislative Context

Cultural Access Goals

- Cultural equity
- Academic success and meaningful student experiences
- Greater economic prosperity and competitiveness
- Expanded quality of life
- Vibrant and connected communities
- Sustainable funding for cultural nonprofits
- Post-pandemic nonprofit sector recovery with significant job creation and program expansion





Cultural Access Programs in Washington

- City of Tacoma (2018)
- City of Olympia (2022)
- King County (2023)
- San Juan County (2024)
- City of Vancouver (2024)

Cultural Access Programs at a Glance

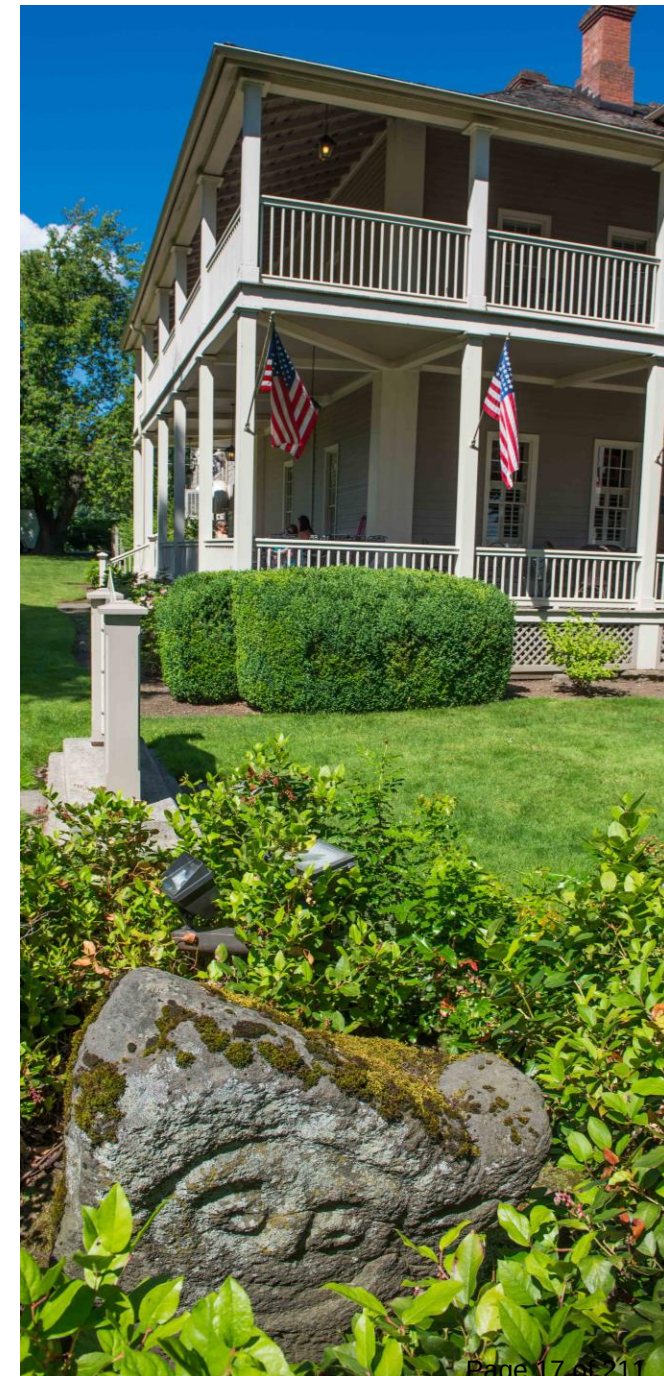
Feature	Vancouver	Tacoma Creates	Inspire Olympia	Doors Open King County
Initiation	Councilmanic	Vote	Vote	Councilmanic 6 years after failed vote
Est. Annual Revenue	\$7 million	\$6 million	\$4 million	\$100 million
School Allocation	5% Transportation	8% Transportation	21% CAPS	15%
Grant Model	TBD	2 Categories	2 Categories	7 Categories
Funding	TBD	Impact: \$3,000-\$60,000 Comprehensive: 15% of total org. budget, up to \$400,000 annually	Impact: \$3,000-\$30,000; 1:1 match required Comprehensive: 15% of total org. budget up to \$75,000 biennially	• Sustained • Public Schools • Public Free Access • Building for Equity • Countywide • Launch • Outside Seattle
2024-25 Grants	N/A	74 Organizations	60 Organizations	TBD

Program Outcomes

Measuring Impact, Building Community

Communities with strong arts and culture nonprofits experience:

- 33% increase in volunteerism
- 7% higher active voter rates
- 3% lower levels of income inequality
- 8 times more community gathering spaces



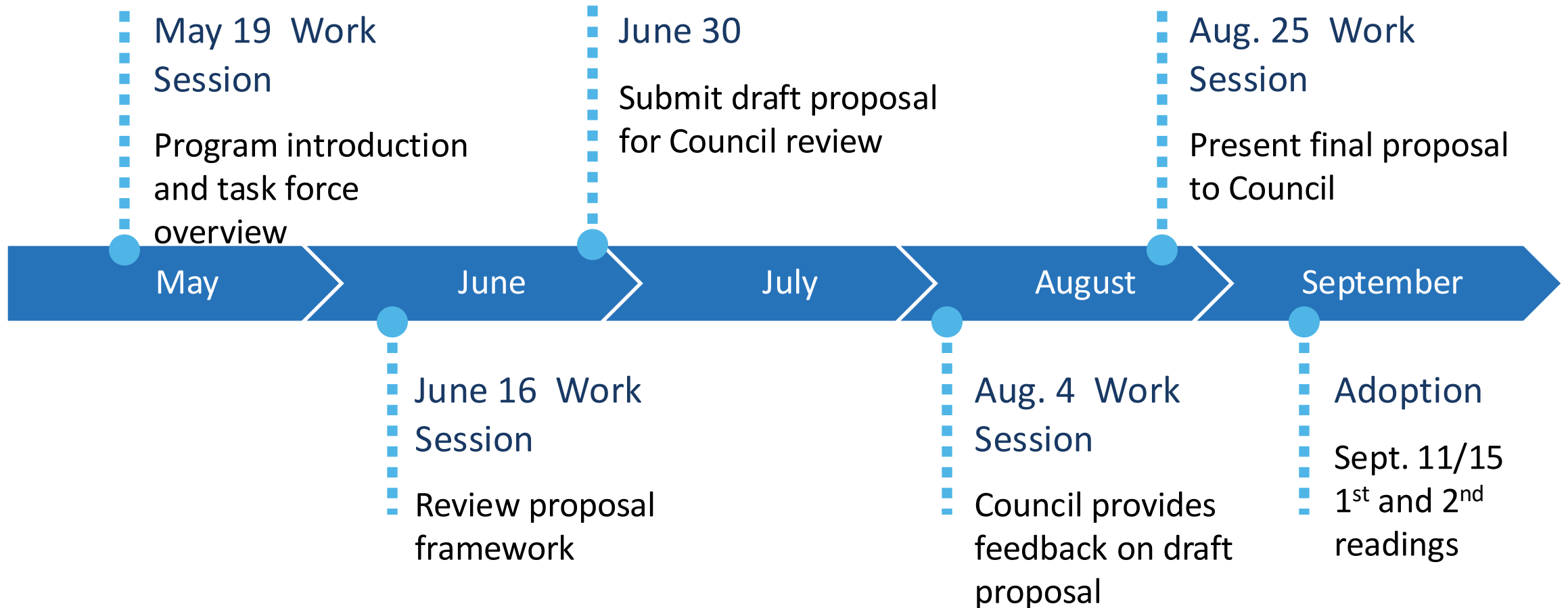
Early Direction for the Program

Preliminary Public Benefit Categories

- Increased educational engagement for K-12 students
- Support for school transportation to cultural activities
- Community-centric arts, culture and heritage programming
- Equitable access for underserved populations
- Economic growth and cultural tourism
- Strengthening the financial health of cultural organizations
- Civic engagement and community building
- Enriching public programs and services
- Fostering creativity and innovation
- Strengthening partnerships
- Capital investments for arts and culture



Cultural Access Program Policy Timeline



Meeting the ordinance timeline will make it possible to open the grant program in 2026





Discussion

- Is the information about legislative intent and program requirements clear?
- Do you support the public benefit categories as outlined?
- Is there anything else you would like to share to direct the work of the task force at this time?

Thank You





MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 5, 2025

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: David Perlick, Director; Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

RE: **Cultural Access Program Overview and Next Steps**

CC: Stacey Donovan, Cultural Services Manager
Brad Richardson, Culture, Arts and Heritage Commission Chair

Background and Ordinance Adoption

On December 2, 2024, City Council approved Ordinance M-4480, officially establishing the Vancouver Cultural Access Program and adopting a 0.1% sales tax to fund it. This ordinance is a major step forward in expanding public access to arts, culture, heritage and science throughout our city.

This reliable new revenue source is estimated to generate up to \$7 million annually for seven years, with the potential for renewal in 2031. The tax collection began April 1, 2025.

Community testimony strongly supported this initiative, particularly the focus on bolstering local nonprofit cultural organizations through reliable funding. The program builds directly on the goals of the Vancouver Culture, Arts & Heritage Plan, adopted in 2018.

Program Development and Task Force Work

The Culture, Arts and Heritage Commission is leading the development of the new policy, as directed by ordinance. A task force has been assembled to shape the proposal. It includes:

- Culture, Arts and Heritage Commissioners Ricky Gaspar and Linda Reid
- School representatives Carinn Eckis Ormson (Evergreen Public Schools) and Traci Young (Vancouver Public Schools)
- Community members and nonprofit leaders Cheri Jamison (Arts & Culture Consultant and Executive Director of Alberta Abbey), Jenny Thompson (Lovett's Productions & Consulting), Ach' Sheila Davis (Fire Circle Consulting) and Jeanne Bennett (Columbia Play Project)
- Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services staff David Perlick, Stacey Donovan, Kirsten Hull and Melody Burton

This group is tasked with:

- Outlining goals and criteria to guide program formation and evaluation
- Defining program categories and funding allocations
- Establishing key processes for application, review, award, and monitoring

Legislative History and Intent

Cultural Access is a publicly funded initiative designed to broaden community engagement with cultural programming in the fields of science, heritage and the arts. Established by the Washington State Legislature in 2015, the program grants cities and counties the authority to implement a dedicated funding mechanism either through a sales tax increase of up to 0.1% or an equivalent property tax levy to support cultural access. These measures can be enacted through a public vote or by councilmanic authority and are authorized for seven years.

Eligible recipients of Cultural Access funding must be 501(c)(3) cultural organizations that promote and preserve the arts, heritage and sciences, or have a qualified fiscal sponsor. They must provide programming that is open to the public. Entities such as government agencies, private media companies and commercial communications ventures are explicitly excluded from eligibility.

The legislature's intent behind the Cultural Access program is to:

- Increase public access to cultural activities and programming.
- Expand educational opportunities for public school students through direct programming and support services such as transportation to cultural venues.
- Provide long-term, sustainable funding to nonprofit cultural organizations to ensure their growth and resilience.
- Stimulate local economies by investing in the cultural sector, thereby enhancing community prosperity and regional competitiveness.
- Promote cultural equity, academic enrichment, and community vitality.
- Support post-pandemic recovery for cultural nonprofits by facilitating job creation and broadening program reach.

Learning from Other Cultural Access Programs

Washington currently has four cultural access programs (Tacoma, Olympia, King County and San Juan County), with a fifth under consideration in Gig Harbor. While each program is unique, several common guidelines provide structure to their work:

- Expanding Access: Supporting inclusive access to cultural experiences
- Educational Engagement: Prioritizing K–12 learning opportunities
- Equity: Ensuring outreach to underserved communities
- Strong Governance: Oversight via advisory boards or commissions
- Sustainable Operations: Funds for startup costs and ongoing program administration

Our approach is to draw lessons from these models, particularly those in urban settings like Vancouver, while designing a program that reflects our city's specific priorities and community character. At the same time, we are analyzing the state law that enables this program so we can fully understand the requirements and scope of local discretion.

Cultural Access and Community Impact

We believe the cultural access program is more than a funding mechanism, it's a transformative investment in Vancouver's future. Studies show that communities with robust cultural ecosystems see stronger social ties, higher civic engagement and better economic outcomes.

According to the 2025 ArtsFund study, such communities also experience:

- Greater volunteerism
- Increased voter participation
- More community gathering spaces
- Lower income inequality

By investing in arts and culture, Vancouver is helping our economy thrive, strengthening community bonds and making our city an even better place to live and visit.

Public Benefits and Outcomes

The task force has identified 11 preliminary public benefit categories, organized under four major outcomes:

- Expanding Access and Engagement
- Strengthening the Cultural Ecosystem
- Driving Economic and Community Vitality
- Fostering Innovation and Creativity

These categories will shape the City's application-based grant program for 501(c)(3) cultural organizations, with further details to be presented at the next Council workshop on June 16.

Timeline and Council Engagement

The ordinance outlines an ambitious timeline for developing and approving the policy. Below are key milestones:

- June 16: Proposal framework review
- June 30: Draft proposal submitted to Council
- August 4: Council feedback session
- August 25: Final proposal presented
- September 11 & 15: First and second readings of the policy

Pending Council approval of a policy, the program could be ready to launch grant applications in 2026. The Culture, Arts and Heritage Commission is committed to transparency and ensuring Council has the information needed to adopt a strong, community-driven policy.

Attachments: Vancouver Ordinance M-4480
 Vancouver Cultural Access Program Public Benefits (DRAFT)
 Livability Impact Study, ArtsFund 2025

11/18/2024 (Date of First Reading)
12/02/2024 (Date of Public Hearing)

ORDINANCE NO. M- [Ordinance Number]

AN ORDINANCE relating to a Vancouver Cultural Access Program; adding a new chapter 3.45 to the Vancouver Municipal Code; enacting new sections 3.45.010, 3.45.020, 3.45.030, 3.45.040, and 3.45.050; providing for severability and an effective date.

WHEREAS, in 2014 the City of Vancouver designated a section of downtown as the “Vancouver Arts District” in order to increase tourism and further the City’s economic development strategy; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the Vancouver City Council approved a Culture, Arts and Heritage Plan, the overarching vision of which was to integrate culture, arts and heritage into the daily life of the community by bringing together the diverse interests and talents in Vancouver; and

WHEREAS, one of the visions of the Report was “Vancouver supports the creation of needed space for culture, arts and heritage;” and

WHEREAS, in 2015 the Washington State Legislature enacted Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2263, in which the Legislature expressed its intent to provide local governments and communities the fiscal tools needed “to provide public and educational benefits and economic support for cultural organizations [by] providing local support for the state’s cultural organizations;” and

WHEREAS, the Legislature further declared that “[p]roviding local support for the state’s cultural organizations is in the public interest and will serve multiple public purposes including, among others, enhancing and extending the education reach and offerings of cultural

organizations; ensuring continued and expanded access to the facilities and programs of cultural organizations by economically and geographically underserved populations; and providing financial stability to the organizations to continue and extend the numerous public benefits they provide;” and,

WHEREAS, the 2024 Webb Study suggested the City is lacking an affordable venue for local talent and a mid-size range facility for touring performing groups; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver is currently in design of an Arts Hub to provide affordable performance venue for city performing arts groups and create studio space for City artisans; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver aspires to support a construction of a mid-size Performing Arts Center in the Arts District of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver is also interested in securing funding to provide transportation for school-age children to access and attend arts, science, cultural, and heritage programs so as to overcome one of the recognized barriers to such participation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver created the Culture, Arts and Heritage Commission to assist with and facilitate the development and promotion of a thriving cultural, arts and heritage environment in the Vancouver; and,

WHEREAS, RCW 36.160.030(3) provides that “[a] city may create a cultural access program if the county legislative authority in which the city is located adopts a resolution stating that the county forfeits its option to create a

program or does not place a proposition before the people to create such a program by December 31, 2024,” and

WHEREAS, the Vancouver City Council finds that Clark County does not intend to exercise its option under RCW 36.160.030(3) to create a cultural access program by December 31, 2024, and

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver, through the legislative discretion of the Vancouver City Council, wishes to create a cultural access program for the City; and

WHEREAS, consistent with chapter 36.160 RCW, the City Council affirms that any funding the City usually and customarily provides to cultural organizations similar to funding that would be available to those organizations “may not be replaced or materially diminished as a result of funding becoming available under” a Cultural Arts and Sales Tax established under chapter 36.160 RCW; and

WHEREAS, if Clark County has neither created a cultural access program under RCW 36.160 nor imposed a sales and use tax under RCW 82.14.525(1) on or before December 31, 2024, the City Council will be authorized to impose a sales and use tax of up to one-tenth of one percent of the selling price in the case of a sales tax, or value of the article used, in the case of a use tax, for the purposes authorized under chapter 36.160 RCW;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF VANCOUVER:

Section 1. A new chapter is created in Title 3 of the Vancouver Municipal Code (“VMC”), to be codified as chapter 3.45 VMC, which shall be entitled “Vancouver Cultural Access Program.”

Section 2. A new section is enacted and added to chapter 3.45 VMC, to be codified at VMC 3.45.010, and shall read as follows:

3.45.010 Definitions

In construing the provisions of this chapter, the following definitions shall be applied. The definitions provided in RCW 36.160.020 are incorporated herein by reference. Words in the singular number shall include the plural, and the plural shall include the singular:

- A. “City” means the City of Vancouver.
- B. “Director” means the Director of Financial and Management Services of the City, or the Director of any successor department of the City, or any officer, agent, or employee of the City designated to act on the Director’s behalf.
- C. “VCAP” means the Vancouver Cultural Access Program authorized by RCW 36.160.030, now and as amended, and created by VMC 3.45.020.

Section 3. A new section is enacted and added to chapter 3.45 VMC, to be codified at VMC 3.45.020, and shall read as follows:

3.45.020 Cultural Access Program -- Created

Pursuant to RCW 36.160.030, there is hereby created a cultural access program which shall be named the “Vancouver Cultural Access Program.” Pursuant to RCW 36.160.040, the City is authorized to advance funding to establish the VCAP with the expectation that the funding will be repaid by the revenues generated by the sales tax imposed by this chapter.

Section 4. A new section is enacted and added to chapter 3.45 VMC, to be codified as VMC 3.45.030, and shall read as follows:

3.45.030 Additional sales and use tax for cultural access

- A. There is hereby imposed an additional sales and use tax, separate and apart from any other sales and use tax imposed by this chapter, upon every taxable event occurring in the city, for cultural access as authorized by RCW 82.14.525.
- B. As used in this section, the term “taxable event” has the meaning set forth in RCW 82.14.020.
- C. The rate of the sales and use tax imposed by this section shall be one-tenth of one percent of the selling price, in the case of a sales tax, or the value of the article used, in the case of a use tax.
- D. The tax shall be imposed upon and collected from those persons from whom the state sales tax or use tax is collected pursuant to chapters 82.08 and 82.12 RCW.
- E. Unless reimposed by separate ordinance amending this section pursuant to RCW 82.14.525(4), the tax imposed by this section shall expire on January 1, 2032.

Section 5. A new section is enacted and added to chapter 3.45 VMC, to be codified as VMC 3.45.040, and shall read as follows:

3.45.040 Designated Entity

- A. Pursuant to RCW 36.160.060, the City designates the Culture, Arts, and Heritage Commission (CAHC) established under chapter 2.88 VMC as the designated entity under RCW 36.160.020(4).
- B. The CAHC shall collaborate with the school districts in the City to develop and provide a Public School Cultural Access Program (PSCAP) as provided in RCW 36.160.100 and RCW 36.160.110(4).

Section 6. A new section is enacted and added to chapter 3.45 VMC, to be codified at VMC 3.45.050, and shall read as follows:

3.45.050 Use of funds -- Allocation

- A. Moneys collected from the tax imposed under this chapter shall be used solely for the purposes authorized by RCW 36.160.110 as follows:
 - 1. Start-up program costs, including direct and indirect administrative costs, shall not exceed five (5) percent of the total annual collected revenue. Eligible costs, including repaying any start-up funding provided under RCW 36.160.040 and VMC 3.45.020 shall be reimbursed.
 - 2. A total of five (5) percent of the annual revenue collected under this chapter is to be reserved for the PSCAP as provided in RCW 36.160.100, RCW 36.160.110(4), and VMC 3.45.040. The PSCAP shall be established to increase access to cultural activities and programming for public school students, including transportation to off-site cultural experiences for all students at schools in the City that are located within a school district in which at least forty percent of the district's students are eligible for the federal free and reduced-price school meals program.
 - 3. All remaining funds shall be reserved until such time as provided in subsection (C) of this section.
- B. Not later than July 1, 2025, the CAHC, in collaboration with City staff, shall develop and deliver to the City Council a proposal containing the following:
 - 1. Identifiable discernable public benefits to be realized by the VCAP over the life of the program not to exceed 7 years. The term "public benefits" shall be interpreted consistently with RCW 36.160.090 as amended.
 - 2. Guidelines, consistent with the requirements of this chapter, deemed necessary or appropriate for determining the eligibility of cultural organizations to receive funding under this chapter;
 - 3. Criteria for the award of funds to eligible cultural organizations, including the public benefits to be derived from projects submitted for funding;
 - 4. The amount of funding to be allocated to support the City's and/or CAHC's administrative costs;

5. Criteria for the identification by the City or CAHC of any cultural organization or organizations that would receive annual distributions of funds in such amounts determined by the City or CAHC;
 6. Procedures to be used by the CAHC in awarding funding to other cultural organizations that may, but are not required to include a periodic competitive process for awarding funds for particular purposes or projects proposed by eligible cultural organizations.
 7. A set of guidelines establishing a baseline standard of continuous performance with respect to the provision of public benefits required under this chapter and for evaluating the eligibility of any cultural organization to receive funds under this chapter based on the continuous performance of the organization in the provision of the public benefits. The guidelines must include: (a) Procedures for notifying any organization at risk of losing its eligibility to receive funds under this chapter for failure to achieve the program's baseline standard of performance with respect to the continuous provision of public benefits; and (b) measures or procedures available to the organization for either retaining or recovering eligibility, as appropriate.
- C. Not later than October 1, 2025, the City Council shall by resolution adopt a policy implementing the components of the CAHC's proposal with such amendments as the Council deems appropriate to guide distribution of funds under subsection (A)(3) of this section.
- D. Funds distributed to cultural organizations may be used to support cultural and educational activities, programs, and initiatives; public benefits and communications; and basic operations. Funds may also be used for: (1) Capital expenditures or acquisitions including, but not limited to, the acquisition of or construction of improvements to real property; and (2) technology, equipment, and supplies reasonably related to or necessary for a project otherwise eligible for funding under this chapter.

Section 7. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 8. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective January 1, 2025,
PROVIDED that the Clark County Council does not create a county cultural access program
under RCW 36.160.030 and impose a sales and use tax under RCW 82.14.525 on or before
December 31, 2024. If the Clark County Council creates a county cultural access program under
RCW 36.160.030 and imposes a sales and use tax under RCW 82.14.525 on or before December
31, 2024, this ordinance shall be null and void in its entirety.

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE at a Regular Meeting of the Vancouver City Council:
_____, 2024.

SIGNED this _____ day of _____, 2024.

Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor

Attest:

Natasha Ramras, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Jonathan Young, City Attorney

ORDINANCE - 8

SUMMARY

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE relating to a Vancouver Cultural Access Program; adding a new chapter 3.45 to the Vancouver Municipal Code; enacting new sections 3.45.010, 3.45.020, 3.45.030, 3.45.040, and 3.45.050; providing for severability and an effective date.

The full text of this ordinance will be mailed upon request. Contact Raelyn McJilton, Records Officer at 487-8711, or via www.cityofvancouver.us (Go to City Government and Public Records).

DRAFT Vancouver Cultural Access Program Public Benefits

The City of Vancouver, Washington, recognizes the importance of enhancing access to arts, culture, and heritage as a fundamental public benefit. Drawing inspiration from successful programs across the state, Vancouver seeks to create more equitable opportunities for all residents to engage in cultural experiences.

Public benefit in Vancouver will focus on making arts, culture, and heritage accessible to everyone, particularly those often excluded due to barriers such as cost, transportation, and accessibility. By supporting programs in public schools and investing in community-based initiatives, Vancouver's Cultural Access Program aims to ensure that all residents can engage with and benefit from vibrant cultural activities, educational programs, and public performances.

Additionally, this initiative positions Vancouver as a cultural leader in the region, drawing visitors and residents alike to experience the city's growing cultural scene. By investing in cultural infrastructure and a thriving creative economy, Vancouver will foster innovation, attract creative talent, and strengthen its reputation as a leading destination for arts and culture.

Increased Educational Engagement for K-12 Students

- **Access to Arts, Culture, Science, and Heritage Programs:** Ensuring that students in Vancouver Public Schools and Evergreen Public Schools districts (K-12) have greater access to arts, culture, science, and heritage organizations through in-school, after-school and summer programs.
- **Improved Academic Outcomes:** Greater engagement in the classroom, improved educational attainment and expanding learning beyond the classroom supports better student performance, social and emotional growth, and higher graduation rates.

Support for School Transportation to Cultural Activities

- **Eliminating Transportation Barriers:** Non-supplanting funding transportation to arts, culture, science, and heritage programs for school-age children, particularly those in underserved communities, to overcome barriers to participation.
- **Ensuring Equitable Access:** Providing transportation support ensures that all students, regardless of socioeconomic status, can access enriching cultural experiences.

Community-Centric Arts, Culture, and Heritage Programming

- **Neighborhood Engagement:** Creating new resources and funding for local neighborhoods to support or promote cultural activities, events, or projects that reflect diverse cultural backgrounds, lifestyles, and interests.
- **Strengthening Cultural Identity:** Empowering communities to celebrate and reflect their unique cultural, historical, and social narratives through arts and heritage projects.

Equitable Access for Underserved Populations

- **Support for Economically and Geographically Underserved Communities:** Ensuring that all community members, including seniors, students, and low-income populations, have access to cultural events, performances, exhibits, and other related programs.
- **Inclusive Programs:** Offering specialized opportunities for people on fixed incomes and those in underserved areas to participate in community cultural life, fostering inclusivity and diversity.

Economic Growth and Cultural Tourism

- **Boosting Local Economy:** Enhancing the local economy by fostering a vibrant cultural community, which will drive increased tourism and attract visitors to cultural events and activities, benefiting local businesses.
- **Job Creation:** Supporting creative jobs within the arts, culture, science, and heritage sectors, contributing to the broader economy and workforce development.

Strengthening the Financial Health of Cultural Organizations

- **Sustaining Local Arts and Heritage Organizations:** Providing consistent funding to ensure the financial stability of arts, culture, science, and heritage organizations, enabling them to offer high-quality public programs and services year-round.
- **Fostering Long-Term Sustainability:** Strengthening the capacity of these organizations to expand access to their facilities and outreach programs, especially in underserved areas.

Civic Engagement and Community Building

- **Encouraging Civic Participation:** By increasing access to arts and culture, the program will foster a greater sense of community pride, connection, and civic engagement, leading to a healthier, more vibrant community.
- **Promoting Shared Experiences:** Creating opportunities for residents from diverse backgrounds to come together through cultural festivals, performances, and exhibits, encouraging mutual respect and understanding.

Enriching Public Programs and Services

- **Expanding Access to Cultural Institutions:** Ensuring that arts, culture, science, and heritage organizations remain accessible to all, providing free or discounted admission to cultural institutions for public school students, seniors, and economically disadvantaged groups.
- **Public Programming Outreach:** Enabling organizations to take their programs and exhibits beyond their facilities to reach more people in communities, schools, and public spaces.

Fostering Creativity and Innovation

- **Supporting Creativity and Personal Development:** Providing individuals of all ages with the opportunity to explore personal creativity, through arts programs, science exhibitions, and heritage education, fostering individual growth and lifelong learning.
- **Building Creative Communities:** Promoting environments where individuals and communities can creatively engage with arts and culture, leading to innovative community-driven solutions and artistic expressions.

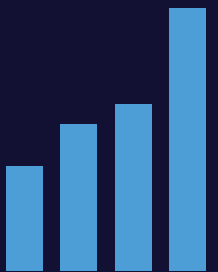
Strengthened Partnerships

- **Collaboration Between City Government and Cultural Institutions:** Encouraging partnerships between the City of Vancouver, schools, and local cultural institutions to maximize the impact of cultural access programs.
- **Shared Resources and Networks:** Facilitating the sharing of resources and information among different municipalities to create a coordinated and equitable cultural access program across the region.

Capital Investments for Arts and Culture

- **Creating Accessible Cultural Venues:** Fund the development or renovation of economical and accessible spaces to host performances, art exhibitions, workshops, and educational programs, enriching the community's cultural life and providing ongoing opportunities for learning and creative expression.

FEBRUARY 2025



Livability Impact Study of the Arts:

Relationships between the
arts and healthy communities

COMMISSIONED BY

ARTSFUND







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LETTER FROM ARTSFUND

Arts and culture play an important role in the health and well-being of communities across the State of Washington. Building on our work from previous studies, including our [Economic Impact Studies \(EIS\)](#), [Social Impact Study \(SIS\)](#), and, most recently, our [COVID Cultural Impact Study \(CCIS\)](#), we are excited to present findings from our latest investigations into the connections between the arts and community health.

At the time of writing, Washington State ranks in the top 10 Overall Best States, according to U.S. News¹. While our state is top-performing in some metrics, we still face challenges similar to the rest of the nation when it comes to rebuilding and strengthening our communities post-pandemic. Our public, private, and nonprofit sectors have been critical to addressing these needs, and leaders of these organizations have been exemplary in positioning our state for the future. This report highlights a key component of successfully rebuilding our communities and preparing them for the future.

Our research demonstrates that there are significant correlations between an accessible and well-funded arts and culture landscape and a vibrant community overall. We recognize that the path to a healthy, equitable, and creative Washington requires a combination of successful initiatives that span economic policy, health and human services, education, and more. This data offers strong quantitative evidence of the correlation between art and healthy communities, but it also offers a qualitative reflection of how those numbers translate into impact for individuals. It shows that building and maintaining a healthy arts and culture sector is a tool that can be used to create a better quality of life with statistically significant outcomes for all Washingtonians.

At ArtsFund, we understand that the research we collect and the dollars we provide are only as important as the people they benefit. The case studies and interviews that accompany this work are a testament to how real people are positively affected by access to arts and culture. For everyone that is using this report



and its data to advocate for better access and more dollars, we encourage you to also leverage the human stories and the community feedback to demonstrate your case. The arts benefit our communities, and our communities are made up of individuals. Access to, and funding for the arts makes life better for us, our neighbors, and the people we care about. That should never get lost in the data.

Throughout this case for increased access and funding for the arts is the implied necessity of equity at every level. Access is only effective if it is available to everyone, and funding only works if it is distributed to all communities that are doing the work. Whether it is race, gender, orientation, ability, or geography, inequitable distribution of access and resources will only further the polarization of communities. A key component of how arts create a more livable society is its ability to provide space for multiple perspectives and uncomfortable conversations. If access to that space is not equitably provided, not only will we reduce the overall effectiveness of the power of the arts, but we risk furthering divisions by supporting the echo chambers that amplify divisiveness.

At ArtsFund, our mission is to support the arts through leadership, advocacy, and grantmaking, in order to build a more healthy, equitable, and creative Washington. This research is part of a long-standing commitment to translate that mission into action. Through the efforts of our partners, our donors, our staff, and our board, we support the underpinnings of this research by providing resources to those that are doing the work on the ground. We believe that arts and culture are a tool for social change, and we encourage everyone to read through this data, reflect on how it aligns with your priorities, and advocate for a healthy arts and culture sector in your specific community. Washington State is a leader in cultural access, and the more we acknowledge the benefits of the arts across

multiple aspects of our lives, the stronger our communities will become for everyone.

¹ U.S. News. (2025). Best States Rankings. <https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/rankings>



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Michael Greer
President & CEO



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Katy Corella
Vice President of Strategic Initiatives & Communications



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Cindy Snyder
Chair, ArtsFund Board of Trustees



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Sandy McDade
Chair, ArtsFund Foundation Board

INTRODUCTION

With the underlying belief that art improves lives, ArtsFund and SMU DataArts sought to measure the ways that the arts contribute to livable communities across the State of Washington. We found that regions with more physical access to—and more state funding for—arts and culture nonprofit organizations have higher civic engagement, better economic opportunity, and stronger community cohesion.

This work builds on several ArtsFund Economic Impact of the Arts studies conducted across the Central Puget Sound, as well as a broader Social Impact Study and the statewide COVID Cultural Impact Study (CCIS). Expanding on previous research, this study explores the relationships between cultural resources and a wider range of community well-being indicators, such as civic engagement and social connection. Research shows that fostering these connections is not just beneficial for individuals but is essential for building strong, healthy, and thriving communities (World Health Organization, 2021).

Three key goals shaped the design of this study:

1. Measure how cultural resources (like organizations, artists, and public support) are connected to vibrant, livable communities.

2. Explore how these connections play out differently in rural and urban communities.

3. Activate these new insights to support thriving communities across Washington.

This research enables us to analyze, on a large scale, the connections between cultural resources and various aspects of community livability and vitality across a diverse range of communities.

As the National Center for Arts Research, SMU DataArts is a leading, globally recognized research center working to provide evidence-based insights to build strong, vibrant, and equitable arts communities. DataArts works with the nation's largest arts funders to evaluate and grow impact, collaborates frequently with service organizations across artistic genres, and mines data and insights to inform strategic grantmaking in cities and states across the country.

We found that regions with more physical access to—and more state funding for—arts and culture nonprofit organizations have

**higher civic
engagement,
better economic
opportunity,
and stronger
community
cohesion.**



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ArtsFund has long studied the impact of the arts in Washington, and this study takes a groundbreaking approach by exploring how arts and culture contribute to the overall livability of Washington communities. In the first-of-its kind collaboration, ArtsFund and SMU DataArts set out to answer a simple yet profound question:

Does the presence of arts and culture improve community livability, and in turn, enhance the lives of Washingtonians?

This study found that **people living in Washington communities with abundant cultural resources tend to be more connected, more engaged in supporting their communities, and have greater economic opportunities** compared to those in similar communities with fewer resources.

Additionally, two key cultural resources play the most significant role in community livability: the presence of nonprofit arts organizations and the level of state arts funding directed to a community.

People living in Washington communities with many cultural resources are

**More connected,
More involved**

in helping their communities, and have

More economic opportunities.



In Washington counties with **the highest density of arts and culture nonprofit organizations**, compared to the lowest, there are:

33% more volunteers to nonprofit organizations

7% more active voters who are registered and eligible for voting

3% lower levels of income inequality

8 times more community gathering spaces

Similarly, when comparing Washington counties with **the highest per capita state arts funding** through ArtsWA grantmaking to those with the lowest, we find that well-funded counties have:

\$22.03 more in hotel/motel tax revenue per capita on average

2% more active voters

1% fewer seniors live alone

A common assumption is that the arts primarily benefit people who live in wealthy neighborhoods or urban areas. However, our research found strong connections between arts resources and community well-being even when controlling for population size, income, education levels, and rural vs. urban settings.

In fact, the positive economic impact of arts resources were even more pronounced in rural communities than in cities across Washington.

Since these two types of cultural resources (availability of arts and culture nonprofits and the levels of state funding) emerged as most connected to community livability, we also present findings about areas of opportunity around their distribution and through comparisons to other regions.

- Across the state, there are 6,378 nonprofit arts and culture organizations—about 3 per 10,000 people. However, access varies widely from just one per 10,000 residents in Skamania County to 19 per 10,000 residents in San Juan County. This indicates that **your** address makes a big difference in your access to arts and culture organizations in Washington.
- Washington ranks among the lowest states in per-person state government spending on the arts, allocating just \$0.98 per resident—far below the national average of \$2.29 across all arts-related appropriations. In more than half of Washington counties, funding from state ArtsWA grantmaking, specifically, is less than \$0.10 per person.
- Despite these funding challenges, Washington still ranks in the top third of all states in overall arts vibrancy, as calculated by SMU DataArts. This strong ranking is reflective of the state's rich and dynamic arts and culture landscape.

ArtsFund has developed three key actionable recommendations for leaders in Washington, which are outlined below. Additional strategies tailored for public officials, the private sector, and arts and culture participants can be found at the conclusion of this report on page 39.

1. Match Washington State's investment in arts and culture to the national average.

2. Foster and maintain a healthy environment for arts and culture nonprofit organizations.

3. Include arts and culture as a key tool for building community health.

METHODOLOGY & DEFINITIONS



Why Measure Community Livability and the Arts?

Much past arts research has focused on economic impacts, but there's increasing evidence of the critical supportive role that arts & culture plays in enhancing the livability of communities.

While many studies highlight the economic value of the arts to justify investment in the sector (Americans for the Arts, 2023; Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account, 2022; ArtsFund, 2014), economic prosperity is just one dimension of the broader impact. Cultural engagement plays a critical role in shaping community well-being, fostering connection, and enhancing overall livability—both inside and outside of economic frameworks (National Endowment for the Arts, 2024; Rodriguez et al., 2023; ArtsFund, 2018). This study examines, on a large scale, how cultural resources contribute to a thriving, connected, and resilient society.

What Arts Metrics Are Included?

We'll refer to cultural resources throughout this report, which is shorthand for the two arts inputs that we found contribute most to community livability: 1) nonprofit arts organizations and 2) state arts funding for communities.

We explored more than 15 measures of arts and culture assets in this analysis, including dimensions of arts supply (such as artists, arts employees, and nonprofit and for-profit arts organizations), arts demand (including revenues, expenses, and compensation), and arts support (public funding from state, federal, and other sources). While all of these measures are interrelated, our analysis highlights the two dimensions with the most consistent and broad connections to community livability.



What is Community Livability?

We prioritized five metrics of community livability in this research: social cohesion, safety, economic opportunity, health, and housing.

The research team at SMU DataArts developed an initial list of potential livability metrics from a mix of consumer-focused and academic sources (Lau & Hashim, 2010; Arpan & Sen, 2020; AARP Livability Index, 2024). To identify the most relevant measures of community outcomes, the initial scoping phase of this project involved discussions among SMU DataArts, ArtsFund staff, and an advisory board composed of arts leaders representing different art forms and regions of Washington. Through an iterative discussion, we identified topic areas of interest, explored data availability for those topic areas, and refined a core set of livability metrics

for the research. As the data sources were integrated to create the models for analysis, large variability across the state on some measures required some adjustment for outlier Census tracts to ensure high data quality (more information is available in Appendix B).

Ultimately, we landed on a set of 24 community outcome variables that are grouped into five major categories: social cohesion, safety, economic opportunity, housing, and health. All variables are measured on a per capita basis as is relevant. A set of control variables for the regression models include rural/urban geography, socioeconomics of the community, and population (see Appendix B for the full list of variables).

For this analysis, *community* refers to either the county (average size of about 200,000 people) or the much smaller Census tract (average size of about 4,000 people), depending on the granularity of available data.

This research looked at outcomes of arts and culture on



social cohesion



economic opportunity



health



How Do These Findings Connect with the Experiences of Arts Leaders?

Interviews with arts leaders across Washington helped connect stories of community livability to the metrics analyzed in this report.

The quantitative findings show strong connections between cultural resources and community livability, but they don't capture the personal stories that explain how or why these impacts matter to community members. The research team conducted a series of in-depth interviews with a variety of arts and culture nonprofit organizations across the state to learn more about how their work is connected to the livability outcomes identified through this research. We interviewed the leaders of the following nonprofit arts organizations: Field Arts & Events Hall, Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture, the Seattle Symphony, and Yakima Music en Acción. Insights from these interviews are integrated into the key findings outlined below.



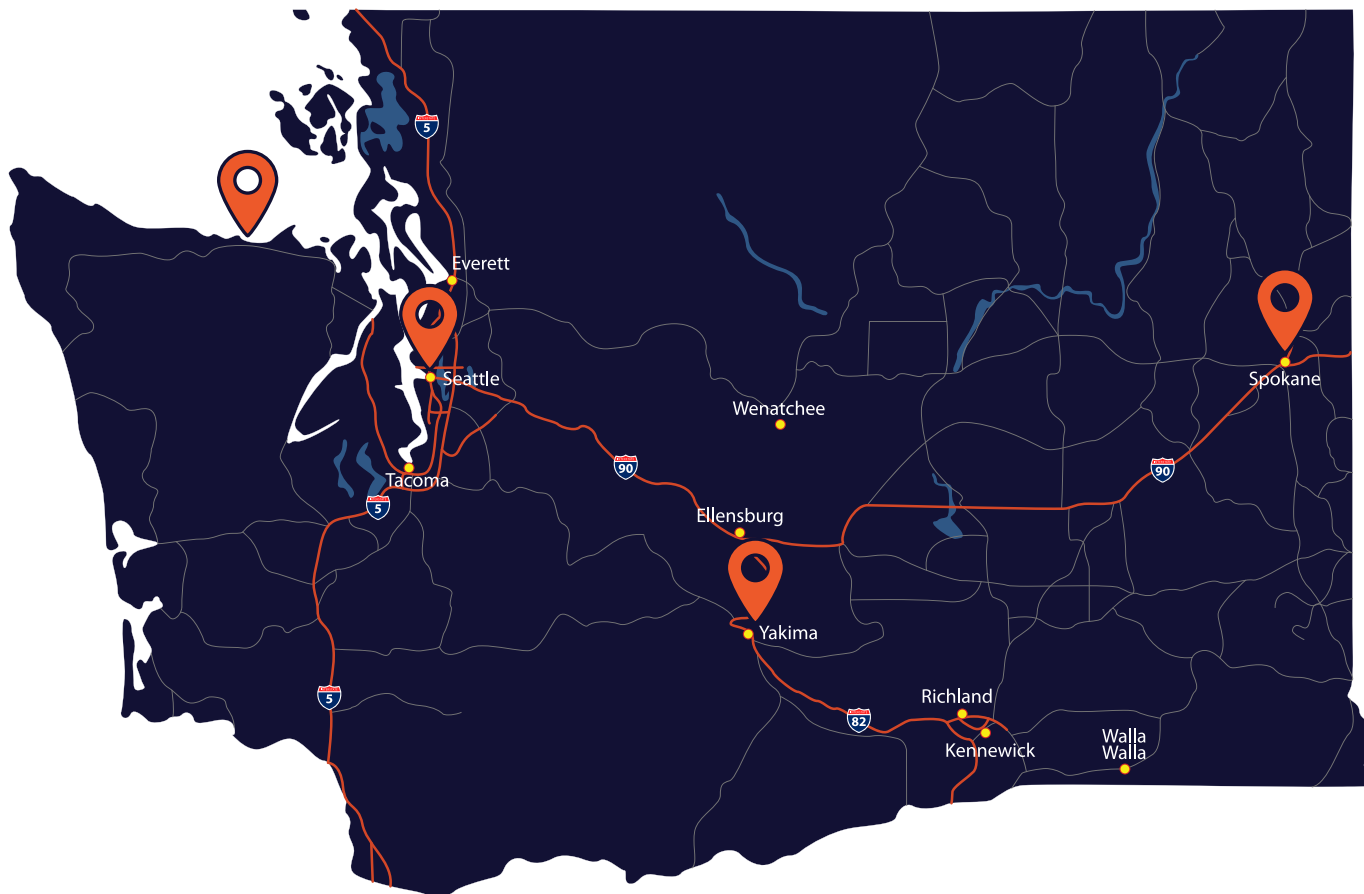


TABLE 1: Community Characteristics of Arts Organization Interviews

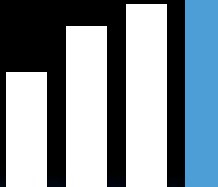
	County	Population (2021)	Median Household Income	Arts Vibrancy (Percentile)
Field Arts & Events Hall	Clallam	78,209	\$66,108	67
Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture	Spokane	546,040	\$70,394	83
Seattle Symphony	King	2,252,305	\$116,340	98
Yakima Music en Acción	Yakima	256,035	\$64,910	53

Note: Arts vibrancy is a composite score that incorporates 13 distinct measures encompassing facets of supply, demand, and public support for arts and culture across both non-profit and for-profit contexts.

To explore the arts vibrancy in more detail, visit SMU DataArts

<https://culturaldata.org/what-we-do/arts-vibrancy-index/>

ACCESS TO ARTS & CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS



Counties with the highest density of arts and culture nonprofit organizations also have more positive community health outcomes, including more volunteerism, active voters, and community gathering spaces, as well as lower levels of income inequality.

Volunteerism

Communities with the greatest access to arts and culture organizations have

33%

more volunteers supporting nonprofit organizations and their missions.

Volunteerism is a critical component of connected communities, reflecting the willingness of residents to contribute their time and effort to support the benefit of the community as a whole. In Washington, about 10% of residents² regularly volunteer their time to nonprofit organizations.

The cultural analysis for Washington State reveals a strong positive correlation between the presence of nonprofit arts organizations and the level of volunteerism in a community. As with all of the findings shared in this report, this positive relationship holds even when controlling for key community characteristics such as income level, education level, and urban/rural

We have a supportive and active parent group who volunteers their time with us. They meet monthly, organize events, fundraise, and even sell chocolates. From that support, we became like family attending each other's baby showers and celebrating milestones like siblings' quinceañeras. We have a close-knit and vibrant community.

Stephanie Hsu
Founding Executive Director,
Yakima Music en Acción



geography. This boost is likely influenced by the increased volunteer opportunities provided by a greater number of arts and culture organizations. Additionally, it's possible that people are meeting or connecting through arts and culture spaces, feeling more connected to their community, and seeking opportunities to give back through volunteering, even outside of the arts and culture context.

One example of how arts and culture may foster volunteerism is the pipeline approach implemented by Yakima Music en Acción, which encourages students to progress from volunteer participants to volunteer leaders. High school-aged student musicians develop leadership and teaching skills by mentoring and working with younger musicians. This approach cultivates a culture of service within the student community, inspiring former students to return to Yakima Music en Acción as volunteers, supporters, and staff members. Additionally, support networks surrounding these students also engage in volunteering, helping sustain the organization's work.

² For this metric, the total number of volunteers reported through IRS 990 forms by nonprofit organizations of any type (not just arts and culture) was considered.

Active Voters

Counties with increased access to arts and culture organizations have

7%

higher rates of active voters.

Voting is a critical dimension of civic participation in a functioning democracy. Active voters are registered voters that have not been disqualified from voting in the state, an indicator of readiness or preparation to participate in elections. This measure of active voters per capita provides insight into the level of potential participation in the voting process. Research by the US Elections Project (a non-partisan group) estimates that the proportion of the “voting-eligible population” within the “voting-age population” is similar in Washington (90%) compared to the U.S. overall (93%). In this research, we found 10% higher levels of active voters in counties with the most access to arts and culture nonprofit organizations compared to those with the least access in Washington.

Individuals who feel connected to others are more likely to engage in civic activities and to contribute to the common good (Putnam, 2000). Nonprofit arts organizations serve as hubs for connection, which may explain their positive influence on voting. In Washington, Yakima Music en Acción has intentionally fostered opportunities for connection and engagement among the parents of their students. By creating a family-like atmosphere, they have built a space for celebrating one another, sharing information, and offering support beyond the organization's musical focus. This strong sense of community was well established even before the pandemic.

Income Inequality

Communities with a high concentration of arts and culture nonprofit organizations per capita have

3%

lower levels of income inequality among residents.

Research shows that economic inequality can lead to divisions that erode trust, increase social tensions, and limit opportunities for upward mobility. When wealth and resources are unevenly distributed, it restricts access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities, perpetuating cycles of poverty and hindering overall societal progress (Norris et al., 2019).

Using a Gini index, a method commonly used by the U.S. Census Bureau to assess societal income distribution with higher scores signaling greater disparity, this analysis found that scores

in Washington State range from 0.38 to 0.54, with an average of 0.45. The national average for the Gini index measure of income inequality is 0.49, meaning Washington State has a slightly more equitable distribution of incomes than the nation overall. These figures indicate a moderate to high level of income inequality, which can have important implications for social stability, access to services, and overall quality of life. Regions with higher levels of inequality may experience more pronounced disparities in health outcomes, educational attainment, and community cohesion.

Arts organizations may help reduce income inequality by providing accessible arts programming (McCarthy et al., 2001) and job opportunities to underserved communities, allowing individuals from lower-income backgrounds to gain employment and skills in creative fields (Bodvarsson & Hsieh, 2009). Additionally, community-based arts initiatives can stimulate local economies (Americans for the Arts, 2019), empower marginalized groups, and foster social cohesion, contributing to more equitable economic opportunities (Bishop, 2014).

Field Arts & Event Hall in Port Angeles, Washington described a program exemplifying this investment in local workforces. Recognizing



the need for arts professionals and workers, specifically theatre techs, Field Arts & Event Hall is working collaboratively to develop an arts education pipeline with their local community college. This provides new employment opportunities in the community as well as benefits to arts organizations locally. They are focused on investing in future arts workers and practitioners who can continue investing in their creative communities.

Investing in our local talent can reduce the financial burden of bringing in professionals from outside the areas, which is often challenging for small, rural arts organizations.

Steve Raider-Ginsburg,
Executive & Artistic Director,
Field Arts & Event Hall

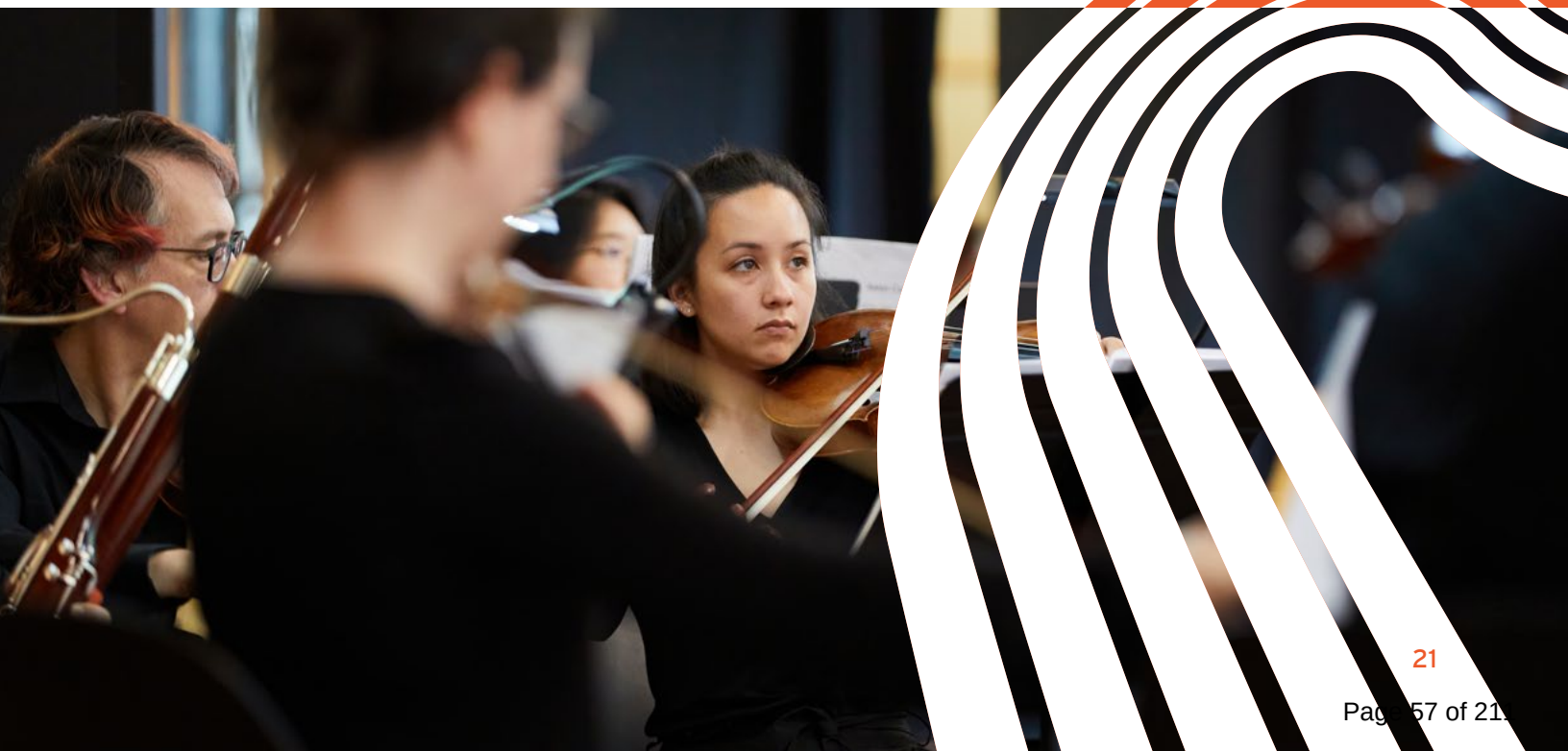
Gathering Spaces

There are over

8x

more community gathering spaces available to residents in counties with the highest levels of nonprofit arts organizations per capita (16 gathering spaces) compared to the lowest (fewer than two).

Art spaces like Field Arts & Event Hall understand their power to link people within their community by fostering connection through intentional space-making. With their vision that extends beyond hosting programs, Field Arts & Event Hall utilizes its café space to invite the community to share, connect, and engage.



I see the Field Arts as a community center for [all] arts people...I want the focus to be on creating a home—a place where people feel truly connected. I want our facility to be more than just a venue for programs; I want it to be a real space for the community.

Steve Raider-Ginsburg,
Executive & Artistic Director,
Field Arts & Event Hall

Arts and culture spaces aren't the only options for social cohesion and gathering within a community. **The research team at SMU DataArts developed a new composite measure of non-arts gathering spaces that includes nonprofit libraries, community centers, and senior centers.** On average, Washington State has 6 gathering spaces available for every 10,000 residents. This new metric will be included in future research inquiries at SMU DataArts with the potential to expand it to

include city or county resources as well as nonprofit organizations.

Nonprofits often collaborate and support one another by sharing resources, expertise, and networks, helping to strengthen their collective impact within the community. Through partnerships and mutual aid, they can tackle larger social issues together, amplify their voices, and create more sustainable solutions for those in need. It seems possible that communities with more arts and culture nonprofits might also have more gathering spaces given the supportive relationships across organizational contexts.

Indeed, the analysis shows that the density of arts organizations in a community is positively connected with the prevalence of non-arts gathering spaces in that community. **For every three nonprofit arts organizations in a community, there is one associated non-arts nonprofit gathering space available to residents.** This outcome suggests that arts organizations are an important part of the physical and social infrastructure supporting additional spaces for connection and community engagement.

One example of the ways that nonprofit arts and culture organizations facilitate and support community outside of the arts is the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture (MAC) in Spokane. The MAC encourages a wide range of local organizations and groups to use its spaces and frequently collaborate with other nonprofit organizations in the community.

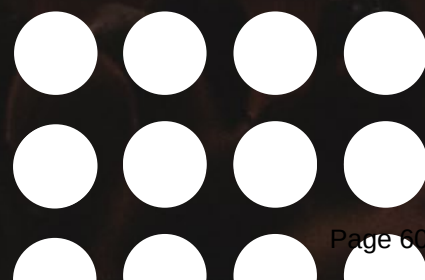
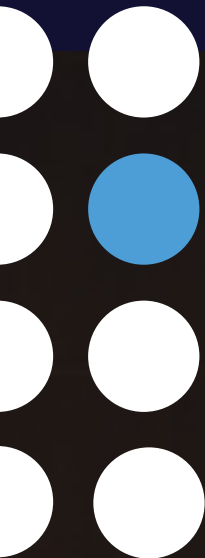


We host a variety of arts and non-arts community groups here by providing a welcoming board room for monthly meetings. These groups include the Spokane Symphony, the local university, and city health commissioners.

Wesley Jessup,
Executive Director,
Northwest Museum of Arts
and Culture



PUBLIC SUPPORT OF THE ARTS IN WASHINGTON



Counties with more state funding supporting arts and culture see stronger economic and social outcomes including higher local tourism revenue and higher levels of active voters.

Hotel/Motel Tax Revenue

\$22+

of additional tax revenue is collected per capita in counties with the highest levels of state arts support compared to those with the lowest levels.

Hotel and motel tax revenues serve as a key indicator of tourism and cultural engagement within a region. Higher revenues often reflect increased attendance at cultural events, festivals, and performances, which, in turn, drive demand for local accommodations. These cultural activities not only draw visitors from outside the region but also encourage longer stays, boosting direct spending and increasing tax revenue generated from local hotel stays (Americans for the Arts, 2020).

In Washington, hotel/motel tax revenue totals roughly \$9 per resident. Counties with the highest levels of state arts funding generate an average of \$22.36 per capita in hotel/motel tax revenue, compared to \$.03 in the least-funded communities. Distribution is highly uneven, ranging from \$0 dollars in Douglas, Benton, Stevens, and Garfield counties to \$121 per resident in San Juan County. Major urban centers account for a large share of this revenue, with King County generating the highest total—exceeding \$33 million, or \$15 per resident.

It's logically sound that increased investment in arts and culture resources within a community may enhance tourism by attracting visitors to engage with or attend cultural programming. Additionally, cultural organizations often serve as central hubs or magnets for cities, a strategy endorsed by ArtsWA.

One prominent example is the Seattle Symphony, which has long been a cultural cornerstone in downtown Seattle, playing an essential role in bringing people to the city center—a contribution that became even more crucial during the pandemic. While many small businesses closed, the symphony adapted, expanding its offerings to remain an anchor for the area.

Active Voters

Counties with more funding to arts and culture nonprofits also have

2%

higher levels of active voter engagement.

The rate of active voters is the only community metric with positive outcomes from both state arts funding levels and the density of arts and culture organizations. Counties that excel in both areas experience amplified impacts. Counties with the highest levels of state arts funding have 2% more active voters than those with the lowest levels of support.

Seniors Living Alone

In communities where arts and culture receive high levels of support,

1%

fewer seniors live alone, lessening adverse impacts of isolation.

Data reveals an interesting connection between state arts funding and the percentage of seniors (ages 65 and older) who live alone. Washington counties with the highest levels of state arts grant funding have 1% fewer seniors living alone compared to those with the lowest funding. If Washington's state arts funding were tripled to match the national per capita average, this could be associated with approximately 1,500 fewer seniors living alone across the state.

Research consistently shows that strong social ties can reduce stress, boost immune function, and even increase life expectancy (Holt-Lunstad, 2015). Human beings are inherently social creatures, and our ability to form and maintain meaningful relationships is vital to our sense of belonging and self-worth. Social connections help buffer against the negative effects of loneliness, which have been linked to a range of mental health challenges, including depression and anxiety (Cacioppo & Patrick, 2008).

Arts funding may help reduce isolation among seniors by supporting community-based programs that foster social engagement, such as group art classes, theater performances, and participatory music activities. Studies have shown that these programs not only enhance emotional well-being and reduce feelings of loneliness, but also encourage seniors to develop meaningful social connections, thereby improving their overall quality of life (Creech et al., 2013).

Health Outcomes

State arts funding is linked to small improvements in mental and physical health within a community.

Data shows a slight positive correlation between state arts grant funding and residents' mental and physical health outcomes. While communities receiving more arts funding experience marginal health benefits, further research is needed to understand the mechanisms behind these connections. Interviews with arts leaders frequently reinforce the idea that arts and health are deeply intertwined.

Arts initiatives in community settings can strengthen social cohesion and reduce

When healthcare and mental healthcare services have so many barriers, like being insured or uninsured, language... we've had parents share that YAMA was like medicine for their kid.

Stephanie Hsu
Founding Executive Director,
Yakima Music en Acción

isolation, particularly for vulnerable populations, leading to long-term benefits in mental health and overall quality of life (Clift & Camic, 2016). Stephanie Hsu, Founding Executive Director of Yakima Music en Acción, highlighted how successfully learning and playing music through their programs fosters a sense of self-worth among participants.

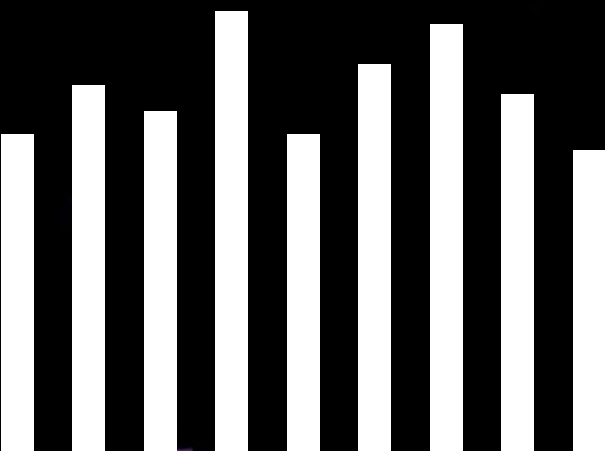
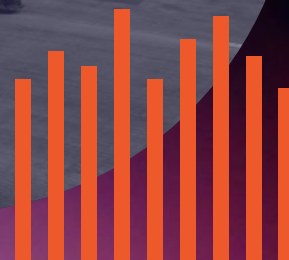
Krishna Thiagarajan, President & CEO of the Seattle Symphony, echoed this sentiment, emphasizing that music is not only a form of entertainment but also a fundamental pillar of health and wellness. He described how music is deeply woven into human life—from celebrations to providing comfort and healing during difficult times.

Art is good for us. It's an essential part of human life. It nurtures the heart, mind, and body. From the moment we're born, through birthdays, celebrations, and even at life's end, music is with us. When we're having a bad day, we often turn to our favorite song to comfort and uplift us. The healing power of music is undeniable...

Krishna Thiagarajan
President & CEO,
Seattle Symphony



GEOGRAPHY



Importance of the Arts in Rural Washington

The positive connections between cultural resources, income equality, and tax revenues are particularly strong in rural communities.

For a few of the livability metrics we explored, we found that the connection between cultural resources and community livability was even stronger in rural communities compared to urban ones. This suggests that, in some cases, the impact of cultural resources may be greater when they are more dispersed.

Increasing state arts grant funding in rural communities is associated **with a greater increase in hotel and motel tax revenue (\$21 per capita in rural counties compared to \$10 in non-rural areas)** and a **larger decline in the proportion of senior residents living alone** (an additional 0.3% drop in rural areas). Additionally, **increasing the number of arts organizations is linked to a slightly greater reduction in income inequality in rural areas than in urban ones.**

It's possible that in rural areas, where arts resources are generally fewer and more dispersed, the incremental value of additional investment is particularly noticeable and impactful for community members. Further research on the mechanisms behind the relationship between arts resources and livability outcomes in rural areas across the country would be valuable.

National Comparisons

Washington State ranks in the top third of all states on arts vibrancy, boasting a diverse array of arts resources and a highly engaged arts community.

The state's arts scene is marked by a wide array of artistic expressions, from visual and performing arts to music and digital media. According to a report by the Washington State Arts Commission (2020), **nearly 60% of Washington residents engage with the arts in some capacity**, whether by attending performances, visiting galleries, or participating in arts education programs. In addition to its cultural and social benefits, the arts sector is also a vital economic driver, supporting **191,245 jobs (ranked 6th among all states)** and contributing **\$70.2 billion (ranked 3rd)** to the state's economy (Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account, 2022). This broad impact underscores the arts' role in shaping both daily life and long-term prosperity for Washington residents.

Washington ranks 13th nationally on overall arts vibrancy, placing it in the top third of all states, according to SMU DataArts (Arts Vibrancy in All 50 States, 2024). Arts vibrancy is a composite score that incorporates 13 distinct measures encompassing facets of supply, demand, and public support for arts and culture across both non-profit and for-profit contexts. Rigorously adjusted for cost of living and population size, the Arts Vibrancy Index (AVI) offers unparalleled insights into the cultural pulse of each state. Washington scores particularly high on for-profit arts and culture vibrancy, outperforming 90% of states in this category. However, among the 13 arts vibrancy metrics, Washington performs lowest in state arts funding per capita, placing it in the bottom 20%.



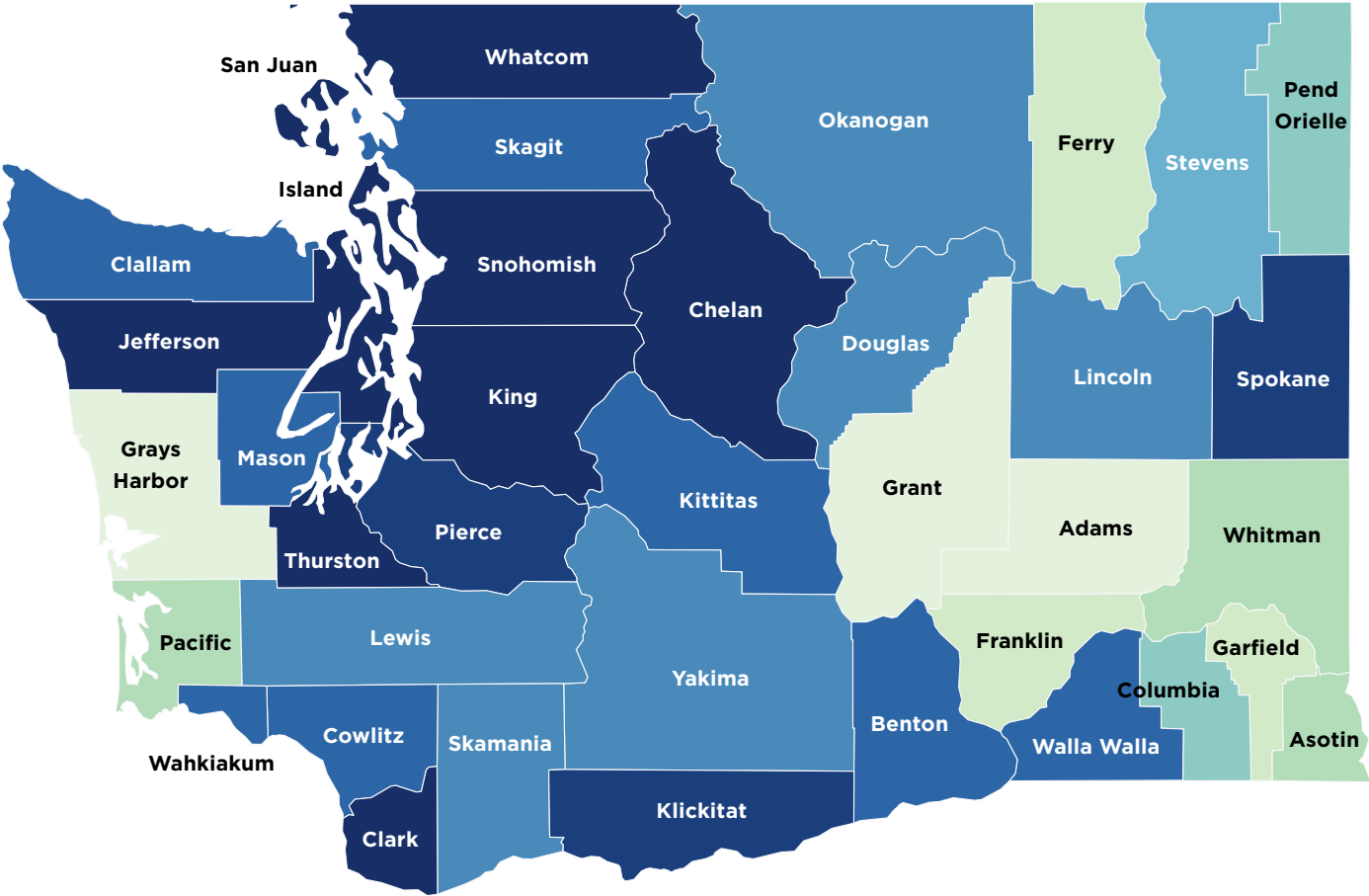
Unequal Access to Arts Resources Across Washington

Arts Vibrancy Throughout the State

Access to arts and culture varies across Washington. While some counties rank in the top 20% nationally for arts vibrancy, others fall in the bottom 20%.

Arts vibrancy levels vary widely across Washington, with the highest-performing county ranking in the top 1% nationally and the lowest performing county in the bottom 15%. This gap reflects significant differences in access to arts providers, funding, and government support for arts and culture organizations. A common explanation for this disparity is that resources are concentrated in high-population urban areas. However, to ensure a fair comparison, we calculate arts vibrancy metrics per capita, adjusting for population size. The wide range of arts vibrancy scores in Washington suggests substantial variation in which geographic areas benefit most from arts and culture resources and activity.

Arts Vibrancy Map 2024



Arts Vibrancy Index Range Key

 = 90-100	 = 30-40
 = 80-90	 = 20-30
 = 70-80	 = 10-20
 = 60-70	 = 0-10
 = 50-60	 Other
 = 40-50	

Note: Arts vibrancy is a composite score that incorporates 13 distinct measures encompassing facets of supply, demand, and public support for arts and culture across both non-profit and for-profit contexts.

To explore the arts vibrancy in more detail, visit SMU DataArts
<https://culturaldata.org/what-we-do/arts-vibrancy-index/>

Access to nonprofit arts organizations

Washington State has

6,378

arts and culture nonprofits, but access to arts organizations per capita is unequally distributed.

Nonprofit arts organizations represent just a portion of the diverse and rich cultural lives of Washington residents, with much creative activity occurring outside formal organizations. Nevertheless, this measure offers meaningful insights into community livability due to its connections with several key outcomes. On average, there are 2.8 nonprofit arts organizations per 10,000 residents in Washington.

There are significant disparities in the availability of nonprofit arts and culture organizations across the state, ranging from just 1 per 10,000 residents in Skamania County to 19 per 10,000 in San Juan County. Notably, the top five counties with the highest per capita availability of nonprofit arts organizations are all rural: San Juan, Garfield, Pacific, Jefferson, and Wahkiakum.

State investment in arts & culture

State arts spending in Washington lags significantly behind the national average, at

57%

less per person.

Among all arts vibrancy metrics, this was where Washington fell furthest behind other states. In fiscal year 2025 (July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025), Washington's state government allocated \$0.98 per resident on arts and culture support, compared to a national average of \$2.29 per person (NASAA, 2025). This figure includes both direct and indirect arts funding provided by the state, as measured by the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies.

A more focused look at state arts funding examines direct support for nonprofit arts and culture organizations distributed through ArtsWA, Washington's state arts commission. Direct arts funding to nonprofit organizations through ArtsWA totals just \$0.16 per resident. Many counties receive even less, with per capita funding ranging from \$0 in 15 counties to \$1 per resident in San Juan County, followed by \$0.52 per resident in Jefferson County, as shown in Table 2. (Note: Table 2 focuses solely on ArtsWA grants.)



TABLE 2: WA County Level Funding Per Capita State Arts Funding through ArtsWA in 2022

County Name	State Arts Funding Per Capita	County Name	State Arts Funding Per Capita
San Juan	\$1.02	Benton	\$0.06
Jefferson	\$0.52	Grant	\$0.04
Okanogan	\$0.49	Clark	\$0.04
Clallam	\$0.40	Snohomish	\$0.00
Pacific	\$0.33	Pend Orielle	\$0.00
King	\$0.32	Klickitat	\$0.00
Stevens	\$0.28	Columbia	\$0.00
Walla Walla	\$0.26	Lincoln	\$0.00
Skagit	\$0.23	Ferry	\$0.00
Chelan	\$0.22	Garfield	\$0.00
Asotin	\$0.19	Wahkiakum	\$0.00
Thurston	\$0.18	Grays Harbor	\$0.00
Kittitas	\$0.16	Franklin	\$0.00
Whatcom	\$0.11	Mason	\$0.00
Island	\$0.11	Douglas	\$0.00
Spokane	\$0.10	Adams	\$0.00
Pierce	\$0.10	Cowlitz	\$0.00
Lewis	\$0.09	Skamania	\$0.00
Yakima	\$0.08	Whitman	\$0.00
Kitsap	\$0.06	Washington State (ArtsWA)	\$0.16

Some cities and counties have stepped in to fill this funding gap by providing financial support to nonprofit arts and culture organizations through initiatives such as Tacoma Creates and Doors Open. While these efforts benefit communities that broadly support arts and culture, they may also widen disparities between Washington communities with greater access to cultural resources and those with fewer.

CONCLUSION

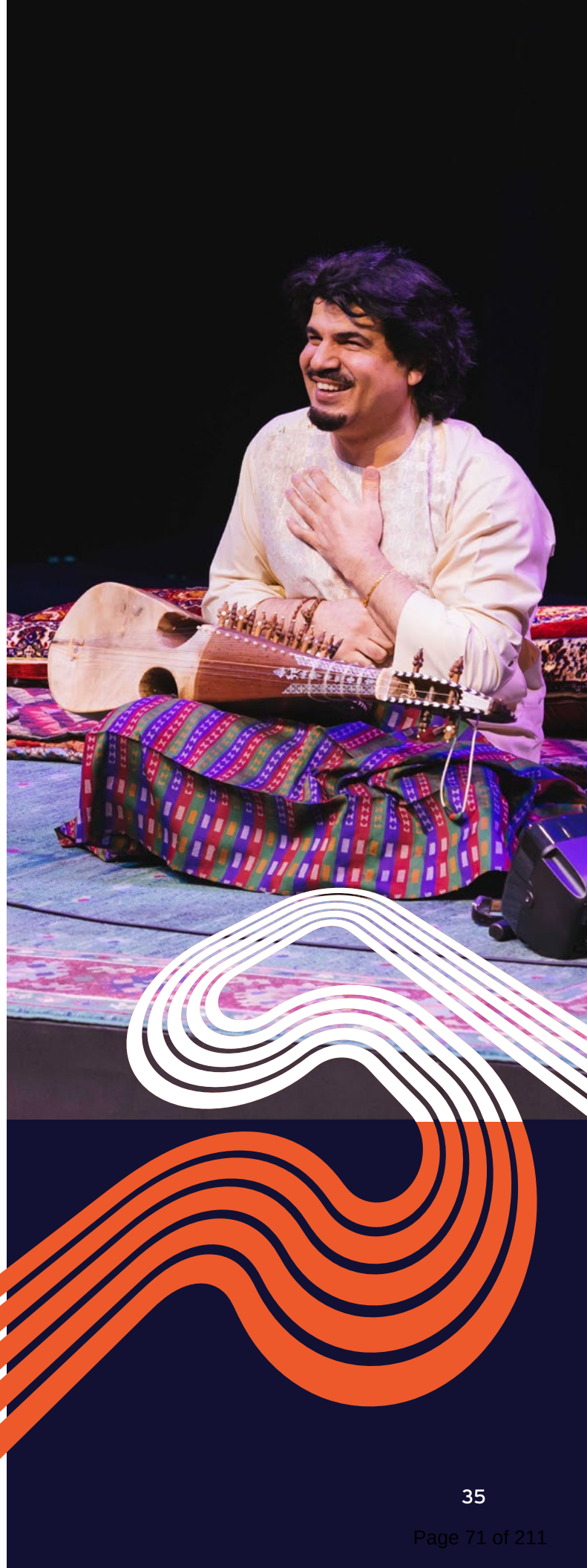


Almost 90% of Americans believe that arts and culture is important to their community's quality of life and livability¹. Our findings, as presented in this report, confirm that the majority of Americans are right: Accessible and well-funded arts and culture organizations improve livability outcomes for all. When Washingtonians have well-resourced and accessible arts and culture organizations in their communities, everyone benefits.

The critical role of these organizations became especially clear during the COVID-19 pandemic. Their support for communities was undeniable, proving essential in rebuilding the economy, fostering unity, and promoting well-being. Washingtonians value and recognize the benefits of having arts and culture organizations where they live. We are encouraging everyone to think of the arts as a vital component of their community's livability.

When publicly funded arts and culture nonprofits are better supported, we see higher civic engagement, increased tax revenue, and improved outcomes for the most vulnerable populations. Expanding access to these organizations reduces economic inequality, strengthens civic participation, and creates more spaces for communities to come together. Simply put, the arts make our communities stronger.

¹ Americans for the Arts. (2023). Arts & Economic Prosperity 6: The Economic & Social Impact Study of Nonprofit Arts & Culture Organizations & Their Audiences. Americans for the Arts. <https://www.americansforthearts.org/>



KEY TAKEAWAYS



Takeaways

Here are five key takeaways from this groundbreaking arts research by ArtsFund and SMU DataArts:

1. **Arts and culture are vital to the social fabric of our neighborhoods**, serving as the glue that keeps our communities strong, healthy, and vibrant.
2. **State arts funding and access to nonprofit arts and culture organizations are critical to fostering thriving, livable communities.**
3. **Inequities in access to arts and culture exist across Washington counties.** While urban-rural divides play a significant role in access to arts and culture across Washington, there are notable exceptions to this pattern.
4. **Rural areas experience even greater benefits from arts and cultural resources.** Compared to urban areas, rural communities benefit from larger gains in key outcomes, including higher tourism tax revenue and reduced income inequality.
5. **Despite below average state arts funding, Washington's arts ecosystem is highly vibrant** – raising the question: how much more livable could our communities be with stronger support?



ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS



Based on our findings, we believe that collective action on the following recommendations will help secure the benefits of arts and culture across the state.

Recommendation 1:

Match Washington State’s current investment in arts and culture of \$0.98 with the national average of \$2.29 per person.

The data demonstrates that increased public investment in arts and culture fosters social cohesion, economic opportunity, and civic engagement across all communities. We encourage support for a state-level investment in arts and culture equal to the national average. At the time of writing, this would require a 104% increase in state arts and culture funding from approximately \$8M to \$16.2M.

Action Items

Public Officials:

Support federal, state, and local funding to arts and culture nonprofits.

Champion the arts as a tool for improving the lives of Washington residents.

Explore new policies and strategies to bolster funding for nonprofit arts organizations across the state.

Private Sector:

Contribute to arts and culture nonprofits. Since public funding is only a small portion of overall financial support, private investment is crucial to the health and sustainability of organizations.

Recognize the invaluable role of arts and culture in fostering livable communities.

Advocate for arts and culture funding in the regions where you do business as a part of your broader strategy to create thriving business.

Arts & Culture Participants:

Advocate for the arts by engaging with elected officials, attending committee meetings, and sharing your experiences to influence policy decisions.

Use data from this report and other research to demonstrate the role arts play in building healthier, more livable communities.

Build relationships with legislators at all levels of government. Invite elected officials to your programs, engage in conversations, and share your priorities year-round.

Recommendation 2:

Foster and maintain a healthy environment for arts and culture nonprofit organizations.

With Washington's vibrant and diverse cultural landscape, it is vital for leaders and communities across the state to provide resources and infrastructure that sustain existing arts organizations and cultivate new ones. As the data shows, increased access to arts organizations leads to better outcomes for all.

Action Items

Public Officials:

Support initiatives and policies that recognize arts and culture nonprofits as a critical part of a healthy community.

Get involved with arts and culture organizations in your district to better understand the barriers they face and collaborate on creating policies to address them.

Private Sector:

Engage with local arts and culture nonprofits by developing employee matching programs, volunteer opportunities, and workplace engagement initiatives.

Serve on arts and culture organizations boards, using your expertise to amplify their impact and strengthen cross-sector connections.

Recognize the role of arts and culture in product development and business strategies. Partner with nonprofits to integrate creative practices into your processes.

Arts & Culture Participants:

Build and steward partnerships with other arts and culture organizations to strengthen collective impact.

Advocate for the infrastructure needed to fully participate in and contribute to your community.

Stay persistent. Success is a catalyst for greater engagement from all stakeholders.

Recommendation 3:

Include arts and culture as a key tool for building community health.

Research shows that communities with strong arts and cultural sectors experience improved livability across multiple measures. These positive outcomes extend beyond enrichment—they are essential to building strong, resilient communities with better outcomes for all residents.

Action Items

Public Officials:

Participate with arts and culture organizations and their audiences. These institutions serve as community gathering spaces—host town halls at their venues and attend their events.

Include arts and cultural advocates and administrators in decision-making processes, advisory roles, and committees to bring creativity and new perspectives to civic challenges.

Empower the arts and cultural community to actively participate in legislation that impacts them.

Private Sector:

Appoint arts and cultural leaders to corporate boards and workgroups to ensure cultural perspectives are considered in business decisions.

Include arts and culture organizations in focus groups and design reviews to gain insights from key community stakeholders.

Showcase artists as partners in innovation.

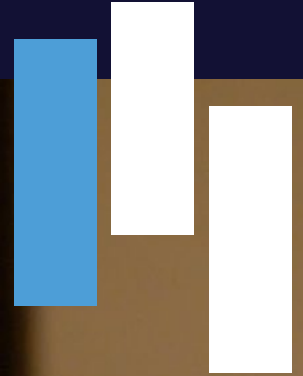
Arts & Culture Participants:

Collect and share data that demonstrates the impact of your work.

Frame your work as a part of a broader strategy to improve community well-being.

Remember that your contributions are essential to a healthy and thriving community.

APPENDIX A: INTERVIEWEE SNAPSHOTS



Field Arts & Events Hall

Port Angeles, WA
fieldhallevents.org

Steve Raider-Ginsburg, Executive
& Artistic Director

About

Field Arts & Events Hall represents the newest and most significant arts, entertainment and special events facility found anywhere in the region. Field Hall hosts local, regional, national, and international music and performance artists inside the 500-seat Donna M. Morris Theater. Field Hall also includes a cutting-edge waterfront conference and event center suitable for groups from 20 to 300 people, overlooking the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

Field Arts & Events Hall is a private 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. The construction of Field Hall was made possible through the generous donations of Port Angeles locals Donna M. Morris and Dorothy Field, along with corporate and individual donors who value a vibrant arts community on the northern Olympic Peninsula.

Mission

To be a home for arts and events that brings people together and strengthens our community.

Vision

To inspire, nurture, and empower the local arts community, enrich local cultural and educational experiences, and spark economic activity throughout the region.

To learn more visit:
fieldhallevents.org

Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture

Spokane, WA
northwestmuseum.org

Wesley Jessup, Executive Director
Carol Summers, Director of
Marketing & Communications

About

Founded in 1916, the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture is the largest cultural organization in the Inland Northwest, serving more than 100,000 visitors a year. It is one of Washington State's five Smithsonian affiliates and is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The museum resides in the historic Browne's Addition neighborhood of Spokane, Washington.

Commonly referred to as the "MAC," the museum preserves and cultivates the heritage of the Inland Northwest people through collections, exhibitions, and programs that bring their stories to life. Our collection of Plateau Indian art and artifacts is the largest in the world; more than one million objects are maintained and preserved, including fine art, artifacts, documents, photographs, and material culture from the Americas, Europe, and Asia. The world-renowned Joel E. Ferris Research Archives offers researchers from around the world an opportunity to explore our vast collection.

Mission

To engage our audiences in the appreciation of art, history, and culture of the Inland Northwest and beyond through collection stewardship, exhibitions, and programs that enrich and inspire.

Vision

The Museum's leadership, staff, and volunteers are committed to operating transparently and with integrity in all matters, honoring our commitments, listening with empathy, and being approachable, inclusive, and respectful of others.

To learn more visit:
northwestmuseum.org

Seattle Symphony | Benaroya Hall

Seattle, Washington
seattlesymphony.org

Krishna Thiagarajan, President
& CEO, Leslie Jackson Chihuly
Chair (at the time of research)

About

The Seattle Symphony unleashes the power of music, brings people together and lifts the human spirit. Recognized as one of the “most vital American orchestras” (NPR), the Seattle Symphony is internationally acclaimed for its inventive programming, community-minded initiatives, and superb recordings on the Seattle Symphony Media label. With a strong commitment to new music and a legacy of over 150 recordings, the orchestra has garnered five Grammy Awards, 27 Grammy nominations, two Emmy Awards and was named Gramophone’s 2018 Orchestra of the Year. The Symphony performs in Benaroya Hall in the heart of downtown Seattle from September through July, reaching over 750,000 people annually through live performances and radio broadcasts, and through the Seattle Symphony+ streaming service, the orchestra’s concerts reach audiences at home and around the world.

Mission

The Seattle Symphony unleashes the power of music, brings people together, and lifts the human spirit.

Values

Excellence · Innovation · Curiosity · Collaboration
· Respect · Inclusivity · Integrity · Service

To learn more visit:
seattlesymphony.org

YAMA Yakima Music en Acción

Yakima, Washington
yamamusic.org

Stephanie Hsu, Founding
Executive Director

About

The YAMA Preludio Orchestra is where YAMA students begin their musical journeys. A focus on building a strong musical and group foundation is emphasized. Students in the Preludio Orchestra play great music from all around the world, often arranged by YAMA Staff, each chosen specifically to help them reach our musical goals. Every quarter, Preludio students will be nominated by a Teaching Artist to audition for a chance to enter the Chamber Orchestra.

The YAMA Chamber Orchestra consists of our most advanced 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year instrumentalists. Students in the Chamber Orchestra tackle longer pieces (some unarranged classical masterpieces), are required to take their instruments home for practice, and serve as peer teachers to our newer YAMA students when asked.

The YAMA Philharmonia Orchestra, which consists of our most advanced students, is a four day a week intensive workshop to further students’ understanding of their instruments and offer critical thinking and leadership development. Students of Philharmonia will also be offered the chance to travel to the Garfield site to serve as Assistant Teachers.

To learn more visit:
yamamusic.org



APPENDIX B: DETAILED METHODOLOGY



The initial scoping phase of this project involved discussions among SMU DataArts, ArtsFund staff, and an advisory board composed of arts leaders representing different art forms and regions of Washington. Through an iterative discussion, we identified topic areas of interest, explored data availability for those topic areas, and refined the research question and framing to identify what data were available and limitations of the various data sources.

The analysis began with a data integration process that involved cleaning and consolidating county-level data for Washington State. This model examines the impact of arts-related variables at the Census tract level within Washington State. By zooming in to this level of detail, the study provides insights into how arts investments affect individual communities, accounting for local variations that are often masked in broader datasets. This research applied standard processes of outlier identification and mitigation through removal or winsorization where appropriate.

This model utilizes a series of arts input variables and control variables to assess their relationships with 24 different community outcomes. In these models we adjust all relevant values so that they are measured on a per capita basis at the Census tract-level. This multi-layered approach allows for a detailed examination of how arts funding and organizational presence correlate with various indicators of community health and economic prosperity.

What Kinds of Cultural Resources Were Considered?

We tested a wide range of cultural resources (inputs to our model) in three key categories as shown in Table 3, below: dollars flowing through the arts, arts providers, and public support of the arts. We only considered variables which had data available for every census tract or county within Washington State within the 3-year period of 2020-2022. Unfortunately, this set of cultural resources doesn't include measures of arts participation because rates of arts participation aren't available at the county level.

TABLE 3: Arts-Related Inputs

Metric	Measures	Source
Arts Providers		
	Number of Nonprofit Arts Organizations	IRS Business Master File, NTEE "A" Organizations
	Distance between residents and arts orgs	Census Block Group Centroid to Nearest Nonprofit Arts Org
Arts Dollars/ Public Support		
	Dollars awarded by the Washington State Arts Commission	Washington State Arts Commission: https://www.arts.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/GTO_FY22_Webpage-Archive_Full.pdf
	Government Support	As listed on 990 and 990PFs
Controls		
	Population	Census American Community Survey
	Rural vs Non-Rural Communities	US OMB Defines "Rural" as a county that is not part of a Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA)
	Socio-Economics	Census American Community Survey/SMU DataArts
Other		
	Arts Vibrancy Metrics	SMU DataArts

Ultimately, we found that connections between two types of cultural resources and community livability were particularly strong: the concentration of nonprofit arts and culture organizations and the level of state funding of arts and culture in a neighborhood.

A range of twenty-four community livability variables were measured across the state (see table 4 on the next page).

TABLE 4: Community-Related Outputs

Metric	Measures	Source
Social Connection & Cohesion		
	Voting registration/eligibility	Washington Secretary of State
	Volunteerism	Extracted from full 990s of all nonprofits
	Non-arts Nonprofit Gathering Places	IRS Business Master File, NTEE codes: 'B70','P28','X20','X21','X22','X30','X40','X50','X70','P81'
	Rate of living alone	Census American Community Survey
Safety		
	Crime rates	Washington State Statistical Analysis Center
	Government Support	As listed on 990 and 990PFs
Economic Opportunity & Supports		
	Unemployment Rates	Census American Community Survey
	Graduation Rates	Census American Community Survey
	Local Government Tourism Expenses	Washington State Open Data Portal
	Hotel/Motel Tax Revenues	Washington State Open Data Portal
Health		
	Physical Health	CDC PLACES: Local Data for Better Health
	Mental Health	CDC PLACES: Local Data for Better Health
	Overall Health	CDC PLACES: Local Data for Better Health
Housing		
	Subsidized Housing	National Housing Preservation Database
	% Owner Occupied Housing	Census American Community Survey
	% Renter Occupied Housing	Census American Community Survey

Controlling the Analysis to Compare “Like” Communities

We included a range of control variables to ensure that our analysis removed dimensions of communities from consideration that are not the focus of the investigation and might influence the outcomes. This helps ensure that we’re effectively comparing similar communities by holding other dimensions constant while we examine the relationship we’re interested in. The control variables in this study include rural/urban classification as defined by the US Office of Management and Budget, population, and a composite measure of socioeconomic status (income, education, and employment status).

The regression model which includes control variables is provided below in Table 5.



TABLE 5: Regression Model at the Census Block Level in Washington

	P-value	RSquared	Adjusted RSquared	Nonprofit Arts Organizations Per Capita	Rural Flag	ArtsWA Grant Dollars Per Capita	Constant
Active Voters per capita	0	0.95	0.95	14494.57***	-39.28***	1.58***	-15.66**
Count Fair or Poor Health per capita	0	0.11	0.1	0.71	-0.01	-0.0***	0.15***
Count Nonprofit Gathering Space Orgs per capita	0	0.16	0.16	0.32***	0	0	0.0***
Percent of those 65+ Living Alone	0	0.06	0.05	4380.12	54.7**	-0.26***	255.5***
Count Mental Health Not Good per capita	0	0.08	0.07	-2.13	-0.03*	-0.0***	0.12***
Count Physical Health Not Good per capita	0	0.11	0.11	-0.06	-0.01	-0.0***	0.1***
Hotel and Motel Tax Revenue per capita	0	0.99	0.99	3317.51	278.34***	46.01***	-44.72
Income Inequality (Gini Index)	0	0.57	0.57	-4.55***	0.04***	0.0***	0.43***
Nonprofit Volunteer Count per capita	0	0.16	0.16	518.86***	-0.16	0	0

* for p < 0.1, ** for p < 0.05, *** for p < 0.01

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Commissioner

Sharon Nyree Williams, Sharon Nyree Williams
LLC

Jeremy Whittington, Spokane Arts

Alex Yang, Bank of America

Julie Zeigler, Humanities Washington

ArtsFund Policy & Advocacy Committee 2024

Kumi Baruffi, Umpqua Bank

Representative Liz Berry, Representative for
Seattle's 36th District

Aaron Blank, Fearey Group

Patrick Evans, Evergreen Recovery Centers

Tiffany Evans, T-Mobile

David Fischer, KNKX

Dwight Gee, Arts Advocate

Dianne Harris, University of Washington

Jackie Jones, Gates Foundation

Maria Mackey, Arts Advocate

Elizabeth MacPherson Hearn, Mithun

Andrew Recinos, Tessitura

Ginny Ruffner, Artist, (1952 - 2025)

Linda Walton, Perkins Coie

Sung Yang, Pacific Public Affairs

ArtsFund

Michael Greer, President & CEO

Katy Corella, Vice President of Strategic
Initiatives & Communications

With special thanks to Calandra Childers and
Audrey Querns, who facilitated this project
across various points of its life.

About ArtsFund

ArtsFund supports the arts through leadership, advocacy, and grantmaking in order to build a healthy, equitable, and creative Washington. ArtsFund was originally founded to bring corporate and civic leaders together to help establish and sustain our region's arts and cultural institutions. Over its grantmaking history, ArtsFund has granted approximately \$130MM to over 1,000 organizations in 38 out of 39 Washington State counties. Through ArtsFund's advocacy work, including its longstanding arts impact research reports, which provide essential research on the value of the arts; and its leadership programs, like Board Leadership Training, which grow skills and build capacity among arts and cultural organizations, ArtsFund supports the health and wellbeing of our communities. Learn more at www.artsfund.org.

About SMU DataArts

SMU DataArts, the National Center for Arts Research, is a project of the Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University. The mission of SMU DataArts is to provide and engage both organizations and individuals with the evidence-based insights needed to collectively build strong, vibrant, and equitable arts communities. Its research efforts range from academic papers published in leading journals, applied research undertaken with community partners, and actionable insights shared directly with arts practitioners. Its programs provide business intelligence tools and resources to help arts leaders leverage data to answer critical management questions and connect research analyses to their own work. Recent publications include research reports on emergence from the COVID-19 crisis; the alchemy that drives high performing arts organizations of color; audience diversity, equity and inclusion in large performing arts organizations; impact of investments made in diverse creative communities; using machine learning to evaluate equitable grantmaking practices; and more. Additional information about SMU DataArts' research can be found at smu.edu/artsresearch.

PHOTO CREDITS

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www.artsfund.org

May 12, 2025

Workshops: 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Vancouver City Hall - Council Chambers - 415 W 6th Street, Vancouver WA

The City Council Meeting was held on 5/12/2025 at 4:00 PM in the Vancouver City Hall, Council Chambers 415 West 6th Street, Vancouver, WA 98660.

Workshops were conducted in person in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Members of the public were invited to view the meeting in person, via the live broadcast on www.cvtv.org and CVTV cable channels 23 or HD 323, or on the City's Facebook page, or www.facebook.com/VancouverUS.

View the CVTV video recording, including presentations and discussion, for workshops at: <https://www.cvtv.org/vid/link/37885?startStreamAt=0&stopStreamAt=6260>

Comprehensive Plan Update

(Approximately 45 minutes)

Rebecca Kennedy, Deputy Community Development Director, Dominique Martinelli, Senior Planner, rebecca.kennedy@cityofvancouver.us, dominique.martinelli@cityofvancouver.us

Staff led Council through a discussion of the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Councilmember Hansen was absent from the workshop.

Transportation System Plan Implementation Update

(Approximately 45 minutes, to immediately follow the previous workshop)

Kate Drennan, Transportation Planning Program Manager, Rebecca Kennedy, Deputy Community Development Director, kate.drennan@cityofvancouver.us, rebecca.kennedy@cityofvancouver.us

Staff led Council through a discussion of the Transportation System Plan Implementation Update.

Councilmember Hansen was absent from the workshop.

Boards and Commissions Policy Updates

(Approximately 30 minutes, to immediately follow the previous workshop)

Lisa Brandl, Deputy City Manager, Tawny Maruhn, Senior Support Specialist,
lisa.brandl@cityofvancouver.us, tawny.maruhn@cityofvancouver.us

Staff led Council through a discussion of the Boards and Commissions Policy Updates.

Councilmember Hansen was absent from the workshop.

Council Dinner / Administrative Updates (6:00 - 6:30 PM)

Regular Council Meeting

6:30 PM

Vancouver City Hall - Council Chambers - 415 W 6th Street, Vancouver WA

This meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting with in person and remote viewing and participation over video conference utilizing a GoToMeeting platform. Members of the public were invited to view the meeting in person, via the live broadcast on www.cvtv.org and CVTV cable channels 23 or HD 323, or on the City's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/VancouverUS. Public access and testimony on Consent Agenda items and under the Community Forum were also facilitated in person and via the GoToMeeting conference call.

Vancouver City Council meeting minutes are a record of the action taken by Council. To view the CVTV video recording, including presentations, testimony and discussion, for this meeting please visit:

https://www.cvtv.org/vid_link/37887?startStreamAt=0&stopStreamAt=8024

Electronic audio recording of City Council meetings are kept on file in the office of the City Clerk for a period of six years.

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order and Roll Call

The regular meeting of the Vancouver City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor McEnery-Ogle. This meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting, including both in person and remotely over video conference.

Present: Councilmember Harless, Councilmember Perez, Councilmember Fox, Councilmember Paulsen, Councilmember Stober, Mayor McEnery-Ogle

Absent: Councilmember Hansen

Motion by Councilmember Stober, seconded by Councilmember Paulsen, and

Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to excuse Councilmember Hansen from the meeting. Absent from vote: Councilmember Hansen.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes - May 5, 2025

Motion by Councilmember Stober, seconded by Councilmember Harless, and Yes: 5, No: 0, Abstaining: 1, to approve the May 5, 2025 Meeting Minutes. Absent from vote: Councilmember Hansen. Councilmember Paulsen abstained.

Proclamations

Older Americans Month

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle read and presented a proclamation to Jana Wilson, Senior Recreation Specialist for the City of Vancouver, and Linda Van Slyke, Volunteer for Parks, Recreation and Culture Services, proclaiming May 2025, as Older Americans Month.

Poppy Days

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle read and presented a proclamation to Gloria Cummings, past President of the American Legion, Unit 14, proclaiming May 12-17, 2025, as Poppy Days.

Memorial Day

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle read and presented a proclamation to Larry Smith, Co-Chairman of the Community Military Appreciation Committee, and Laurie O'Leary, CMAC Member, proclaiming May 26, 2025, as Memorial Day.

Community Communication

This is the place on the agenda where the public is invited to speak to Council regarding any matter on the Agenda not already scheduled for Public Hearing. (Separate instructions are provided for offering testimony on Public Hearing when applicable.) This includes the option to testify about Workshops. Members of the public addressing Council are requested to give their name and city of residence for the audio record. Speakers are to limit their testimony to a total of three minutes for all items combined.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle opened Community Communication and received testimony from the following community members regarding any matter on the agenda not scheduled for a Public Hearing:

- *Peggy Sheehan, Vancouver*
- *Bruce Barnes, Vancouver*
- *Carmen DeLeon, Vancouver*
- *Wynn Grcich, Vancouver*
- *Kimberlee Goheen Elbon, La Center*

There being no further testimony, Mayor McEnerny-Ogle closed Community Communication.

Consent Agenda

The following items will be passed by a single motion to approve all listed actions and resolutions. There will be no discussion on these items unless requested by Council. If discussion is requested, the item will be moved from the Consent Agenda and considered separately – after the motion has been made and passed to approve the remaining items.

Council pulled items 4 and 5 for discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Paulsen, seconded by Councilmember Fox, and Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to approve Items 1-3 and 6-8 on the Consent Agenda. Absent from vote: Councilmember Hansen.

Motion by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Stober, and Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to approve Item 4 on the Consent Agenda. Absent from vote: Councilmember Hansen.

Motion by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Perez, and Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to approve Item 5 on the Consent Agenda. Absent from vote: Councilmember Hansen.

1. Bid Award - 2025 Resurfacing Project - ITB 25-20

Staff Report: 096-25

Request: On May 12, 2025, award a construction contract for the 2025 Resurfacing Project to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, and authorize the City Manager or designee to finalize and execute a contract with Granite Construction Company, Vancouver, Washington, at their bid price of \$3,344,355, which includes Washington State sales tax.

Chris Sneider, Senior Civil Engineer, chris.sneider@cityofvancouver.us

Motion approved the request.

2. Contract Amendment - Professional Services Agreement with Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program - C-101758

Staff Report: 097-25

Request: On Monday, May 12, 2025, approve a contract amendment authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to finalize and execute the same.

Bryan Monroe, Associate Housing Project Coordinator,
bryan.monroe@cityofvancouver.us

Motion approved the request.

3. Contract Amendment - Approval of Threshold Increase for Services Provided by Passport Parking Inc.

Staff Report: 098-25

Request: On Monday, May 12, 2025, authorize the City Manager, or designee, to finalize and execute an amendment to contract C-100069 with Passport Parking, Inc for an additional \$175,000 for a total contract amount of \$475,000.

Gabe Montez, Parking District Manager,
Gabriel.Montez@cityofvancouver.us

Motion approved the request.

4. Approval of Affordable Housing Fund Awards

A RESOLUTION relating to low-income housing; providing for adoption of 2025 funding awards for the Affordable Housing Fund and authorizing the City Manager to execute agreements and other related documents on behalf of the City of Vancouver consistent with Affordable Housing Fund 2025 Council-approved funding awards.

Staff Report: 099-25

Request: On Monday, May 12, 2025, approve a resolution adopting the proposed 2025 AHF awards and authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to execute related agreements.

Samantha Whitley, Housing Programs Manager,
samantha.whitley@cityofvancouver.us

Motion adopted Resolution M-4336 to approve the request.

5. Amendment to Vancouver Municipal Parking Code related Downtown Access Mobility and Parking Plan

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Parking Code for the City of Vancouver under Vancouver Municipal Code (VMC) Titles 19 and 9; amending VMC sections 19.040.070 relating to On-Street Permits; 19.13.010 relating to payment transferability; 19.11.030 relating to parking meter fees designated; 9.92.10 relating to Carpool permit eligibility; 9.92.020 relating to Carpool permit parking hours; 9.92.040 relating to Carpool Permit rate; providing for severability; and setting an immediate effective date.

Staff Report: 100-25

Request: On Monday, May 12, 2025, advance the ordinance amending the Vancouver Municipal Parking Code to implement the Downtown Access Mobility and Parking Plan, setting the date for the second reading and public hearing for May 19, 2025.

Gabe Montez, Parking District Manager,
Gabriel.Montez@cityofvancouver.us

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Motion approved the request.

6. Public Facilities District Board Appointment

Request: On Monday, May 12, 2025, appoint Cody Scherer to a full-term position on the Public Facilities District Board, with a term beginning immediately and expiring November 30, 2029.

Council Subcommittee 1

Motion approved the request.

7. Aviation Advisory Committee Appointments

Request: On Monday, Monday, May 12, 2025, reappoint Shon Lindley and Sara Baker to a full-term and appoint Brigham Williams to a full term on the Aviation Advisory Committee, with a term beginning May 15, 2025, and expiring May 15, 2028.

Subcommittee 1

Motion approved the request.

8. Approval of Claim Vouchers

Request: Approve claim vouchers for May 12, 2025.

Motion approved claim vouchers in the amount of \$9,243,411.58.

Public Hearings

The following item(s) are scheduled for public hearing. Members of the public addressing Council are requested to give their name and city of residence for the audio record. Unless otherwise announced by the Presiding Officer, speakers are to limit their testimony to three minutes for each public hearing.

9. 2025 HUD Annual Action Plan, Amendment to 2022 and 2023 Plans and CV2 Close Out

A RESOLUTION relating to the adoption of the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Annual Action Plan for the 2025 program year; authorizing the City Manager to execute agreements on behalf of the City of Vancouver consistent with the CDBG and HOME Annual Action Plan; providing for severability and an effective date.

Staff Report: 101-25

Request: On Monday, May 12, 2025, approve a resolution adopting the 2025 HUD Annual Action Plan, amendments to the 2022 and 2023 Action Plans, and state CDBG-CV2 closeout; authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to execute agreements on behalf of the City of Vancouver, consistent with the 2025 CDBG and HOME Council approved funding awards

Tasha Slater, Samantha Whitley, Housing Programs Manager,
samantha.whitley@cityofvancouver.us

Tasha Slater, Samantha Whitley, Housing Programs Manager, provided an overview of the 2025 HUD Annual Action Plan, Amendment to 2022 and 2023 Plans and CV2 Close Out.

Council discussed the item briefly with staff.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle opened the public hearing and received testimony from the following community members:

- *Carmen DeLeon, Vancouver*
- *Kimberlee Goheen Elbon, La Center*

There being no further testimony, Mayor McEnerny-Ogle closed the public hearing.

Motion by Councilmember Perez, seconded by Councilmember Harless, and

Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to approve Resolution M-4337. Absent from vote: Councilmember Hansen.

10. 2025-2029 Vancouver Commute Trip Reduction Plan

AN ORDINANCE of the City of Vancouver, Washington relating to the City of Vancouver Commute Trip Reduction Plan as identified in Chapter 18.12 Vancouver Municipal Code (VMC) and by the Growth Management Act through RCW 36.70A.110 and by the Washington Clean Air Act through RCW 70A.15.4020, amending VMC 18.12.030 to adopt the 2025 – 2029 Vancouver Commute Trip Reduction Plan; providing for severability and an effective date.

Staff Report: 095-25

Request: On Monday, May 12, 2025, upon second reading and a public hearing, approve the ordinance.

Olivia Kahn, Transportation Demand Management Coordinator, Kate Drennan, Transportation Planning Program Manager,
olivia.kahn@cityofvancouver.us, kate.drennan@cityofvancouver.us

Olivia Kahn, Transportation Demand Management Coordinator, and Kate Drennan, Transportation Planning Program Manager, provided an overview of the 2025-2029 Vancouver Commute Trip Reduction Plan.

Council discussed the item briefly with staff.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle opened the public hearing and received testimony from the following community members:

- *Kimberlee Goheen Elbon, La Center*
- *Carmen DeLeon, Vancouver*

There being no further testimony, Mayor McEnerny-Ogle closed the public hearing.

Motion by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Perez, and Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to approve Ord M-4501. Absent from vote: Councilmember Hansen.

Communications

A. From the Council

B. From the Mayor

C. From the City Manager

State Legislative End of Session

Aaron Lande, Program and Policy Development Manager, and Brian Enslow, State Lobbyist, discussed the State Legislative End of Session.

Adjournment

8:46 p.m.

Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor

Attest:

Natasha Ramras, City Clerk

The written comments below are those of the submitter alone and are not representative of the views of CVTV or the City of Vancouver, its elected or appointed officials, or its employees.

From: [Dollar, Sarah](#)
To: [Dollar, Sarah](#)
Subject: FW: Miscarriages
Date: Monday, May 12, 2025 11:58:25 AM

Sarah Dollar | Executive Assistant to the City Council
Pronouns: She/Her/Hers
CITY OF VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON
City Manager's Office (CMO)
Primary (Cell): 360-624-2949 | **Desk:** 360-487-8641
www.cityofvancouver.us

From: Wynn Grcich <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, May 9, 2025 7:14 AM
To: Rebecca Messinger [REDACTED]; City Council
<council@cityofvancouver.us>
Subject: Miscarriages

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Vancouver. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn

This Daily Habit Can Damage Your Brain, Disrupt Your Bones, and Stain and Pit Your Teeth

April 24 2012 | 94,809 views | 42 comments | [Print](#)

By Dr. Mercola

The largest state legislature in the U.S. recently passed a bill mandating infant fluoride warnings on all water bills in fluoridated communities. On March 15, the New Hampshire House of Representatives voted 253-23 in favor of the bill.

Thanks to a 13-2 recommendation from the House Resources, Recreation, and Development committee, there was no debate over the bill on the House floor. The bill will now go to the Senate. According to the text of the bill, the warning would read:

"Your public water supply is fluoridated. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, if your child under the age of 6 months is exclusively consuming infant formula reconstituted with fluoridated water, there may be an increased chance of dental fluorosis. Consult your child's health care provider for more information."

Why Infants Should Not Drink Fluoridated Water

Two years ago, a study published in the *Journal of the American Dental Association* found that fluoride intake during a child's first few years of life is significantly associated with fluorosis, and warned against using fluoridated water in infant formula.

Dental fluorosis - a condition in which your tooth enamel becomes progressively discolored and mottled - is one of the first signs of over-exposure to fluoride. Eventually, it can result in badly damaged teeth, and worse... It's important to realize that dental fluorosis is NOT "just cosmetic."

It can also be an indication that the rest of your body, such as your bones and internal organs, including your brain, have been overexposed to fluoride as well. In other words, if fluoride is having a visually detrimental effect on the surface of your teeth, you can be virtually guaranteed that it's also damaging other parts of your body, such as your bones. After all, bone is living tissue that is constantly being replaced through cellular turnover.

Bone building is a finely balanced, complicated process and fluoride has been known to disrupt this process ever since the 1930s.

While generally supportive of water fluoridation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) does admit that using fluoridated water to mix infant formula may not be in the best interest of your baby's developing teeth. According to their website:

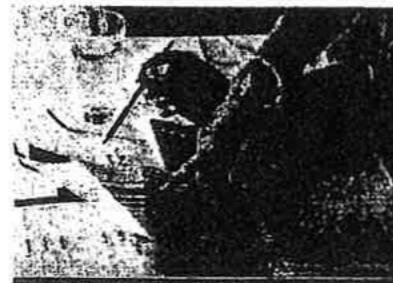
"Recent evidence suggests that mixing powdered or liquid infant formula concentrate with fluoridated water on a regular basis may increase the chance of a child developing ... enamel fluorosis."

The CDC also states:

"In children younger than 8 years of age, combined fluoride exposure from all sources - water, food, toothpaste, mouth rinse, or other products - contributes to enamel fluorosis."

The lack of formal and easy-to-find warnings about the hazard of using fluoridated water to make infant formula has, and continues to be, a major source of contention. New Hampshire will set a marvelous example for other states if their bill mandating infant fluoride warnings on water bills in fluoridated communities is enacted.

Shifting the Burden of Proof



Story at-a-glance

On March 15, the New Hampshire House of Representatives voted 253-23 in favor of mandating infant fluoride warnings on all water bills in fluoridated communities. The bill will now go to the Senate.

According to the text of the bill, the warning would read, in part: "According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, if your child under the age of 6 months is exclusively consuming infant formula reconstituted with fluoridated water, there may be an increased chance of dental fluorosis." But dental fluorosis is not "just cosmetic." It can also be an indication that other tissues, such as your bones and internal organs, including your brain, has been overexposed to fluoride as well.

A repeated theme in recent cases where communities successfully removed fluoride from their water supply is the shifting of the burden of proof. Rather than citizens taking on the burden of proving that fluoride is harmful and should be removed, champions in positions of some authority have managed to end water fluoridation in their communities by demanding that any fluoride product used must be able to prove its compliance with the regulations, laws, and risk assessments already required for safe drinking water.

Most Popular

- 1 [The Beverage that is Even WORSE than High Fructose Corn Syrup Soda](#)
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- 3 [The Terrible Mistake That Now Threatens 1 Out of Every 3 Bites You Eat](#)
- 4 [One Early Morning Mistake \(and 7 Others\) You Don't Want to Make](#)
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Studies Link Lead to Adult Crime, Brain Damage

WASHINGTON (Reuters)—Exposure to lead in early childhood or in the womb can cause permanent brain damage that may even cause criminal behavior, researchers reported last week.

Two studies show that people with high levels of lead in childhood grew up with blocks of missing brain cells—and they also were far more likely to be arrested for crimes, especially violent crimes.

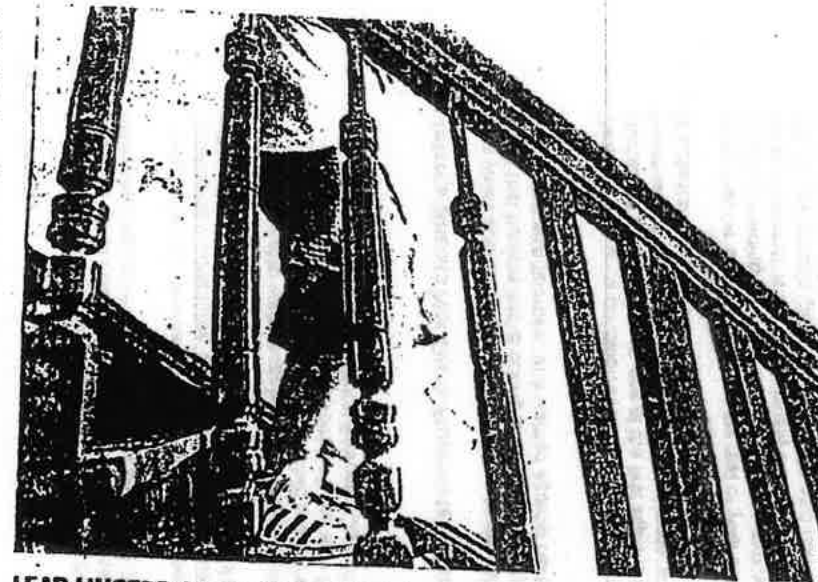
The effect is so strong that it may account for a large percentage of crimes in inner-city areas, where old houses are far more likely to have lead paint, said Kim Dietrich of the University of Cincinnati in Ohio, who led one of the studies in the Public Library of Science journal PLoS Medicine.

"There are some data that suggest that in fact lead does run in parallel with crime trends over the last several decades," Dietrich said in a telephone interview.

Dietrich and colleagues signed pregnant women living in Cincinnati neighborhoods ridden with lead-contaminated housing between 1979 and 1984. They tested the women and then their children at birth and have been watching the children as they grew up.

They correlated blood-lead level at a from 250 of the children to criminal arrest records.

Those with high lead levels at birth and during early childhood had higher rates of arrest than



LEAD LINGERS: Inner-city lead toxicity is still a problem. Lead poisoning in children can cause behavioral problems later in life. (THE GAZETTE OF INDIANA)

those with lower lead levels. About 55 percent of the now-grown children had at least one arrest, 28 percent involving drugs, and 27 percent serious motor vehicle violations.

"Lower income, inner-city children remain particularly vulnerable to lead exposure," Dietrich said.

"Although we've made great strides in reducing lead exposure, our findings send a clear message that further reduction of childhood lead exposure may be an important and achievable way to reduce vio-

lent crime.

Missing Brain Cells

His colleague Dr. Kim Cecil of Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center did magnetic resonance imaging, or MRI scans, of the brains of their volunteers.

They found more than 1 percent of total gray matter in the brain was missing. "The most affected regions included frontal gray matter, specifically the anterior cingulate cortex," Cecil's team wrote

in a second study. This region is responsible for mood regulation and decision-making.

Men were far more affected than women.

"Our findings also suggest that this structural change is permanent," they wrote.

The implications are profound, Dietrich said. "Usually the effects of lead poisoning are irreversible," he said.

Environmental enrichment programs such as those used to help children who are abused may help, he added. "I don't think they are lost but it certainly is a warning," he said.

Lead paint is by far the biggest source of poisoning, he said—despite recent U.S. scares involving lead in water, in imported toys, and in folk medicine.

The mothers of the children likely had lead in their bodies from their own childhoods, and exposed their babies in the womb, he said.

"Many also grew up in these neighborhoods," Dietrich said.

In a third, unrelated study, a team of University of Pittsburgh researchers showed adults can be subjected to a second wave of lead as they get older.

Writing in the Archives of Environmental and Occupational Health, Lisa Morrow and colleagues showed that lead can leach into the blood from bones as people age and lose bone mass.

WASA is not sure where all the lead pipes are, and deciding which to replace first could be a political nightmare.

Replacing pipes might even be unnecessary because a team of scientists is preparing to add chemicals to the water at the Washington Aqueduct on June 1 that it hopes will stop lead from leaching.

Mayor Anthony A. Williams (D) cautioned that the city and WASA should not commit to a major pipe replacement plan without significant review.

"There's no indications from other cities you have to yank out the pipes," Williams said. "We're going to look at best practices before we make a final decision."

With the heightened public awareness of lead risks, WASA board members said, the city would be wise to engage residents in making an important public policy decision. The board will hold public hearings and accept input for two months, then decide in June whether to formally adopt the six-year replacement plan, Gerstell said.

WASA has been required by federal law to replace 7 percent of the lead service lines — or 1,600 — per year since learning of the contamination of drinking water in 2002. However, the agency can stop replacing pipes if lead levels in the water recede below the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's limit of 15 parts per billion for one year. Two-thirds of the 6,118 residences that WASA tested last summer, or 4,075 homes, had water that exceeded the EPA limit.

WASA General Manager Jerry N. Johnson said the agency would replace all the lead lines if instructed to by the board. But the plan would be a huge financial burden.

WASA officials have projected a capital budget of \$1.76 billion over 10 years to upgrade an infrastructure that suffered years of disrepair in the early 1990s, when much of the capital program was neglected. Undertaking a lead line replacement program would mean possibly deferring other projects, Johnson said.

Most water quality experts, including regulators at the EPA, agree that the most cost-effective way to control lead leaching is through a process known as corrosion control. That entails treating the water with chemicals to create a protective film on the pipes.

To D.C. Council member Jim Graham (D-Ward 1), that sounds like a better plan than sending crews into neighborhoods throughout the city to dig up streets, sidewalks and lawns. WASA should find the right chemicals to curb corrosion and stick with that, Graham said.

"We've had lead pipes in my ward for 100 years, and they've never presented a problem," Graham said. "So we need to work to return to that state of affairs. If we can do that without tearing up neighborhoods and spending hundreds of

Lead and W

Latest Headlines

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- [WEEK IN REVIEW: April 4, 2004](#)
- [WASA to Boost Priority 500 Homes Will Get New](#)

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D.C. Debates Lead Options: New Pipes or Altered Water

Neither Choice Guarantees Freedom From Problems

By David Nakamura
Washington Post Staff Writer
Monday, April 5, 2004; Page B01

Her home has a lead service line. Her street in Southwest Washington has several of them. And Mary Williams has a message for city leaders: Remove these health threats.

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"It's time we do a long-term plan and get rid of these lead service lines just to reduce the risk of this ever happening again," she said of lead contamination in some of the District's drinking water.

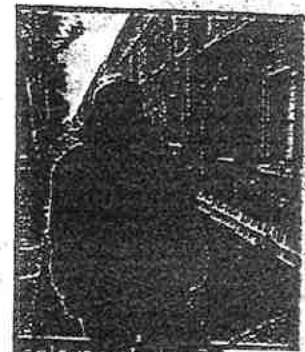
Lead service lines have carried water under the city's soil for more than 100 years. But with residents outraged about high lead levels, some city officials also said it is finally time for the aging pipes to go.

Last week, the D.C. Water and Sewer Authority's Board of Directors began considering a proposal to spend at least \$350 million to replace the estimated 23,000 lead lines by 2010.

"We recognize this as a major expense and major dislocation," said WASA Board Chairman Glenn S. Gerstell, "but we may need to do it and get it over with so we can be free of this lead problem."

Such an undertaking would not only be expensive but would severely disrupt city streets and neighborhoods. It would be logistically complex, because

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A50230-2004Apr4.html>



Enlarge photo

Mary Williams of Lead Emerges District talks with neighbor Earl Carrollburg Place. Water in the Washington neighborhood has lead. (Ricky Carroll - The Washington Post)

D.C. Water Lead Search for lead levels in D.C. from more than 6,100 test by homeowners in cooperation D.C. WASA. If you don't try a less specific search. You can also find test results this ward map of D.C.

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County Executive's Office

Residents Urged to Sign Up for New SMC Alert System

Updates include maps, multiple languages

November 21, 2022

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Redwood City – Thanks to an improved emergency alert and warning system, those who live and work in San Mateo County can now get messages via text, email and voice that include maps, images and multiple languages.

The new features of SMCAlert are meant to empower residents further by providing key information to help keep them safe and navigate away from incidents like major traffic delays and detours, wildfires, floods and mountain lions. The added capabilities are due to a new vendor, RAVE, which replaces former provider Everbridge.

SMCAlert is a free notification system used to immediately alert you of urgent or emergency situations. Senders include the county and its cities; the new alert system has an improved identification component to show recipients exactly which agency sent the message. The new system also lets you choose to receive messages in English, Spanish or Simplified Chinese.

Existing recipients of SMCAlert are encouraged to create a new account to enable the new features. If you don't, you will continue receiving alerts as before, but cannot take advantage of the added features. To do so, visit www.SMCAlert.info

Those who do not currently use SMCAlert are also urged to sign up and customize the types of alerts they'd like to receive.

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Killer Robots Outlawed



(ReclaimingAmerica.net) – The members of the San Francisco city legislature have voted unanimously to backtrack on last week's decision to allow the use of "killer robots" by the local police.

All eleven members of San Francisco's Board of Supervisors are Democrats. Last week they voted 8-3 in favor of approving the deployment of explosive-armed robots to kill or incapacitate criminals.

Their vote made national headlines, sparking backlash from various sides of the political spectrum. That includes far-left activists and officials who slammed the use of killer robots as something that would "disproportionately" affect people of color and poorer Americans.

With their new vote, the San Francisco supervisors decided to ban the police from deploying robots in any lethal manner, The National Review reported, citing The Associated Press.

However, the liberal-dominated city's Supervisory Board still directed the issue to one of its committees for additional discussions.

Among those who voted in the minority against the use of killer robots last week was board president Shamman Walton, who said it would hurt disadvantaged groups.

Another opponent of last week's preliminary decision, Supervisor Dean Preston, welcomed its reversal in a prepared statement released after the new vote.

"The people of San Francisco have spoken loud and clear: There is no place for killer police robots in our city," Preston said.

"We should be working on ways to decrease the use of force by local law enforcement, not giving them new tools to kill people," he argued.

Earlier this week, ahead of the second vote, there was a protest rally outside the San Francisco city hall.

"We all saw that movie ... No Killer Robots," read the protesters' banners.

The police the San Francisco board had approved last week stipulated that a limited number of senior law enforcement officials would be able to authorize the use of deadly killer robots.

It said they would be able to do that only in cases "when [there is] risk of loss of life to members of the public or officers" and the killer robots "outweigh other force options available to SFPD."

The policy allowed the police "to contact, incapacitate, or disorient violent, armed, or dangerous suspects" through robots armed with explosives.

The San Francisco Police Department has a dozen functioning robots.

Those have been used for inspecting suspected bombs, executing warrants, and accessing hazmat and low-visibility situations.

The votes by the San Francisco's board came after a new California state law – California Assembly Bill 481 – required that local legislatures issue directions on how their police departments could utilize military-style equipment, such as robots.



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The Crimes Of Lead

Research on the toxic metal's effects on the brain bolsters the hypothesis that childhood exposure is linked to criminal acts

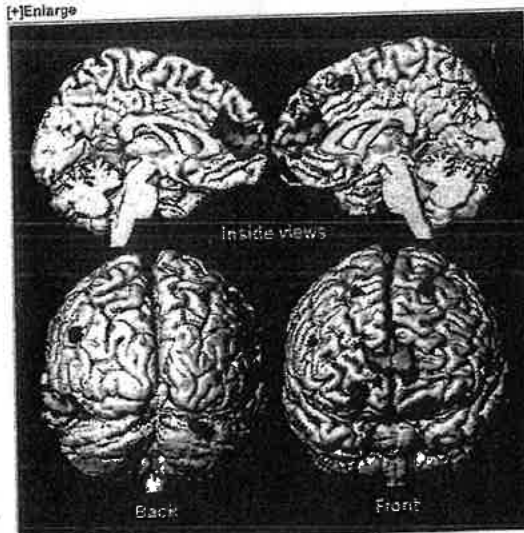
By Lauren K. Wolf

Department: Science & Technology | Collection: Life Sciences

News Channels: Biological SCENE, Environmental SCENE

Keywords: lead poisoning, violence, crime, homicide, blood-lead levels, neurotoxicity, myelin, gray matter, brain damage

[+Enlarge]



LEAD'S LEGACY

Composite MRI images of about 160 members of the Cincinnati Lead Study show that childhood exposure to element 82 causes gray matter loss (orange areas), especially in frontal areas of the brain.

Credit: Courtesy of Kim Cecil

When crime rates began to drop across the U.S. during the 1990s, city officials and criminologists were thrilled—but baffled. Violent acts, most often committed by young adults, had reached an all-time high at the start of the decade, and there was no sign of a turnaround.

By the close of the '90s, though, the homicide rate had declined more than 40% throughout the country. Economists and criminologists have since proposed reasons for the unexpected plummet. Some have pointed to an increase in police officers. Others have suggested a rise in the number of offenders put behind bars. Economist and "Freakonomics" coauthor Steven D. Levitt famously hypothesized that the legalization of abortion in 1973 even played a role. Once the Supreme Court decided *Roe v. Wade*, he argued, fewer unwanted babies grew into disturbed, crime-prone adults two decades later.

But recently, experts have been kicking around another possible player in the crime drop of the '90s: lead. Cars burning leaded gasoline spewed the heavy metal into the air until 1973, when the Environmental Protection Agency mandated the fuel's gradual phaseout. Lead-based paint was banned from newly built homes in 1978. Because of these actions, children born in the mid- to late-1970s grew up with less lead in their bodies than children born earlier. As a result, economists argue, kids born in the

'70s reached adulthood in the '90s with healthier brains and less of a penchant for violence.

Today, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention considers 5 micrograms per deciliter of lead in a child's blood to be abnormal. Studies have shown that people who grew up with blood-lead levels at or above this threshold are more likely to have impaired cognition than those who grew up with less lead in their blood. In 1976, the average U.S. resident had a blood-lead level of 16 µg/dL, according to the National Health & Nutrition Examination Survey. By 1991, when there was less lead in the air and in housing, the average had dropped to 3 µg/dL.

As the lead-crime hypothesis gains traction in economics circles, critics are invoking the "correlation does not equal causation" mantra. But scientists argue that there is evidence that lead exposure increases aggression in lab animals. And even though lead, one of the oldest known poisons, affects the brain in a dizzying number of ways, researchers are beginning to tease out some of the mechanisms by which it might trigger violence in humans.

During the 1960s, doctors couldn't label a child as lead poisoned unless he or she had a blood-lead level of at least 60 µg/dL—CDC's defined limit at the time. But researchers like University of Pittsburgh psychiatrist Herbert L. Needleman questioned

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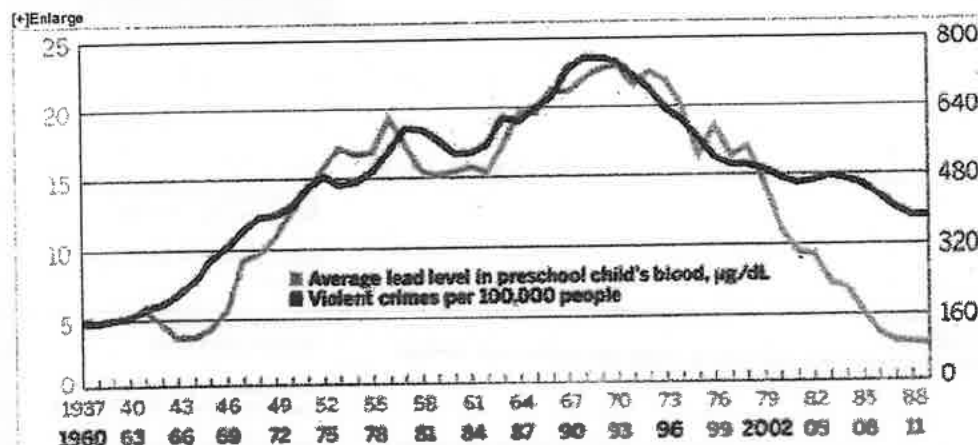
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the cut-off value. Surely if 60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ was toxic, 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ couldn't be completely harmless.

Needleman and others began observing "silent lead poisoning" in children with blood-lead levels below the established limit. Rather than overt physical symptoms like hallucinations and kidney damage, these kids had low IQ scores, attention problems, and antisocial tendencies. As more and more reports of these deficits filtered in, CDC lowered the blood-lead level it deemed acceptable for kids further and further: In 1970, the amount was 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$, and by 1991, it was 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$.

Some physicians noticed that children exposed to blood-lead levels below 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ could also be aggressive or violent. In 1996, Needleman and his group followed up on these anecdotal observations by examining a few hundred 12-year-old boys in the Pittsburgh area. The researchers measured the amount of lead in the boys' bones with X-ray fluorescence to get an idea of how much of the heavy metal their participants were exposed to during childhood. The boys rated worst by their parents and teachers in terms of aggressive and antisocial behaviors had been exposed to the highest levels of lead (*J. Am. Med. Assoc.* 1996, DOI: 10.1001/jama.1996.03530290033034).



A timeline of lead reduction

1970	1973	1978	1991	1996	2012
CDC sets acceptable blood-lead level of 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$	EPA mandates a phaseout of leaded gasoline	CPSC bans residential lead paint	CDC sets acceptable blood-lead level of 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$	EPA eliminates lead from all U.S. motor fuel	CDC describes blood-lead level of >5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ as elevated

GETTING THE LEAD OUT

Economists hypothesize that regulation of leaded gasoline and lead paint in the 1970s caused crime rates to drop in the U.S. about 20 years later. CPSC = Consumer Product Safety Commission. SOURCES: Rick Nevin, FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics

In 2002, Needleman's team delved deeper by studying 15-year-old boys who had been arrested and sentenced by the Allegheny County Juvenile Court in Pennsylvania. The kids who had been in trouble with the law had an average bone-lead level of 11 ppm—6% higher than a control group of boys without a history of arrest (*Neurotoxicol. Teratol.* 2002, DOI: 10.1016/S0892-0362(02)00269-6).

Looking for explanations of the '90s crime drop in the U.S., economists and crime experts latched onto these and other epidemiology studies. "We saw these correlations for individuals and thought, 'If that's true, we should see it at an aggregate level, for the whole population,'" says Paul B. Stretesky, a criminologist at the University of Colorado, Denver. In 2001, while at Colorado State University, Stretesky looked at data for more than 3,000 counties across the U.S., comparing lead concentrations in the air to homicide rates for the year 1990. Correcting for confounding social factors such as countywide income and education level, he and colleague Michael J. Lynch of the University of South Florida found that homicide rates in counties with the most extreme air-lead concentrations were four times as high as in counties with the least extreme levels (*Arch. Pediatr. Adolesc. Med.* 2001, DOI: 10.1001/archpedi.155.5.579).

Others have found similar correlations for U.S. cities, states, and even neighborhoods. In 2000, Rick Nevin, now a senior economist with ICF International, saw the trend for the entire country (*Environ. Res.*, DOI: 10.1006/enrs.1999.4045). In general, these researchers see blood-lead levels and air-lead levels increase, peak in the early 1970s, and fall, making an inverted U-shape. About 18 to 23 years later, when babies born in the '70s reach the average age of criminals, violent crime rates follow a similar trajectory.

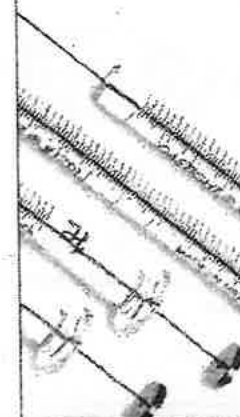
Still, "predicting crime trends is hard," Stretesky says. Anything that's followed a U-shape over the same period is going to correlate, he says. One example put forward in a 2013 *Mother Jones* article titled "America's Real Criminal Element Lead" is vinyl record sales. They rose after World War II and then declined in the 1980s and '90s, but that doesn't mean they're responsible for crime trends.

Seeking to strengthen the provocative lead-crime argument, in 2007, Nevin looked abroad, at countries where the crime rates didn't necessarily follow the inverted U pattern. In every case—New Zealand, West Germany, Italy, the U.K., and so on—the data



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GETTING THE LEAD OUT

Lead service pipes, the smaller pipes that branch out from the mains, are found in many U.S. cities in the Northeast and upper Midwest, according to the most recent national study, a 1990 American Water Works Association report. It tallied approximately 6.4 million lead connections and 3.3 million lead service lines. The report noted that 61,000 lead lines are replaced annually, but even so, millions are probably still in service. Chloramines most likely cause a problem in systems that have lead dioxide scales. Unfortunately, no one knows how many water systems have such scales.

and ammonia—called chloramines—instead of chlorine. Some 30 percent of major U.S. water companies currently take this route, and the proportion will probably grow as limits on disinfection by-products are tightened during the next few years. Because no one has investigated the effects of chloramines on corrosion in drinking-water systems, meeting DBR requirements may mean violating the 1991 lead-copper rule, which sets maximum limits on these metals (for lead, 15 ppb).

Evidence for chloramines' effect on Washington's pipes comes from EPA chemist Michael Schock. He discovered that different mineral scales—especially lead dioxide scales—are particularly vulnerable to changes in water chemistry. With chlorine, Washington's water was highly oxidizing. As a result, the mineral scales that formed consisted of lead dioxide, which Schock has found in every sample of Washington's lead service lines that he has examined. The switch to chloramines lowered the oxidizing potential of D.C.'s water, which probably dissolved the lead dioxide scale and thereby liberated the lead.

Corrosion scientists warned about potential conflicts between the two rules. "We were concerned that drastic changes in water treatment could disturb scales and mobilize metals," says one scientist involved in the investigation of the D.C. lead problem, who asked

not to be named. Another researcher echoed the point: "There was essentially no research concerning interactions between the lead-copper rule and the DBR. There was zero consultation with corrosion scientists even though we screamed for it."

The EPA noted potential conflicts in a 1999 publication entitled *Microbial and Disinfection Byproducts Rules Simultaneous Compliance Guidance Manual*. But the document offers little in the form of specific procedural advice, scientists say.

Virginia Tech engineer Marc Edwards, a former EPA consultant who first called attention to the D.C. problem, has warned the agency and the water industry for years that changes in drinking-water treatment were liable to cause trouble for home plumbing systems. He believes that lead problems may lurk in other cities, too. Chemist Mark Benjamin of the University of Washington concurs, noting that the factors affecting corrosion—the pipe material, the mineral scales and the water quality—are universal in water systems. "It would be remarkable and unlikely to think that these factors just happened to combine in a unique way in Washington," he states.

Rebecca Renner covers environmental sciences from Williamsport, Pa.

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Leading to Lead

CONFLICTING RULES MAY PUT LEAD IN TAP WATER BY REBECCA RENNER

The public reporting last year of high lead levels in the drinking water in Washington, D.C., has led to a congressional investigation, the firing of a D.C. health official, and calls for a review of the 1991 law that is supposed to keep the neurotoxic metal out of drinking water. That law, however, may not contribute to the problem as much as the changes made to disinfection procedures resulting from another water safety rule. The

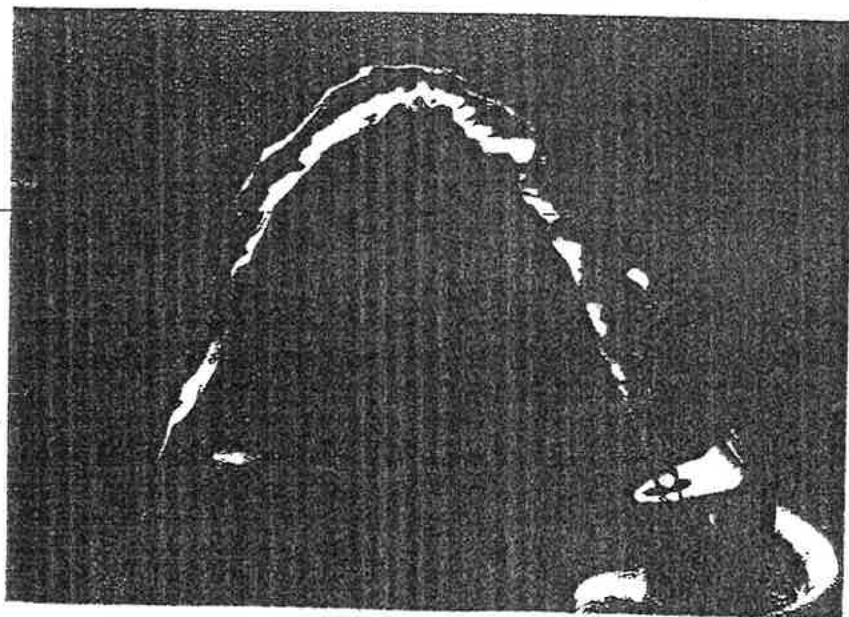
conflicting regulations mean that other municipalities may also soon find too much lead coming out of their faucets.

To date, at least 157 houses in D.C. have lead levels at the tap higher than 300 parts per billion (ppb), and thousands more have exceeded the Environmental Protection Agency's limit of 15 ppb. Residents have received contradictory advice about whether tap water is safe to drink and whether replacement of lead service lines will solve the problem.

Lead should not normally enter the flow, because layers of different lead-snaring minerals naturally build up inside the pipes. But these mineral scales act as a trap for lead only as long as they remain insoluble; a sudden shift in water chemistry can change that.

Such a change may have triggered the D.C. problems. In 2000 Washington Aqueduct, the area's water treatment plant, modified its procedures to comply with the 1998 Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBR), which restricts the presence of so-called halogenated organic compounds in water. These compounds form when disinfectants, particularly chlorine, react with natural organic and inorganic matter in source water and in distribution systems. The DBR directs water companies to make sure that the by-products, which might cause cancer, stay below a certain level.

One of the most common ways to comply with the DBR is to use a mixture of chlorine

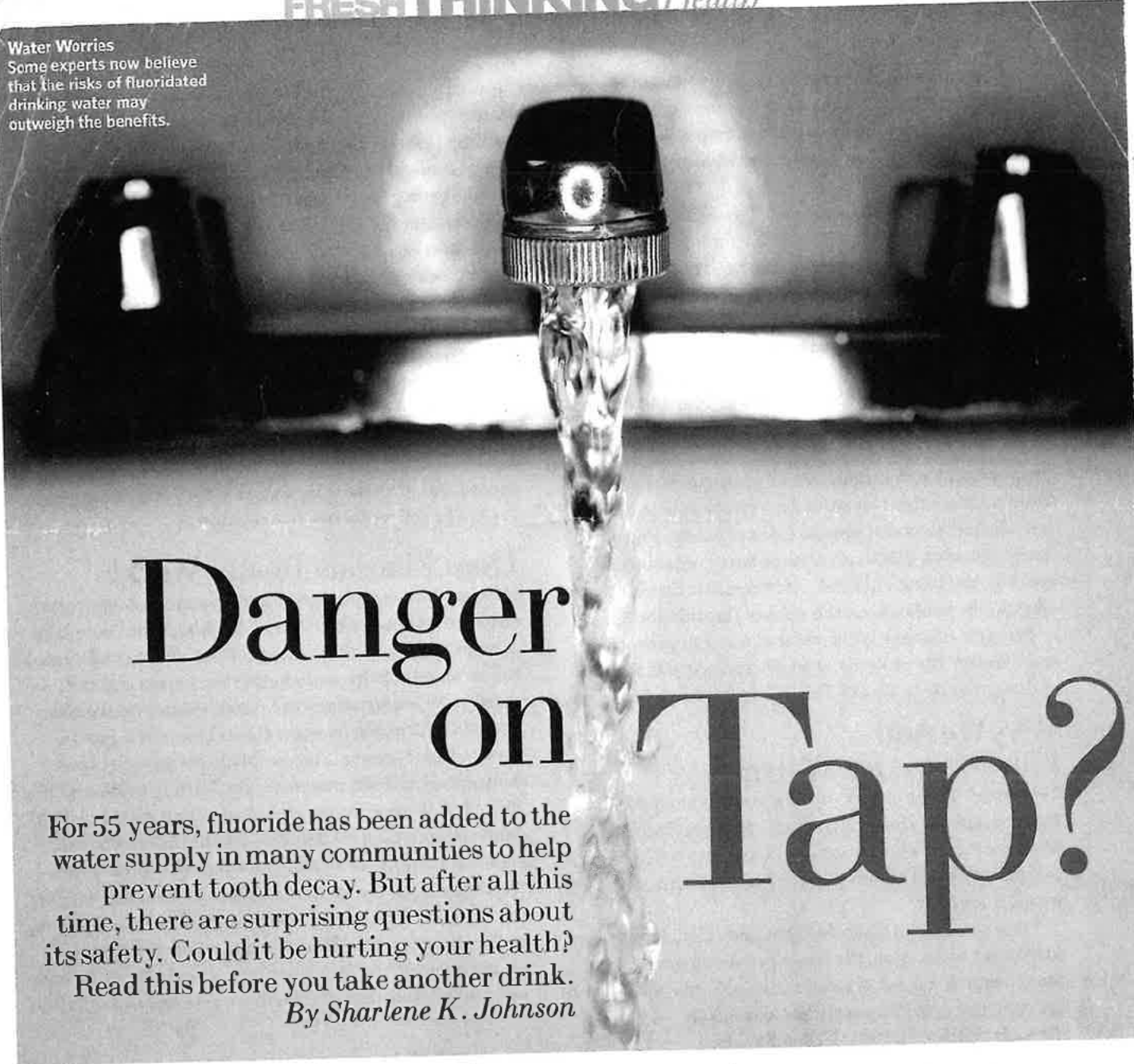


TASTE OF METAL: Modified disinfection methods may have changed the chemistry of drinking water in Washington, D.C., making it more likely to dissolve lead-encasing minerals in pipes.

PHILIP JAMES CORWIN CORBIS

Water Worries

Some experts now believe that the risks of fluoridated drinking water may outweigh the benefits.



Danger on Tap?

For 55 years, fluoride has been added to the water supply in many communities to help prevent tooth decay. But after all this time, there are surprising questions about its safety. Could it be hurting your health? Read this before you take another drink.

By Sharlene K. Johnson

Until recently, I had never given much thought to fluoride. I took it for granted that the mysterious stuff in my toothpaste and drinking water was good for me, like seat belts and vegetables.

But a few years ago, the water board in my town of Fort Collins, Colorado, recommended that the city stop fluoridating our water. The board had researched the issue at the city's request and concluded that adding fluoride to drinking water isn't necessary and might even pose health risks.

That was the beginning of a heated debate that resulted in a ballot issue in our municipal election this past spring. At first, despite the uproar, I paid little attention. My family doctor and dentist both favor water fluoridation, and the newspaper was full of letters every day from health experts urging the community to "save our children's teeth" by voting for fluoride. As a new mother, the last thing I

wanted to do was jeopardize my baby girl's dental health.

As voting day approached, however, I became concerned about startling claims being made by those who were anti-fluoride, including at least one local dentist, and I decided to investigate. Could my city really be using a waste product from the fertilizer industry as the source of our fluoride? Was there any credible evidence that too much fluoride damages bones? Was it true that the chairman of the water board—Thomas Sanders, PhD, a Colorado State University professor of civil engineering and water-quality expert who had supported fluoridation for 30 years—stopped drinking our city tap water as a result of the board's research?

The answers turned out to be yes, yes, and yes.

"When I started reading the literature, I came to the conclusion that in this country, we were supporting fluoridation without enough facts," Sanders says. "I thought

[our city was] using a very good quality sodium fluoride as the additive. When I found out it was from a fertilizer factory, that it was hazardous waste, and we were using it because it's cheaper, I was absolutely shocked."

He's not the only one. The addition of fluoride to drinking water is becoming a hot-button topic in more and more communities across the country, including at least five states—Arkansas, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Jersey, and Oregon—where it has become a statewide legislative issue.

At the local level, many towns are opting to just say no to fluoride in the water. Since 1990, at least 130 communities in 30 states have voted against it. "Often we'll hear a city councillor say something like, 'Look, I'm not a doctor or a scientist, but there are so many questions outstanding that I think we should err on the side of caution,'" says Michael Connett, project director for the Fluoride Action Network (FAN), a Vermont-based organization of activists, environmentalists, and scientists that aims to educate the public about the risks of fluoridation.

Just how effective is fluoridated water at preventing tooth decay? Do we really need it? And is it safe for you and your family to drink? This is what you need to know.

Why We Add Fluoride to Our Water

"Fluoride" refers to a group of chemical compounds that contain the element fluorine. Sodium fluoride, often used in toothpaste, is one; hexafluorosilicic acid, the additive most commonly used to fluoridate drinking water, is another.

Trace amounts of fluoride occur naturally in most water sources. In some areas, the water has very high levels of the substance, a quirk of nature that led to the discovery of the chemical's effect on teeth in Colorado in the early thirties. In 1945, Grand Rapids, Michigan, became the first city to add a small amount of fluoride to its water, as part of a 15-year study to test the chemical's ability to reduce cavities. That same year, two cities in New York became part of a 10-year research project designed to compare the health of children in a town that had fluoridated water (Newburgh) with that of kids in one with nonfluoridated water (Kingston).

Just five years later, citing a 65 percent reduction in cavities among Newburgh's children, the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) began urging communities everywhere to add fluoride to their water supplies.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says fluoride helps prevent tooth decay by inhibiting the production of acids in the mouth that dissolve tooth enamel and making the enamel more resistant. About two-thirds of the U.S. population supplied by public water utilities—

approximately 170 million people—receive fluoridated water, according to 2002 figures from the CDC. And adding fluoride to drinking water is endorsed by almost every medical organization in the United States, including the surgeon general, the CDC, the American Dental Association, the American Medical Association, and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry.

"Fluoride is nature's cavity fighter," explains ADA spokesman John Stamm, DDS, dean emeritus and professor at the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry, in Chapel Hill. "It really benefits disproportionately those who are at highest risk for tooth decay, and that is particularly true among children who lack adequate access to health care. It is the most cost-effective measure of preventing tooth decay that we have, and it has a superb safety record. All of those things make a very convincing case for the benefits of water fluoridation."

Does Fluoride Really Work?

Most medical experts agree—and numerous studies show—that fluoride in toothpaste and drinking water does help prevent cavities to some extent. What's being questioned is how much it helps and whether we should ingest it.

After reviewing nearly two dozen studies on the effectiveness of community water fluoridation, the government's Task Force on Community Preventive Services determined in 2002 that there was "strong evidence" that fluoridation prevents cavities. And at first glance, a 1990 study of more than 39,000 U.S. school children by the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research—the largest such survey ever conducted—seems to support the evidence. This study found that children who had always been exposed to fluoridated water in their community scored about 18 percent lower in terms of "decayed, missing, and filled surfaces" than those who had never lived in

Fluoride does help prevent cavities to some extent. What's debatable is whether we should be ingesting it.

a community with fluoridated water. Yet the number breaks down to an average of just 0.6 tooth surfaces per child.

The debate over whether ingesting fluoride through our drinking water provides substantial benefit to our teeth revolves around how the substance works. The CDC stated, in a 2001 report, that the benefits of fluoride are now known to be mainly topical. According to the California-based Dental Health Foundation, "Fluoride primarily protects the smooth surfaces of teeth." Not only that, but "Pit and fissure tooth surfaces [the areas people use to bite into and chew food] were the site of 83 percent of tooth decay in U.S. children in 1986 to '87."

What many health experts worry about most, however, is the damage fluoride may be doing to our bones. That's where our bodies tend to store it, so the implications could be serious—especially for children, who store more of the fluoride they ingest than adults do. According to the Department of Health and Human Services' Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, fluoride levels just five times greater than what's typically found in fluoridated water can result in bones that are both denser and more brittle and fragile than normal bone.

So great is the concern that one prominent authority, Hardy Limeback, DDS, associate professor and head of preventive dentistry at the University of Toronto, and a former supporter of water fluoridation, reversed his position on the issue a few years ago and released a written statement saying that new evidence indicates that the benefits of adding fluoride to water no longer outweigh the risks. Said Limeback: "Several recent epidemiological studies suggest that only a few years of fluoride ingestion from fluoridated water increases the risk for bone fracture."

To protect against crippling skeletal fluorosis, a rare

bone disease caused by long-term exposure to very high levels of fluoride, the EPA set a maximum contaminant level (MCL) for fluoride in drinking water at four parts per million back in 1986. As a result of new studies on fluoride's effect on bones, the agency has requested a fresh review of fluoride research by the National Academy of Sciences in order to determine if the MCL should be lowered. The results are expected early next year.

So What Should You Do?

The best advice: Do what feels right—and safe—for your family. If you're worried about ingesting too much fluoride, find out if it's in your water supply. If it is, consider installing a filter. (For more on this, see the box below.)

That's what I'm doing. In Fort Collins, when fluoride was put to the vote in April, residents elected to continue adding it to the water. Opponents are hoping to get the issue back on the ballot soon; in the meantime, my husband and I are going to install a water filter. While we can't avoid fluoride entirely, what I've learned has convinced me that it doesn't belong in my family's drinking water. *AK*

THE FLUORIDE FIX: 8 Ways to Reduce Your Exposure

TO FIND OUT HOW MUCH FLUORIDE IS IN YOUR DRINKING WATER, call your local water utility or your city's water department. The CDC recommends a fluoride level of about 1 ppm, which the agency says offers the most protection against tooth decay with the lowest risk of dental fluorosis. Some scientists believe even that is too much, given all the other sources of fluoride in our diets.

When the level in water exceeds 2 ppm, the EPA requires your local water supplier to notify you that the risk of severe to moderate dental fluorosis is high. But it has up to a full year to do so.

THE BEST WAY TO REMOVE FLUORIDE from your drinking water is to have a reverse osmosis filter unit installed under your kitchen sink by a plumber. (Pitcher and faucet-mounted carbon-based water filters do not

get rid of fluoride.) Reverse osmosis filters work by pumping water through a semipermeable membrane, allowing small particles (such as hydrogen and oxygen) to pass through, while leaving larger ones (such as fluoride, lead, and chlorine) behind. The Watts Premier 5-Stage Reverse Osmosis System (\$200, 800-752-5582) is certified by the National Sanitation Foundation to remove fluoride. For a list of other certified filters, call 800-673-6275 or go to nsf.org.

In addition, the Fluoride Action Network recommends mixing infant formula with nonfluoridated water, avoiding the use of Teflon-coated pans, which may produce fluorinated gases at high temperatures, according to the Environmental Working Group, and limiting your consumption of the following foods and beverages that are high in fluoride:

■ **SODA, BEER, AND JUICE DRINKS** often contain fluoride because many are produced at facilities that use fluoridated water. Buy a juicer and make your own juice drinks, or choose organic or conventional juices that are not reconstituted.

■ **BOTTLED WATER** may contain as much as 2.4 ppm of fluoride added during the bottling process; this must be listed on the label. But fluoride that occurs naturally in the water does not have to be labeled. The only way to know for sure whether it's in the water is to call the bottling company and ask.

■ **PROCESSED FOODS** often contain fluoride because of water used during the manufacturing process. If you're concerned, eat fresh, homemade foods as often as possible instead.

■ **BREWED AND INSTANT TEA** As tea plants grow, they store fluoride from

the soil in their leaves. In a recent study at Washington University School of Medicine, samples of one type of instant tea had an average of 6.5 ppm of fluoride. The amount in brewed tea ranges from 2.4 to 3.9 ppm, according to the USDA. Other researchers have found levels as high as 6 ppm. Herbal teas may contain lower levels of fluoride; however, no research has been done on this. You may want to switch to coffee, which contains about 0.9 ppm of fluoride.

■ **WINE** Fluoride-based pesticides are sometimes used on grapes and raisins; the EPA allows residues from such pesticides to be as high as 7 ppm. In Europe, wine may have no more than 1 ppm fluoride, so European wines (or wines exported to those countries) should be below that limit. Organic wines may also be a good choice. —SKJ

made in places where the water is fluoridated. Some experts worry that children, and babies in particular, are getting too much of fluoride. Even organizations that promote water fluoridation, such as the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, say that infants under six months don't need fluoride supplementation. Yet some pediatricians go so far as to prescribe vitamin drops with fluoride for infants and children, even in communities with a fluoridated water supply.

Excess fluoride can actually damage children's teeth, resulting in a condition called dental fluorosis. Mild forms may show up as barely visible white markings on the enamel; in severe cases, teeth may be stained, pitted, brittle, and more cavity-prone. Adult teeth are not susceptible, but any damage done in childhood is irreversible.

Jared Frederickson, a 21-year-old college student from Colorado Springs, has such a severe case of fluorosis that he had cosmetic laminates applied to his front teeth to hide the discoloration when he was in seventh grade. "My baby teeth had a lot of brown stains, and my adult teeth were worse; they had pits and more brown spots,"



Fluoride debate widespread

Both sides of issue have victories
... around the state, nation



About the vote

The issue
... 20-50 of ...

Headline News

Citizens in towns such as Springfield, Massachusetts, and Fort Collins, Colorado, are fighting over fluoride.

Frederickson says. Today, he has so much decay that he bought a supplemental dental insurance policy to pay the expenses that exceed his regular coverage.

Severe cases such as Frederickson's are relatively rare, but all degrees of dental fluorosis are on the rise. In 1991, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services compared fluorosis rates in children across the country in the forties with rates in children in the eighties. In communities with "optimal" fluoridation, mild dental fluorosis increased from about 13 percent to about 22 percent. The increase was attributed to multiple sources of fluoride exposure.

the newest crunch.



Introducing South Beach Diet™ Whole Wheat Crackers.

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Poisons All Around Us: What You Need to Know

Tap Water Is Dangerously Polluted

Despite decades of effort to clean up lakes, streams, and groundwater — and regulations and laws that have been passed to reduce industrial pollution of water supplies — new forms of pollution are being discovered daily.

On one hand, we are told by local and federal health authorities that municipal drinking water supplies are cleaner and healthier than ever. Yet there are reports, usually buried within documents not readily available to the public, indicating that major problems still face us — and that they may be getting worse.

With the massive industrialization that followed World War II, hundreds of thousands of synthetic chemicals were manufactured. Tons of these chemicals were dumped in lakes, streams, and rivers.

In the ensuing decades, scientists discovered that a significant number of these chemicals are carcinogenic — that is, over years of exposure they can cause cancer in animals and humans.

The most significant carcinogens in the water

supply include:

- Arsenic
- Herbicides
- Pesticides
- Fungicides
- Industrial by-products

These chemicals have all been linked to increased rates of lung, bladder, stomach, brain, and colon cancers.

In addition, the chlorination of drinking water can lead to formation of chloride-organic combinations called organochlorine compounds.

Many of these compounds have also been shown to be toxic to cells and cause cancers.

Other contaminants — especially aluminum, lead, and copper — can have profound effects on health.

Compelling evidence indicates that aluminum in water is associated with a significantly increased risk of Alzheimer's disease, especially if the water also has fluoride added to it.

Another link between water fluoridation and metal toxicity concerns the levels of lead in water. It has been demonstrated that elevated levels of lead are responsible for a number of adverse health conditions, including:

- Hypertension
- Anemia
- Accelerated hardening of the arteries
- Increased violent behavior
- Loss of impulse control (e.g. "road rage")
- Increased suicide rates
- Learning problems
- Increased homicide rates

Even small elevations in blood lead levels, as low as 10 micrograms per liter and possibly as low as 5 micrograms per liter, can produce adverse behavioral effects.

In recent years, there has also been more concern about our water supplies being infiltrated by chemicals in pesticides called xenoestrogens, which act like estrogens.

These compounds interact with the body's estrogen receptors, and may increase the risk of breast cancers, cause early and overdevelopment

Best Way to Filter Water

Water can be filtered by reverse osmosis, ceramic filtration, silver-impregnated filters, or multilayered filter systems, all of which have their advantages.

The big problem with most filters is that they do not remove fluoride. Reverse osmosis filters remove fluoride, but they have to be changed every three months because fluoride burns holes in the filter.

Based on my studies, the best way to purify water is to distill it. Some will say that distilling water removes the beneficial minerals, but these can either be taken as separate supplements or can be added to water later. And that, in fact, is what many manufacturers of bottled water do.

Distilling creates water with a neutral pH, kills all microorganisms, and removes fluoride as well as other harmful metals. The one problem is that the volatile chemicals are condensed in the final water container.

To solve this problem, the better distillers have a carbon filter to remove volatile gases during the condensation process.



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF DRINKING WATER

PO Box 47822 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7822

Tel: (360) 236-3100 • Fax: (360) 236-2253 • 711 Washington Relay Service

July 10, 2023

Subject: Changes for Public Water Systems that add fluoride.

Dear Water System Owner,

During this past Legislative Session, House Bill 1251 was passed and signed by the Governor on April 20, 2023. This bill relates to changes to Revised Code of Washington (RCW 70A.125), requiring public water systems that either begin or discontinue fluoridation on a continuing basis to notify customers and the Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water at least 90 days prior to official vote or decision on the matter. Notification can be made either by radio, television, newspaper, mail, electronically, or by any combination of methods that most effectively notifies customers - see [1251-S.E HBR FBR 23 \(wa.gov\)](#).

The decision to fluoridate drinking water is a community decision. In addition, water systems must receive written approval for fluoridation treatment facilities from the Department of Health. The Board of Health has prescribed the optimal fluoride concentration (0.7 milligrams per liter [mg/L]), the operating tolerance for fluoridation (0.5-0.9 mg/L), as well as requirements for fluoridation testing that must occur each business day and each month. Fluoride test results must be submitted to the Department each month.

The Department of Health supports community water fluoridation as a sound, population-based public health measure - see [Support for fluoridation \(wa.gov\)](#). These new notification requirements go into effect beginning July 23, 2023. Please refer to the DOH fluoride website for more information on new fluoridation requirements at [Fluoridation of Drinking Water | Washington State Department of Health](#).

Sincerely,

Holly R. Myers

Director, Office of Drinking Water

Environmental Public Health

Washington State Department of Health

Fluoride in Drinking Water Increases Toxicity of Aluminum

Posted: July, 2001

In 1994, the New York Times reported a scientific study that revealed that aluminum and fluoride in water could be responsible for the alarming increase in Alzheimer's Disease and senile dementia.

This confirmed the long-held suspicion of environmental writer George Glasser that fluoride has the ability to react with other toxic minerals in drinking water. Serious drug interactions are common in medicine, and for years Glasser has badgered various US government agencies to investigate this specific interaction between fluoride and other substances.

"Aluminum sulfate (alum) is used to clarify drinking water and I could see the possible relationship with Alzheimer's-like dementia," said Glasser. "In 1999, the US Environmental Protection Agency finally reviewed three studies carried out by scientists at Binghamton University in New York. The scientists reported 80% death rates, kidney damage and brain damage in rats exposed to half of one milligram of aluminum fluoride complexes in a liter of drinking water. This is less than half of the amount of fluoride which is added in fluoridation schemes.

Finally, the National Toxicology Program was asked to commission studies to determine the extent of neurotoxic damage from aluminum in drinking water, particularly stressing the fluoride interaction."

Last October, a Report by the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) acknowledged that fluoride has been observed to have synergistic effects on the toxicity of aluminum.

"I was particularly pleased when the US Environmental Protection Agency report by Urbansky and Schock on the toxicity of lead and fluoride in drinking water confirmed that fluoride complexes with other substances in the water. They also acknowledged that most drinking water contains a substantial amount of fluoro-aluminum complexes. This should be a warning to dentists who hold with the simplistic notion that fluoride only affects teeth and is perfectly safe in drinking water."

According to the NIEHS Report, most water treatment processes result in increased levels of aluminum in the finished drinking water.

It stated that fluoridation will result in aluminum fluoride complexes which will enhance neurotoxicity, or that fluoride itself will enhance uptake and synergise the toxicity of the aluminum.

Other studies have shown that in the presence of fluoride, aluminum leaches out of cookware. Boiling fluoridated tap water in an aluminum pan leached almost 200 parts per million (ppm) of aluminum into the water in 10 minutes.

Leaching of up to 600 PPM occurred with prolonged boiling. Different releases of aluminum depend upon the composition of the pan and the type of food being cooked. Using non-fluoridated water showed almost no leaching from aluminum pans.

Glasser is frustrated that the Report recommended further studies. "There are more than 40,000 studies on fluoride in the scientific literature. How many more do they need? The

Developmental Fluoride Neurotoxicity: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Anna L. Choi,¹ Guifan Sun,² Ying Zhang,³ and Philippe Grandjean^{1,4}

¹Department of Environmental Health, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts, USA; ²School of Public Health, China Medical University, Shenyang, China; ³School of Stomatology, China Medical University, Shenyang, China; ⁴Institute of Public Health, University of Southern Denmark, Odense, Denmark

BACKGROUND: Although fluoride may cause neurotoxicity in animal models and acute fluoride poisoning causes neurotoxicity in adults, very little is known of its effects on children's neurodevelopment.

OBJECTIVE: We performed a systematic review and meta-analysis of published studies to investigate the effects of increased fluoride exposure and delayed neurobehavioral development.

METHODS: We searched the MEDLINE, EMBASE, Water Resources Abstracts, and TOXNET databases through 2011 for eligible studies. We also searched the China National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI) database, because many studies on fluoride neurotoxicity have been published in Chinese journals only. In total, we identified 27 eligible epidemiological studies with high and reference exposures, end points of IQ scores, or related cognitive function measures with means and variances for the two exposure groups. Using random-effects models, we estimated the standardized mean difference between exposed and reference groups across all studies. We conducted sensitivity analyses restricted to studies using the same outcome assessment and having drinking-water fluoride as the only exposure. We performed the Cochran test for heterogeneity between studies, Begg's funnel plot, and Egger test to assess publication bias, and conducted meta-regressions to explore sources of variation in mean differences among the studies.

RESULTS: The standardized weighted mean difference in IQ score between exposed and reference populations was -0.35 (95% confidence interval: -0.56, -0.33) using a random-effects model. Thus, children in high fluoride areas had significantly lower IQ scores than those who lived in low-fluoride areas. Subgroup and sensitivity analyses also indicated inverse associations, although the substantial heterogeneity did not appear to decrease.

CONCLUSIONS: The results support the possibility of an adverse effect of high fluoride exposure on children's neurodevelopment. Future research should include detailed individual-level information on prenatal exposure, neurobehavioral performance, and covariates for adjustment.

KEY WORDS: fluoride, intelligence, neurotoxicity. *Environ Health Perspect* 120:1362–1368 (2012). <http://dx.doi.org/10.1289/ehp.1104912> [Online 20 July 2012]

A recent report from the National Research Council (NRC 2006) concluded that adverse effects of high fluoride concentrations in drinking water may be of concern and that additional research is warranted. Fluoride may cause neurotoxicity in laboratory animals, including effects on learning and memory (Chioca et al. 2008; Mullenix et al. 1995). A recent experimental study where the rat hippocampal neurons were incubated with various concentrations (20 mg/L, 40 mg/L, and 80 mg/L) of sodium fluoride *in vitro* showed that fluoride neurotoxicity may target hippocampal neurons (Zhang M et al. 2008). Although acute fluoride poisoning may be neurotoxic to adults, most of the epidemiological information available on associations with children's neurodevelopment is from China, where fluoride generally occurs in drinking water as a natural contaminant, and the concentration depends on local geological conditions. In many rural communities in China, populations with high exposure to fluoride in local drinking-water sources may reside in close proximity to populations with low exposure (NRC 2006).

Opportunities for epidemiological studies depend on the existence of comparable population groups exposed to different levels

of fluoride from drinking water. Such circumstances are difficult to find in many industrialized countries, because fluoride concentrations in community water are usually no higher than 1 mg/L, even when fluoride is added to water supplies as a public health measure to reduce tooth decay. Multiple epidemiological studies of developmental fluoride neurotoxicity were conducted in China because of the high fluoride concentrations that are substantially above 1 mg/L in well water in many rural communities, although microbiologically safe water has been accessible to many rural households as a result of the recent 5-year plan (2001–2005) by the Chinese government. It is projected that all rural residents will have access to safe public drinking water by 2020 (World Bank 2006). However, results of the published studies have not been widely disseminated. Four studies published in English (Li XS et al. 1995; Lu et al. 2000; Xiang et al. 2003; Zhao et al. 1996) were cited in a recent report from the NRC (2006), whereas the World Health Organization (2002) has considered only two (Li XS et al. 1995; Zhao et al. 1996) in its most recent monograph on fluoride.

Fluoride readily crosses the placenta

(Registry 2003). Fluoride exposure to the developing brain, which is much more susceptible to injury caused by toxicants than is the mature brain, may possibly lead to permanent damage (Grandjean and Landrigan 2006). In response to the recommendation of the NRC (2006), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the U.S. EPA recently announced that DHHS is proposing to change the recommended level of fluoride in drinking water to 0.7 mg/L from the currently recommended range of 0.7–1.2 mg/L, and the U.S. EPA is reviewing the maximum amount of fluoride allowed in drinking water, which currently is set at 4.0 mg/L (U.S. EPA 2011).

To summarize the available literature, we performed a systematic review and meta-analysis of published studies on increased fluoride exposure in drinking water associated with neurodevelopmental delays. We specifically targeted studies carried out in rural China that have not been widely disseminated, thus complementing the studies that have been included in previous reviews and risk assessment reports.

Methods

Search strategy. We searched MEDLINE (National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD, USA; <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed>), Embase (Elsevier B.V., Amsterdam, the Netherlands; <http://www.embase.com>), Water Resources Abstracts (Proquest, Ann Arbor, MI, USA; <http://www.csa.com/factsheets/water-resources-set-c.php>), and TOXNET (Toxicology Data Network; National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD, USA; <http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov>) databases to identify studies of drinking-water fluoride and neurodevelopmental outcomes in children. In addition, we searched the China National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI; Beijing, China; <http://www.cnki.net>) database to identify studies published in Chinese journals only. Key

Address correspondence to A.L. Choi, Department of Environmental Health, Harvard School of Public Health, Landmark Center 3E, 401 Park Dr., Boston, MA 02215 USA. Telephone: (617) 384-8646. Fax: (617) 384-8994. E-mail: achoi@hsph.harvard.edu. Supplemental Material is available online (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1289/ehp.1104912>).

We thank V. Malik, Harvard School of Public Health, for the helpful advice on the meta-analysis methods.

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The authors declare they have no actual or potential competing financial interests.

Why U.S. Environmental Protection Agency scientists opposes artificial water fluoridation

EPA Union explains why they are opposed to the fluoridation of public water supplies

Letter and References explaining why the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Scientists are opposed to the fluoridation of public water supplies. See also:

- Statement of Dr. J. William Hirzy, National Treasury Employees Union Chapter 280, before The Subcommittee on Wildlife, Fisheries and Drinking Water, United States Senate, June 29, 2000
- EPA scientists take action against EPA for failing to protect public health -- Important scientific and technical considerations were ignored when the Recommended Maximum Contaminant Level (RMCL) for fluoride was set (1986 Amicus Brief).
- The need for a Code of Ethics at the EPA became critical. Without an enforceable code of ethics with sanctions, the distortion of truth caused by the pressures of politics would continue.
- Environmental Protection Agency Union fights back



CHAPTER 280
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WASHINGTON, DC 20013
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202-401-3139(F)

May 1, 1999

WHY EPA'S HEADQUARTERS UNION OF SCIENTISTS OPPOSES FLUORIDATION

The following documents why our union, formerly National Federation of Federal Employees Local 2050 and since April 1998 Chapter 280 of the National Treasury Employees Union, took the stand it did opposing fluoridation of drinking water supplies. Our union is comprised of and represents the approximately 1500 scientists, lawyers, engineers and other professional employees at EPA Headquarters here in Washington, D.C.

The union first became interested in this issue rather by accident. Like most Americans, including many physicians and dentists, most of our members had thought that fluoride's only effects were beneficial - reductions in tooth decay, etc. We too believed assurances of safety and effectiveness of water fluoridation.

Then, as EPA was engaged in revising its drinking water standard for fluoride in 1985, an employee came to the union with a complaint: he said he was being forced to write into the regulation a statement to the effect that EPA thought it was alright for children to have "funky" teeth. It was OK, EPA said,

because it considered that condition to be only a *cosmetic* effect, not an adverse *health* effect. The reason for this EPA position was that it was under political pressure to set its health-based standard for fluoride at 4 mg/liter. At that level, EPA knew that a significant number of children develop moderate to severe dental fluorosis, but since it had deemed the effect as only cosmetic, EPA didn't have to set its health-based standard at a lower level to prevent it.

We tried to settle this ethics issue quietly, within the family, but EPA was unable or unwilling to resist external political pressure, and we took the fight public with a union *amicus curiae* brief in a lawsuit filed against EPA by a public interest group. The union has published on this initial involvement period in detail.⁴

Since then our opposition to drinking water fluoridation has grown, based on the scientific literature documenting the increasingly out-of-control exposures to fluoride, the lack of benefit to dental health from ingestion of fluoride and the hazards to human health from such ingestion. These hazards include acute toxic hazard, such as to people with impaired kidney function, as well as chronic toxic hazards of gene mutations, cancer, reproductive effects, neurotoxicity, bone pathology and dental fluorosis. First, a review of recent neurotoxicity research results.

In 1995, Mullenix and co-workers² showed that rats given fluoride in drinking water at levels that give rise to plasma fluoride concentrations in the range seen in humans suffer neurotoxic effects that vary according to when the rats were given the fluoride - as adult animals, as young animals, or through the placenta before birth. Those exposed before birth were born hyperactive and remained so throughout their lives. Those exposed as young or adult animals displayed depressed activity. Then in 1998, Guan and co-workers³ gave doses similar to those used by the Mullenix research group to try to understand the mechanism(s) underlying the effects seen by the Mullenix group. Guan's group found that several key chemicals in the brain - those that form the membrane of brain cells - were substantially depleted in rats given fluoride, as compared to those who did not get fluoride.

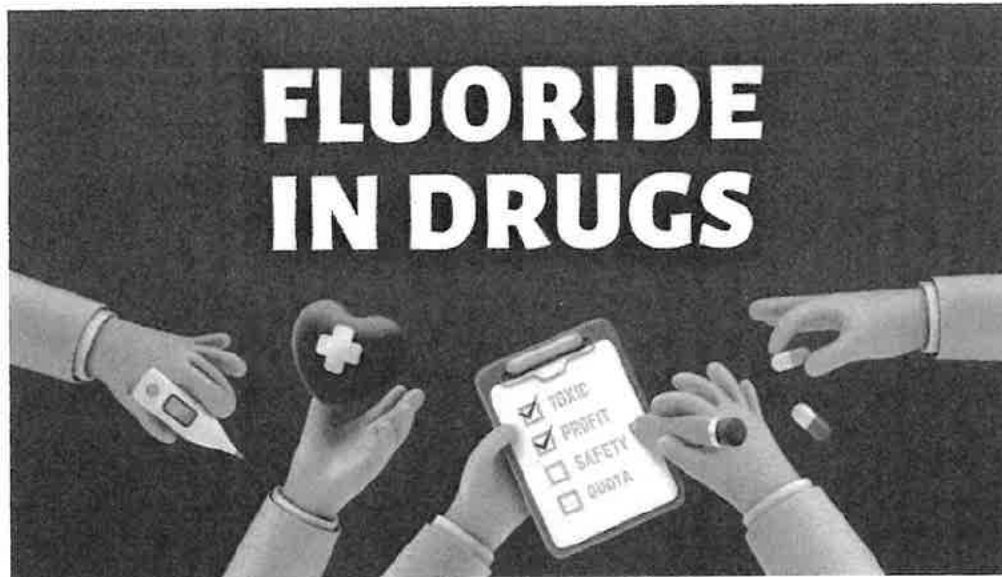
Another 1998 publication by Varner, Jensen and others⁴ reported on the brain- and kidney damaging effects in rats that were given fluoride in drinking water at the same level deemed "optimal" by pro-fluoridation groups, namely 1 part per million (1 ppm). Even more pronounced damage was seen in animals that got the fluoride in conjunction with aluminum. These results are especially disturbing because of the low dose level of fluoride that shows the toxic effect in rats - rats are more resistant to fluoride than humans. This latter statement is based on Mullenix's finding that it takes substantially more fluoride in the drinking water of rats than of humans to reach the same fluoride level in plasma. It is the level in plasma that determines how much fluoride is "seen" by particular tissues in the body. So when rats get 1 ppm in drinking water, their brains and kidneys are exposed to much less fluoride than humans getting 1 ppm, yet they are experiencing toxic effects. Thus we are compelled to consider the likelihood that humans are experiencing damage to their brains and kidneys at the "optimal" level of 1 ppm.

In support of this concern are results from two epidemiology studies from China^{5,6} that show decreases in I.Q. in children who get more fluoride than the control groups of children in each study. These decreases are about 5 to 10 I.Q. points in children aged 8 to 13 years.

Another troubling brain effect has recently surfaced: fluoride's interference with the function of the brain's pineal gland. The pineal gland produces melatonin which, among other roles, mediates the body's internal clock, doing such things as governing the onset of puberty. Jennifer Luke⁷ has shown that fluoride accumulates in the pineal gland and inhibits its production of melatonin. She showed in test animals that this inhibition causes an earlier onset of sexual maturity, an effect reported in humans as well in 1956, as part of the Kingston/Newburgh study, which is discussed below. In fluoridated Newburgh, young girls experienced earlier onset of menstruation (on average, by six months) than girls



Evidence Based



Prescription Drugs That Contain Fluoride (Search 325+ Drugs)

Updated November 27, 2024 by Casey J Krol

Prescription drugs should help you, right? But what if I told you many drugs contain fluoride...

Possibly causing more damage than good, in the long run.

Fluoride In Prescription Drugs



If having it in our water, tea and coffee wasn't bad enough, fluoride is also in our prescription drugs.

Fluorine is a common element added to drugs because it has the possibility of making medication more selective, increase its effectiveness, easier to administer and allows a molecule easier delivery to an active site in the body.¹

So to no surprise, 20-30% of all drugs sold contain fluoride, including some of the most well-known antidepressants and statins.²

Drugs That Contain Fluoride



Anesthetics



Antacids



Antibiotics



Anti-anxiety



Antidepressants



Anti-malarial



Arthritis



Anti-inflammatory



Cholesterol lowering



Chemotherapy



For example, in 2008, these were the top 10 selling drugs that contained the fluorine atom:

- Statins (Lipitor, Crestor, Vytorin, Zetia/Ezetimibe)
- Anti-inflammatories (fluticasone propionate, Celebrex)
- Antacids (Prevacid)
- Antidepressants (Lexapro)
- Neuroleptics (Risperdal)
- Antibiotics (Levaquin)²

But of course, with fluoride's benefits also comes the possibility of serious negative side effects.

Disclaimer (Must Read)

Before you make any decision regarding the medication you take or may take in the future, you should do so under the guidance of a trusted doctor.

The goal of this article is to help you question what's put into your body and open your mind to other, possibly better choices.

And in case there's nothing you can do about the medication you're on. You should dedicate the next 5 minutes to read all the way to the end. Where you'll learn 3 tips to minimize your risk of **fluoride toxicity**.

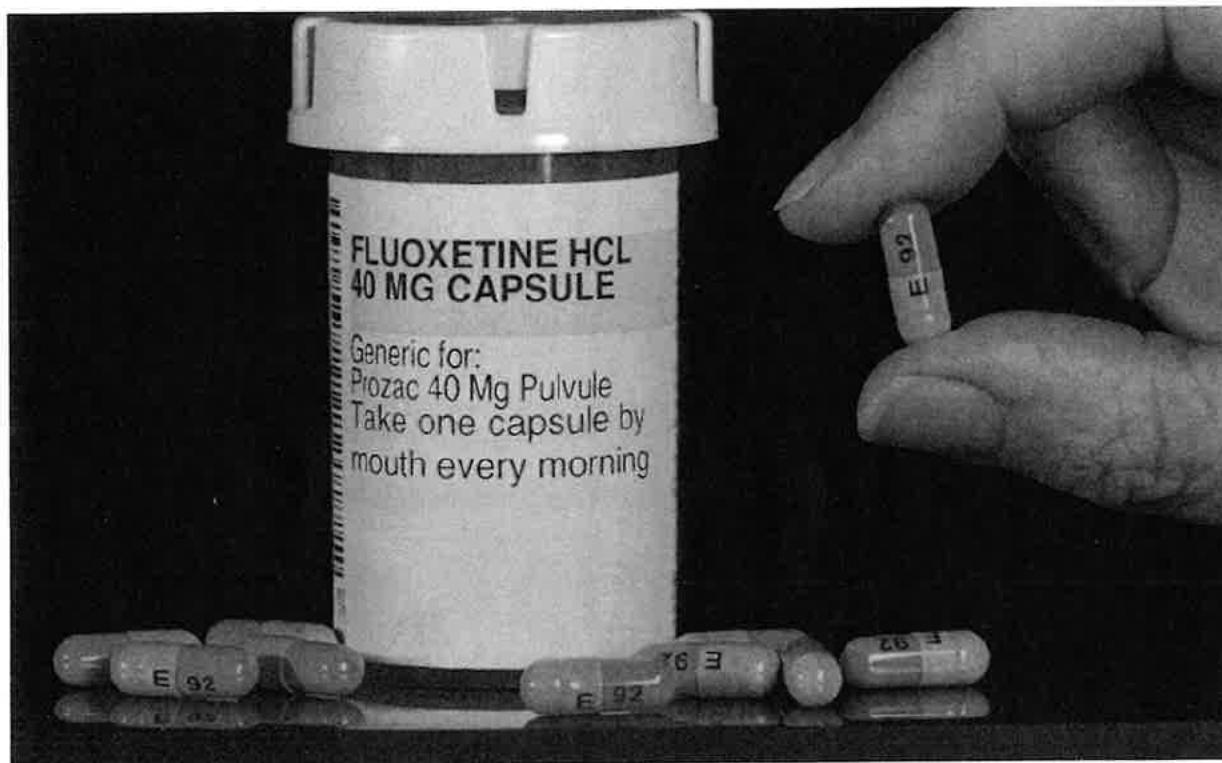
3 Reasons To Reconsider Drugs That Contain Fluoride

We know fluoride is **toxic** to the human body (brain, heart and bones) and is **non-essential** to human life.^{3,4}

That means, if you're exposed to it, you'll experience very little benefit with a considerable risk of harm.

Now we're told that many modern pharmaceuticals (e.g. Prozac, Lexapro) contain "organofluorines" (a chemical compound that contains both carbon and fluorine).

And that this compound won't contribute to our total fluoride exposure since the strong bond between fluorine and carbon will resist metabolizing into fluoride ions.



But the truth is, there are some organofluorine drugs that do metabolize into fluoride.

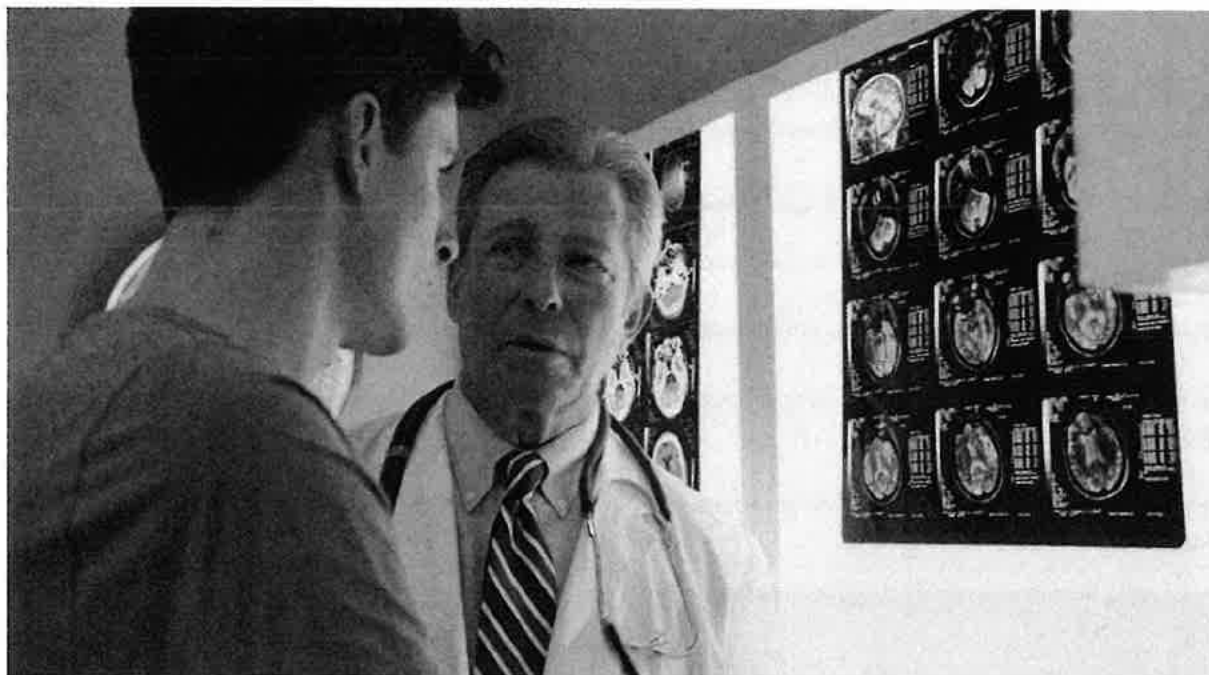
This is proven through studies that have documented elevated fluoride levels in the urine or blood after the use of these drugs:

- Cipro⁵
- Niflumic acid⁶
- Flecainide⁷
- Fluorinated anesthetics⁸
- Voriconazole⁹

Now considering these drugs contain high amounts of fluorine. When metabolized into fluoride, it's possible it will be a significant source of daily exposure.

And if this is the case for other drugs too, this leaves many people with a hard choice or a difficult situation to accept. Especially if you consider the following 3 facts...

1. Fluoride Is Classified A Neurotoxin



As discussed in what does fluoride do to the brain, fluoride has the same brain damaging effects like lead, mercury, arsenic, PCBs, and toluene.¹⁰

On top of acting as a developmental neurotoxin that is capable of causing brain disorders like autism and ADHD, it has also been shown to reduce intelligence, impair your ability to learn and remember, and increase your chances of Alzheimer's.^{11,12,13,14}

A total **nightmare** for your brain.

Now, here's a question for you...

Does it make sense to include a brain damaging substance in order to treat conditions like anxiety, depression, or any other brain-based problem?

2. Fluoride Wreaks Havoc On Bone and Joint Health



Fluoride is not bone and joint friendly.

As long term consumption of fluoride leads to a condition called skeletal fluorosis. A condition that has **no treatment** and is often misdiagnosed for arthritis. Which is then treated by fluoride containing drugs.

Bringing us to our next question...

Could fluoride, a substance proven to weaken bones and cause pain to joints be responsible, or at least worsen a person's arthritis?

3. Side Effects Caused By Fluoride Medication

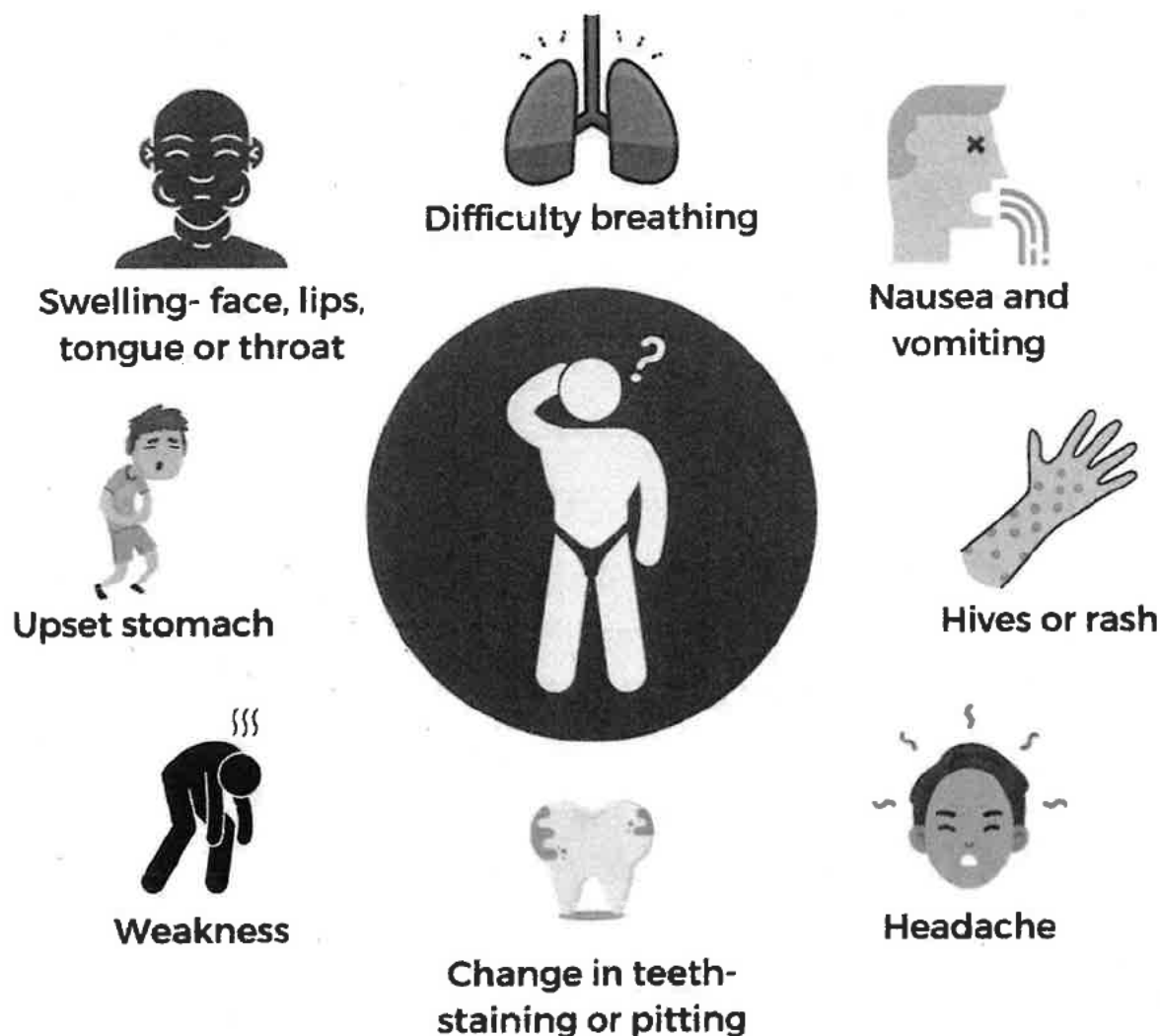
Putting aside serious health effects, your body may not be reacting well with ingested fluoride.

These side effects are commonly seen with people who have fluoride allergies. But those taking fluoride containing medication can also experience these symptoms.

The most common symptoms are skin irritation, upset stomach, and headaches. But there are a few others you should be aware of like:

- Hives, acne, or skin rashes
- Weakness
- Difficulty breathing
- Swelling (face, lips, tongue or throat)

Side Effects Of Fluoride Drugs



Tips On Using The Fluoride Drug Table

Before you get the opportunity to search the 325+ drugs that contain fluoride, here are a few tips to help you use the fluoride drug table...

1) Use the search bar to look up a specific drug.

Enter the name you see on the bottle and check to see if anything pops up in the table.

If it shows up, it contains fluoride.

2) Filter by category to narrow down the number of drugs...

Examples can be fluoride in antidepressants, arthritis, or antibiotics.

Drugs That Contain Fluoride Table (Search 325+ Drugs)

Millions of people a day take prescription drugs and many of them don't know their medication may contain fluoride.

So before I forget, when you're done reading, consider sharing what you've discovered today with your friends and family using the blue sharing buttons found at the beginning or end of the article. You'll help expose the truth about fluoride and might just change someone's life.

Now here's the table with the 325+ drugs that contain fluoride...

All

Search

Generic Name	Common Name	Category
Desflurane	Suprane	Anesthetics
Droperidol	Inapsine DHBP, Dehidrobenzperidol, Dehydrobenzperidol, Deidrobenezperidolo, Dihydrobenzperidol, Dridol, Droleptan, Halkan, Inappin, Inapsin, Inapsine, Innovan, Innovar, Innovar-Vet, Inopsin, Inoval, Leptanal, Leptofen, McN-JR 4749, Properidol, Sintodril, Sintosian, Thalamanol, Thalamonal, Vekalm.	Anesthetics
Enflurane	Ethrane	Anesthetics
Flumazenil	Anexate, Flumazenil, Flumazenilo, Flumazenilum, Flumazepil, Lanexat, Mazicon, Romazicon	Anesthetics
Halophane		Anesthetics
Isoflurane	Forane	Anesthetics
Methoxyflurane		Anesthetics
Midazolam	Dea No. 2884, Dormicum, Midazolam Base, Midazolam Hcl, Midazolamum, Versed	Anesthetics
Sevoflurane	Ultane	Anesthetics
Fluconazole	Diflucan	Anti-fungal antibiotics

« < ... 1 2 3 4 5 ... > »

3 Ways To Protect Yourself From Fluoride Containing Drugs

No matter who you are, you can't go wrong following these steps. But if you're taking a drug that contains fluoride, this is even more important for you to read and do.

You may not be able to stop taking your medication or find a fluoride-free alternative. But by following these steps you'll greatly reduce the risk of **fluoride toxicity**.

NOTE: Truth About Fluoride is reader-supported. When you buy through links on the site, I may earn a commission (every product is bought, tested & used by myself. With only the best being recommended)

1) Eliminate The Main Sources Of Fluoride

This is as easy as replacing what is currently filled with fluoride with a fluoride-free alternative.

For example, fluoride in toothpaste and fluoride in tea are extremely potent sources. Toothpaste can contain up to or greater than 1500 ppm of fluoride. While certain green and black teas can contain anywhere from 2, 3 or even 5X the amount of fluoride found in tap water.

But to solve this problem all you'd have to do is switch your current toothpaste and tea with a fluoride-free option.

And to make this process as easy as possible, I suggest you take a look at my free fluoride detox guide. That's where I show you exactly how to do it and help you eliminate a few other easy sources of fluoride (cookware, coffee, etc.).

2) Avoid Drinking Fluoride Filled Water

The largest and most consistent source of fluoride most people come across in their lives, is the fluoride found in water, specifically tap water.

And thankfully, this is also easy to fix.

You can either drink bottled water without fluoride (link to where you can search the fluoride content of 187+ brands of bottled water) or you can use a fluoride water filter. Now both options are great, I bounce around from using one or the other.

But there are a few things you have to watch out for...

For example, with bottled water, fluoride is not the only thing you should worry about. As many brands may be low in fluoride but high in toxins like microplastics, PFAS, arsenic, or even have high radioactivity levels.

While water filters will definitely help you save money and provide more convenience than bottled water. The only problem is that many water filters LIE about being able to remove fluoride. So to help you out, I'll send you the fluoride test results of 33+ water filters. This way you know which ones are worth getting.

Enter your email below to receive fluoride test results on 41+ water filters + my top picks!

While for those wondering, the cheapest and quickest way to get started is to get a water filter pitcher, with the best brand being Clearly Filtered (link to their website). But don't forget about amazing options like reverse osmosis or distillers. Which are probably the most reliable way of removing fluoride.

Or you can go with any of the other choices explained in the PDF and email just sent to you (if you signed up above).

But the main point is that tap water should be avoided at all costs.

3) Be Aware Of Common Sources Of Fluoride

Besides very potent sources of fluoride like water, tea and toothpaste, there are common sources of fluoride that could sneak up on you.

For example, certain foods, beverages and bottled water contain high levels of fluoride.

So to help you better understand how much fluoride you consume on a daily basis, here are a few other resources at your disposal.

- Foods That Contain Fluoride (Search 503+ Foods)
- Bottled Water Without Fluoride (Search 178+ Brands)
- Fluoride in Kombucha (32+ Bottles Tested)
- Fluoride In Cookware (List of Fluoride-Free Cookware)

Concluding Thoughts

To play devil's advocate, I understand why fluoride is included in many drugs.

As stated, fluoride is said to help make the drug more effective and easier to administer. And its stubborn nature makes it easier to deliver a drug to the part of the body it's needed.

However, elevated urine and blood fluoride levels have been observed in individuals after taking fluoride containing drugs. Possibly acting as a large source of daily exposure and leading to a host of negative health effects.

This means at the very least, if you are taking a drug that contains fluoride, minimize **ALL** other sources of fluoride. This will provide you with some breathing room.

However, if possible, consult your doctor and explore suitable fluoride-free alternatives.

Anyways, that's all for our talk on drugs that contain fluoride.

Cheers!

Frequently Asked Question? (FAQ's)

Does Prozac Have Fluoride?

Yes, fluoride is one of five ingredients that make up Prozac.

Does Zoloft Contain Fluoride?

No, Zoloft does not contain fluoride. Instead of fluorine, it contains chlorine.

Does Lexapro contain fluoride?

Yes, Lexapro is one of the many antidepressants that contain fluoride.

Antidepressants without fluoride?

With how tricky medication is, it's best if you consult your doctor about an appropriate choice for antidepressants without fluoride. Just because something is fluoride-free doesn't mean it'll be good for you or even better.

► References

Casey J Krol

The guy exposing the truth about fluoride, one great article at a time. Now if you'd like to support what I do, click the "donate" button below. While for any questions, use the other buttons to get in touch with me (IG or Twitter). Better yet, sign up with your email on the website and get access to my personal email.



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**TRUTH ABOUT**
FLUORIDE**#1 Resource For Reliable and Useful Fluoride Information**

Providing you the tools and information you need to avoid a classified neurotoxin with ease.

- ✓ **Evidence Based:** information is based on scientific literature.
- ✓ **Independently Tested:** tests are independently tested (water filters, teas, bottled water, etc.) to ensure unbiased results.
- ✓ **Self Funded:** the website is solely funded by the owner + donations made by readers. Keeping the information pure and objective.

[About Us](#) [Affiliate Disclosure](#)

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plots for blood-lead levels overlaid with plots of violent crime rates that were shifted back about 23 years (*Environ. Res.* 2007, DOI: 10.1016/j.envres.2007.02.008).

"When people read about my work," Nevin says, "they oftentimes blurt out, 'Correlation does not mean causation.'" One of the key signs of causation, he argues, is biological plausibility.

Research has shown that lead exposure does indeed make lab animals—rodents, monkeys, **even cats**—more prone to aggression. But establishing biological plausibility for the lead-crime argument hasn't been as clear-cut for molecular-level studies of the brain. Lead wreaks a lot of havoc on the central nervous system. So pinpointing one—or even a few—molecular switches by which the heavy metal turns on aggression has been challenging.

What scientists do know is that element 82 does most of its damage to the brain by mimicking calcium. Inside the brain, calcium runs the show: It triggers nerve firing by helping to release neurotransmitters, and it activates proteins important for brain development, memory formation, and learning. By pushing calcium out of these roles, lead can muck up brain cell communication and growth.

On the cell communication side of things, lead appears to interfere with a bunch of the neurotransmitters and neurotransmitter receptors in our brains. One of the systems that keeps popping up in exposure experiments is the dopamine system. It controls reward and impulse behavior, a big factor in aggression. Another is the glutamate system, responsible in part for learning and memory.

On the brain development side of things, lead interferes with, among other things, the process of synaptic pruning. Nerve cells grow and connect, sometimes forming 40,000 new junctions per second, until a baby reaches about two years of age. After that, the brain begins to prune back the myriad connections, called synapses, to make them more efficient. Lead disrupts this cleanup effort, leaving behind excess, poorly functioning nerve cells.

"If you have a brain that's miswired, especially in areas involved in what psychologists call the executive functions—judgment, impulse control, anticipation of consequences—of course you might display aggressive behavior," says Kim N. Dietrich, director of epidemiology and biostatistics at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

Dietrich and his colleagues have been studying lead's effects on the developing brain for more than 30 years. In the late 1970s, he and a group of other investigators recruited some 300 pregnant women for what would become the Cincinnati Lead Study. At the time, these women lived in parts of Cincinnati—typically the inner city—that had experienced historically high numbers of lead-poisoning cases. Once the recruits' babies were born, Dietrich and his group began monitoring the newborns too.

From the time they were born until they were six-and-a-half years old, the young participants had their blood-lead levels measured 23 times. The average childhood concentration for the whole group was 13 µg/dL. Now adults in their 30s, the subjects are having their brains scanned and behaviors analyzed.

And the results are eerie. As of 2008, 250 members of the lead study had been arrested a total of 800 times. The participants' average blood-lead levels during childhood also correlated with their arrest rate, Dietrich's team found (*PLoS Med.* 2008, DOI: 10.1371/journal.pmed.0050101).

Working with Dietrich, Kim M. Cecil, an imaging expert at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, has taken magnetic resonance images of the subjects' brains and found that as childhood blood-lead levels increase, gray matter volume decreases in a handful of brain areas (*PLoS Med.* 2008, DOI: 10.1371/journal.pmed.0050112). Even more important, the regions with the largest gray matter loss are the ventrolateral prefrontal cortex and the anterior cingulate cortex, areas known for impulse control, emotional regulation, and decision making.

"These are the parts of the brain that say, 'Ooh, I've learned from before that I shouldn't steal that, or if I do this, then the consequences are that,'" Cecil says.

Still another way lead might coax the brain into committing violent acts is through IQ and learning disabilities. Although controversial when they were first reported, studies have shown that a child's blood-lead level is inversely proportional to IQ. The extent of this relationship is still a point of contention, but most estimates have suggested that for every 10 µg/dL of blood lead, a child loses between one and 10 IQ points.

This might not seem like a lot for someone who's been genetically gifted with an IQ around 120 or 110, Cecil contends. But for a child who might have started life with an IQ of 80, dropping to 70—a value close to impairment—is a handicap, she says.

Children who perform poorly in school and who have learning disabilities tend to have low self-esteem, get frustrated more easily, and, thus, are more likely to act out and engage in delinquent behavior, experts say.

On the molecular level, lead might be affecting learning and intellect through the N-methyl-D-aspartate receptor (NMDAR), a protein on the surface of nerve cells that gets activated when glutamate and glycine stick to it. For more than 20 years, Tomás R. Guilarte, chairman of environmental sciences at Columbia University, has been studying how NMDAR works and how it's affected by lead.

"Lead's a potent inhibitor of NMDAR," Guilarte says. That's a problem, he says, because "NMDAR is crucial for brain development, learning, and memory processes."



SWITCHBOARD

Natural Resources Defense Council Staff Blog

Steve Fleischli's Blog

House Committee Launches Most Significant Attack on the Clean Water Act in at Least 15 Years



Posted June 21, 2011 in Curbing Pollution, U.S. Law and Policy

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Not satisfied with merely trying to undo the Clean Air Act, the House of Representatives has now decided to attack the federal Clean Water Act with the introduction of H.R. 2018, which is slated for mark-up tomorrow (Wednesday) in the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The bill, sponsored by Congressman John Mica of Florida, strips EPA of critical oversight authority that for decades has resulted in improved water quality across the country. And it's not just Republicans leading the charge. Several Democrats, including Representatives Nick Rahall (WV), Jason Altmire (PA) and Tim Holden (PA), have co-sponsored the legislation.

The bill seems to be a reaction to EPA's recent important efforts to protect water quality in Florida, West Virginia, and on the Chesapeake Bay. But its impact is far broader than that.

Also called the "Clean Water Cooperative Federalism Act of 2011," H.R. 2018 takes "cooperation" to a whole new level by stripping EPA of its ability to protect national water quality without state-by-state approval. Among other things, the bill:

- Limits EPA's ability to effectively implement or make necessary improvements to state water quality standards to deal with modern pollution challenges.

- Prevents EPA from improving numeric criteria for pollutants that have led to dead zones in the Chesapeake Bay and Gulf of Mexico.

- Restricts EPA from upgrading standards for toxic pollutants where narrative standards only provide very limited protection (a common example being state standards that prohibit the "discharge of toxic pollutants in toxic amounts").

- Prevents EPA from vetoing state-issued Clean Water Act permits even if EPA concludes those permits are not protective of water quality.

- Blocks EPA's ability to withhold federal funding to states *even if* EPA determines the state's implementation of water quality standards is not protective of water quality.

Basically, H.R. 2018 takes the "federal" out of the federal Clean Water Act and highlights a new disdain for the federal government's role in environmental protection. Yet it is this federal law and EPA's oversight that have resulted in so many improvements to water quality across America since the Clean Water Act's passage in 1972.

The federal Clean Water Act provides a safety net for waterways across the country, where states must implement minimum provisions to protect water quality. States can always do more if they so choose, but the law recognizes that Americans deserve a minimum standard of protection no matter where they live, and the Clean Water Act is designed to prevent a "race to the bottom" in places where the benefits of clean water may be ignored for short term economic or political gain.

By hamstringing EPA, H.R. 2018 would remove the most critical piece of the puzzle and would take away this safety net.

Indeed, sponsors of the bill seem intent on taking us back to the "good old days" of limited federal involvement when rivers like the Cuyahoga caught fire and Lake Erie was declared dead – and when states sued other states because pollution flowing from an upstream state ruined a neighboring state's waterway. Yet these past horrors and the legislative history of the Clean Water Act reveal why the federal role was and remains so important: before 1972 many states lacked any approved water quality standards and national efforts to abate and control water pollution were "inadequate in every vital aspect."

I say this is the worse attack on the Clean Water Act in *at least* 15 years because it is hard to compare which is worse, the Dirty Water Bill of 1995 or today's H.R. 2018. Both contained provisions to paralyze EPA's Clean Water Act duties – the Dirty Water Act under the guise of cost-benefit analysis, H.R. 2018 under the guise of state's rights. But one thing that is easy to see is that H.R. 2018 will undermine almost 40 years of progress in cleaning up America's waterways, and it will remove America's most vital safety net for protecting water quality

BIOSLUDGE is a toilet-to-farm scheme that deposits toxic sewage sludge on food crops all across America

Friday, December 21, 2018 by: [Lance D Johnson](#)

Tags: [badfood](#), [badhealth](#), [badpollution](#), [badscience](#), [bio-terrorism](#), [Biosolids](#), [cancer causes](#), [Clean Soil Act](#), [deception](#), [EPA](#), [EPA fraud](#), [food supply](#), [fraud](#), [human waste](#), [outbreaks](#), [pharmaceutical runoff](#), [soil health](#), [soil poisoning](#), [toxic chemicals](#), [wastewater treatment](#)

([Natural News](#)) There's a reason why the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has implemented a Clean Water Act and a Clean Air Act, but NO Clean Soil Act.

A Clean Soil Act would fundamentally change how wastewater is processed and recycled. It would require the EPA come clean about the toxic composition of fertilizers being spread on North American soils. A Clean Soil Act would halt the mass spread of toxic sewage on food crops all across America. It would expose environmental crimes within the EPA itself. A Clean Soil Act would require the truth to come out; that the recycling of bio-solids is a toilet-to-farm scheme that is poisoning America's gardens and farmlands and forcing humans to eat from their own waste.

The bio-solids that are processed and recycled at municipal wastewater treatment plants are sold to homes and farms across the country as "fertilizers." These bio-solids are a chemical nightmare, consisting of a wide array of pharmaceuticals, agro-chemicals, industrial chemicals, household chemicals, pathogenic material, and heavy metals. This toxic biosludge should never come in contact with soils that grow food for human and animal consumption. (Related: [The government is lying about the safety of biosludge.](#))

Documentary exposes deep truths about EPA fraud and the chemical poisoning of soils and the food supply

In the new documentary [Biosludged](#), scientific experts and whistle blowers break down what is happening to North American soils and how this mass pollution scheme is making people chronically ill and mentally lobotomized. In this documentary, former EPA scientist and whistle blower Dr. David Lewis reveals the shocking extent of the EPA's criminal activities and scientific fraud. The fertilizer that people add to their soils is inundating crops with disease-promoting pathogens and a slew of chemicals that wreck havoc on the physiological processes of the human body.

The documentary also warns that the food supply is at grave risk of being used as a vector for terrorist activity. A terrorist can flush massive amounts of chemicals into the sewage system,

only to have it all recycled as fertilizer for use on crop fields. Sewage sludge could also be laced with bio-weapons and microorganisms that cause food poisoning and infectious disease. All the human dung that is deposited on food crops ultimately releases chemicals into the groundwater, too. People across the U.S. are literally regurgitating the toxic composition of their own poop, using water and fertilizer that has been poisoned over and over again. These biosludge chemicals directly affect brain function, immune function, and fertility. All the cancer marches and pink ribbon fundraisers should start to look at what's going on with the food supply, how toxic human waste is re-consumed, poisoning the population into cancerous states.

Watch the full documentary at BrighteonFilms.com and download the full movie files that you can openly share with others. Stay up-to-date on the "greatest environmental crime you've never heard" at Biosludge.News.



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Coronavirus ‘Perfect Storm’ Now Exists Thanks to Biosludge, Open Borders, Filthy Liberal Cities

Friday, January 24, 2020 by: [Mike Adams](#)

Tags: [Biosludge](#), [coronavirus](#), [infections](#), [liberal cities](#), [Open Borders](#), [outbreak](#), [pandemic](#), [perfect storm](#)

Bypass censorship by sharing this link:

(Natural News) The horrendously bad decisions of human beings who hold power in government, media and industry have brought the human race to a “perfect storm” of conditions that will strongly contribute to the spread and fatalities of the coronavirus pandemic now threatening the world.

As I relate in an emergency podcast below, the following conditions are now converging into a *worst case scenario* when trying to stop a pandemic (or a *best case scenario* for the globalists trying to achieve depopulation):

#1) Open borders policies that allow infected people to walk right across the border into the United States, with no health screening whatsoever.

#2) Sanctuary city policies that protect infected illegals from being discovered or deported.

#3) The widespread practice of **biosludge distribution onto food crops**. “[Biosludge](#)” is the raw human sewage sludge that’s collected by every city in America, slightly dried to reduce water mass, then loaded onto trucks and dumped on nearby farm fields. It’s sold to farmers as “free fertilizer” because it’s rich in nitrogen. It also means that any coronavirus which makes its way into the sewage system will be distributed by U.S. cities onto farm fields, obviously contaminating food crops and multiplying the effects of the pandemic. (See the full documentary at [Biosludged.com](#) to learn about biosludge.)

#4) The now-legal practice in Washington State of liquefying dead human bodies and flushing them into the municipal sewage system, where they become *biosludge* to be spread on crops. This practice was just recently legalized in Washington, and it means the dead will be used to fertilize the food crops that are fed to the living. When people start dying from coronavirus, will they also be flushed into the sewage systems?

#5) The practice — now common in filthy liberal cities — of allowing people to openly defecate in the streets, with no repercussions or arrests. Since viruses often infect human feces and other body excretions, this likely means that coronavirus will be found in the raw human feces that

gets washed into storm drains during rain storms. The storm drains in San Francisco, Seattle and other coastal cities **empty directly into the ocean**, where viruses are then washed onto the beaches of North America, infecting beach goers and mixing with aquatic ecosystems to produce even more potentially dangerous variants of infectious disease.

#6) The continued attacks on natural medicine and the censorship of sources like Natural News that can teach people how to avoid or overcome infections *even when pharmaceutical medicines fail* (or are completely out of supply).

#7) The **compromised human immune system due to widespread vaccination practices** that actually weaken, not strengthen, the veracity of the human immune response. People who routinely receive vaccinations such as flu shots are discovered to be more vulnerable to future infections. Widespread immunization practices across North America, Europe, Australia and other countries have created a highly vulnerable population that can be easily infected with coronavirus.

These factors now converge to create a **perfect storm** for the coronavirus outbreak, which is actually a weaponized, engineered biological weapon being unleashed against humanity in order to achieve *depopulation*.

It will very likely succeed, since humanity has been begging for self-destruction through all the practices detailed above.

Most notably, the highest fatalities from any such pandemic will occur in cities; especially cities where the homeless are more populous and filthy, unsanitary conditions exist. In other words, **liberal cities**.

Listen to my urgent podcast for more details:

[Brighteon.com/0aaf4243-1dfe-47e9-9c56-32232a96cdfc](https://www.brighteon.com/0aaf4243-1dfe-47e9-9c56-32232a96cdfc)

Previous :BREAKING: Coronavirus a stealth strain that can be carried by people who show NO fever or coughing symptoms... detection almost impossible under current government guidelines
Next : VACCINE BOMBSHELL as U.N. health experts admit toxic vaccine ingredients are harming children worldwide – see v

Wastewater may hold COVID-19 clues

Vancouver part of pilot program that could supplement existing data on virus

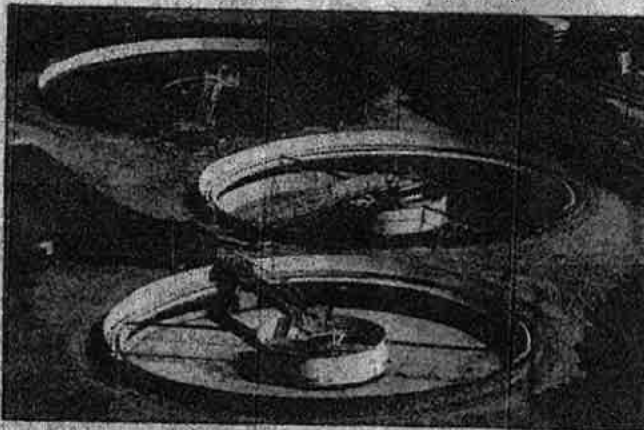
By CALLEY HAIR

Columbian staff writer

The prevalence of COVID-19 in Vancouver is now being tracked through a pilot program in which samples of wastewater are collected and tested for signs of the novel coronavirus.

Staff at the Marine Park and Westside wastewater treatment facilities are collecting sewage samples weekly. The samples are then sent to a laboratory at Arizona State University, where researchers test the city's influent for fragments of the virus's genetic information.

The conclusions that can be drawn from this information have their limitations, according to a statement released by the city earlier this week. Wastewater-based epidemiology is still a relatively new science, and traces of the virus in the city's sewer systems provide only a big-picture



The Columbian files

The city of Vancouver Westside Wastewater Treatment Plant, seen in July, is one of two local wastewater treatment facilities collecting samples of wastewater to send for testing for signs of the coronavirus.

WASTEWATER, Page A2

COVID-19

in the Northwest

Number of confirmed cases and deaths as of Wednesday afternoon, with the change from the previous report:

	Cases	Deaths
Clark County	395	24
Change	2	0
Washington	17,512	975
Change	182	13
Oregon	3,416	134
Change	58	4

SOURCES: State and local health departments, National Institutes of Health photo

Wastewater

From Page A1

snapshot of the region.

But participation in the program could help the city determine the concentration of the virus in the community, including among people who are infected but do not present symptoms. The data will be used to supplement the metrics already tracked by Clark County Public Health.

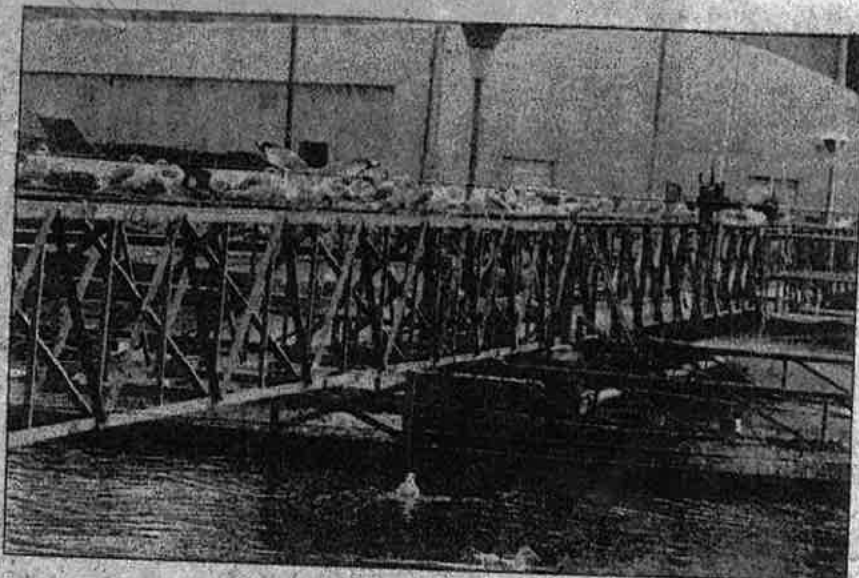
Vancouver is one of about a dozen cities across the country participating in the program through its wastewater facilities operator, Jacobs.

"It's very straightforward and simple," Frank Dick, the city's wastewater engineering supervisor, wrote in an email to The Columbian.

Jacobs staff at city facilities, in the course of collecting daily influent samples, once a week will fill an additional half-liter sample container, label and seal it, and send it off to the ASU laboratory via qualified carriers," Dick wrote. "The sample is a community-wide representation."

According to an Arizona State University study published in Science of the Total Environment, wastewater-based epidemiology mines sewage samples for vital clues about human health. That applies to the coronavirus but also to other ailments that leave traces in human waste — drug use, diabetes and obesity, among others.

The Arizona State University lab uses a process called polymerase chain reaction testing in order to identify fragments of virus-associated RNA, the ribonucleic acid that carries the virus's genetic information.



The Columbian files

Seagulls congregate on a structure at the Westside Water Reclamation Facility, just off West Mill Plain Boulevard in Vancouver.

"Our results show that exclusive reliance on testing of individuals is too slow, cost-prohibitive and in most places, impractical, given our current testing capacity," Rolf Halden, one of two researchers who published the study, told Science Daily. "However, when preceded by population-wide screening of wastewater, the task becomes less daunting and more manageable."

In Vancouver, the pilot program will continue for at least a month, possibly longer, according to the city's media release. The gathered data will be shared with local public health officials.

Brent Bremner, the director of product communications at Jacobs, said the company is still figuring out how and when that data will be re-

leased.

"The format and time frame for data sharing is not yet established as sample collection and data gathering has just begun at most sites involved in the study," Bremner said.

Jacobs operates nearly 100 wastewater facilities across the country, including the two in Vancouver. The city is one of 11 municipalities participating in the pilot program, though more are expected to join in.

Vancouver's sewer service area encompasses all but a small north-central sliver of the city. It also includes a few portions of the county's regional wastewater district along the city's northern border.

Calley Hair: 360-735-4558; calley.hair@columbian.com. Twitter: @calleyhair

documentary

Stew Peters: Dr. Bryan Ardis
"Watch the Water"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2004

EPA plan to study pesticides' effect on kids spurs backlash within agency

Poor families may join just to get the perks, staff fears

By Juliet Eilperin
WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — An Environmental Protection Agency proposal to study young children's exposure to pesticides has sparked a flurry of internal agency protests, with several career officials questioning whether the survey will harm vulnerable infants and toddlers.

The EPA announced this month that it was beginning a two-year investigation, partially funded by the American Chemical Council, of how 60 children in Duval County, Fla., absorb pesticides and other household chemicals. The chemical industry funding initially prompted some environmentalists to ques-

tion whether the study would be biased, and some rank-and-file agency scientists are now questioning whether the plan will exploit financially strapped families.

In exchange for participating for two years in the Children's Environmental Exposure Research Study, which involves infants and children up to age 3, the EPA will give each family using pesticides in their home \$970, some children's clothing and a camcorder that parents can keep.

EPA officials in states such as Georgia and Colorado sent e-mail messages to each other last week suggesting the study lacked safeguards to ensure that low-income families would not be swayed into exposing their children to hazardous chemicals in exchange for money and high-tech gadgetry. Pesticide exposure has been linked to neurological problems, lung damage and birth

defects.

Suzanne Wuerthele, the EPA's regional toxicologist in Denver, wrote to her colleagues on Wednesday that after reviewing the project's design, she feared poor families would not understand the dangers associated with pesticide exposure.

"It is important that EPA behaves ethically, consistently, and in a way that engenders public health. Unless these issues are resolved, it is likely that all three goals will be compromised, and the agency's reputation will suffer," she wrote in an e-mail obtained by the Washington Post. "EPA researchers will not tell participants that using pesticides always entails some risk, and not using pesticides will reduce that risk to zero."

Troy Pierce, a life scientist in the EPA's Atlanta-based pesticides section, wrote in a separate e-mail: "This does sound like it goes against everything we rec-

ommend at EPA concerning use of (pesticides) related to children. Paying families in Florida to have their homes routinely treated with pesticides is very sad when we at EPA know that (pesticide management) should always be used to protect children."

Linda Sheldon, acting administrator for the human exposure and atmospheric sciences division of the EPA's Office of Research and Development, said the agency would educate families participating in the study and inform them if their children's urine showed risky levels of pesticides. She said it was crucial for the agency to study small children, because so little is known about how their bodies absorb harmful chemicals.

"We are developing the scientific building blocks that will allow us to protect children," Sheldon said, adding that the study design was reviewed by five in-

dependent panels of academics, officials of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and representatives of the Duval County Health Department.

Families can remain in the study, even if they stop using pesticides, Sheldon said, as long as they were using them before the experiment started. It was unlikely that any family would volunteer for the study out of financial need, she added, because researchers will require parents to invest time in monitoring their children's activities and diet.

"Nobody can go into this study just for that amount of money," Sheldon said.

R. Alta Charo, a professor of bioethics at the University of Wisconsin at Madison's law and medical schools who co-wrote a National Academy of Sciences report last year on the use of pesticides for research, said EPA officials were struggling with how to balance the need to protect the

individual child's interests against the goal of pursuing a broader scientific agenda. While she said the agency's approach was reasonable, Charo said it does raise ethical questions.

"Where is the line between enticement and a godfather offer that impoverished families would find hard to refuse? Charo said. "That is really troubling. We make these decisions over and over in public policy. This is one of those moments."

Several EPA officials, all of whom asked not to be identified for fear of retaliation, also questioned why the agency removed the study design and its recruitment flyer from the EPA's Web site once some scientists started to complain about the project. Sheldon said the agency is rewriting how it portrays the research.

"We removed it so we could modify it, so it would make more sense," she said.

Staff Report: 102-25

To: Mayor and City Council
From: City Manager
Date: May 19, 2025

Subject

Celebrate Freedom Program Agreement Between the City of Vancouver and The Historic Trust

Key Points

- The Celebrate Freedom program originated as a City of Vancouver initiative and has been managed by The Historic Trust since 1999 with financial support from the City.
- The renewed agreement provides continued City financial support which can be supplemented by funds raised from donors and sponsors.
- The primary events, as part of this program, are the Marshall Leadership Awards, Summer Fest event series and the Veterans Day Parade.

Strategic Plan Alignment

Culture and Heritage – celebrating culture and heritage

Present Situation

The Celebrate Freedom program has been successfully managed by The Historic Trust since 1999. This program was developed to feature the history and heritage of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve, draw the community to the site, and to foster civic pride. Over the years, the program offerings have evolved to reflect community interest and organizational capacity.

The 2025 and 2026 program will feature the following events:

Marshall Leadership Awards - Entering its 37th year, the George C. Marshall Leadership Awards celebrate high school seniors and adult leaders 35 and under who exhibit service leadership characteristics in the tradition of General George C. Marshall, who was a commanding officer at the site. Marshall Leadership recipients and nominees can be found throughout our community, serving in elected office, in private sector leadership positions, and on boards and committees throughout the region.

Summer Fest event series, multiple dates - The summer series, expanded from a single focus on one day to a full summer of activities on the site, now includes 12 dates with a wide variety of activities to serve Vancouver's growing and changing population. Evening concerts on the lawn at the Howard House showcase different musical styles in a pleasant, shaded setting. Family Days activities include interactive activities for all ages, with a focus on youth engagement. Culture and Heritage Days activities celebrate the wide variety of backgrounds represented in Vancouver, through dance, drums, and arts and crafts.

Lough Legacy Veterans Day Parade - 2025 will mark the 37th Lough Legacy Veterans Parade, honoring veterans in Vancouver and throughout Clark County. The parade, which circles the historic site, is preceded by a ceremony that recognizes the Grand Marshal and Reviewing Officer, and

followed by an Open House hosted by CMAC, the Community Military Appreciation Committee. This beloved event features 70+ parade entries.

City funding for Celebrate Freedom was approved in the biennial budget process with \$208,000 each year. Since that time, the Historic Trust and the City have refined the event plan for 2025 that is described here. The attached agreement will run concurrent to the budget biennium.

Advantage(s)

1. Continues the tradition of community events and supports of civic pride.
2. Supports a current set of events that are popular, accessible, family-focused events and support visitation of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve.
3. Provides free, varied activities at a smaller scale in a more intimate setting, creating more options for residents and visitors alike.

Challenge(s)

City funds are required; however, return on investment for a full year of programming is sizable. The program increases exposure to City-owned properties on the Historic Reserve and sustains highly valued traditional programming.

Budget Impact

The City's contribution of \$208,000 per year to The Historic Trust to support Celebrate Freedom events has already been approved in the biennial budget process.

Prior Council Review

A similar agreement was approved for the prior biennium on June 23, 2023.

Action Requested

On Monday, May 19, 2025, authorize the City Manager, or designee, to sign the Celebrate Freedom Agreement.

Staff Contact

David Perlick, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, david.perlick@cityofvancouver.us

Attachments:

1. Celebrate Freedom Agreement 2025-26 - 5-8-25

**CELEBRATE FREEDOM PROGRAMS AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE CITY OF VANCOUVER
AND
THE VANCOUVER NATIONAL HISTORIC RESERVE TRUST
(dba The Historic Trust)
2025-2026**

This agreement is entered into by and between the City of Vancouver, a municipal corporation, organized under the laws of the State of Washington, (“City”) and the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust (dba The Historic Trust), a non-profit corporation (“Trust”), relating to the planning, producing and funding of the Celebrate Freedom programs.

WHEREAS, the City, seeing a need for community programming to inspire civic pride and leadership, created or sponsored multiple events in the 1980s and 1990s, collecting them under the umbrella of “Celebrate Freedom” programs. The Marshall Leadership Award and the George C. Marshall Lecture series had the purpose of recognizing the value of public service and promoting the ideals of leadership, civic engagement, patriotism and community pride. The annual Veterans Day Parade, planned in conjunction with local veterans organizations, honored those who have served in the armed forces; and

WHEREAS, in 1998 the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust was incorporated as a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to inspire civic pride and economic vitality through education, preservation and celebration of the community’s history; and

WHEREAS, in 1999 the Trust assumed responsibility for the production of the Celebrate Freedom programs which at that time included the Marshall Lecture, Marshall Leadership Award and Veterans Day Parade; and

WHEREAS, the Trust currently produces the Marshall Leadership Award, Marshall Youth Award, Summer Fest (a successor event to Independence Day at Fort Vancouver) and Veterans Day Parade as part of Celebrate Freedom, a suite of signature events that help define the City of Vancouver and the Vancouver National Historic Reserve in relationship to its past and future; and

WHEREAS, the City has financially supported Celebrate Freedom since its inception, first as City programs and then under the Trust’s management; and

WHEREAS, this agreement between City and the Trust serves the purpose of maximizing the effectiveness of limited public resources and serves the interests of the City in assuring that the Celebrate Freedom events and activities continue to be conducted for the benefit of the public.

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

1. **Purpose.** The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the mutual obligations of the City and the Trust with respect to the suite of events and activities currently grouped under the name of Celebrate Freedom, and with the understanding that the name of the suite may change during the time period of this agreement.
2. **Term.** This Agreement shall be effective as of January 1, 2025 and expires on December 31, 2026. This Agreement may be extended for one (1) additional two (2) year term by mutual agreement and upon terms to be negotiated.
3. **Scope of Work.** The Trust will produce the Celebrate Freedom programs. The programs shall include Marshall Adult and Youth Leadership Awards, Summer Fest, and Veterans Day Parade. The Trust shall have the ability to produce other programs under the Celebrate Freedom umbrella as opportunities arise. The Trust shall provide at least 30-days' advance notice to the City of other proposed Celebrate Freedom programs or activities. If the City and the Trust mutually agree to add to Celebrate Freedom programs, and additional costs are associated with producing those events, additional compensation agreements may be negotiated.

Event production includes but is not limited to planning, logistics, advertising/marketing and recruitment and management of volunteers. In addition to the City's financial contribution, the Trust will solicit funds to support the programs through corporate and individual donations, grants and other fundraising activities. The City and the Trust will strive to find additional areas to collaborate and maximize limited dollars, in areas including but not limited to permitting and advertising. The Trust will comply with all National Park Service and City permitting and event management requirements in the production and management of the events.

Expenses eligible for reimbursement for Celebrate Freedom programs through this Agreement shall be limited to marketing/advertising, professional services, permits, event insurance, speaker travel, temporary help, postage, supplies, equipment rental, and salaries and benefits directly attributable to the production of the programs. Ineligible expenses include organizational insurance, staff travel and training, building rent and utilities.

4. **Compensation.** The City shall provide an amount not to exceed \$208,000 per calendar year to the Trust for Celebrate Freedom programs as specified herein. Per Scope of Work Section 3 above, funding may be amended to include other opportunities. Funding is provided on a reimbursable basis and documentation of expenses must be included with the reimbursement request. Expenses that are not in accordance with the approved scope of work will not be eligible for reimbursement. Requests for reimbursement shall be provided in batches of no less than \$5,000 per request.

Reimbursement requests should be submitted no later than ninety (90) days after the completion of each Celebrate Freedom event. Upon receipt of a proper reimbursement request, the City shall pay within twenty (20) business days.

In addition to funding, the City may supply additional logistical and administrative support for the Celebrate Freedom events on a case by case basis as mutually agreed upon.

5. **Project Reporting.** The Trust shall by March 31st each year, provide a written report to the City which shall include a summary of the previous year's Celebrate Freedom events and activities. Report shall include a summary of revenue and expenses for the Celebrate Freedom program and an estimate of the attendance at each event.
6. **Accounting and Auditing.** The Trust shall provide a copy of its Financial Statements and Report of Independent Accountants for the previous year as soon as a copy is available. If the City determines that there is reasonable cause to believe that the Trust has violated or failed to meet a commitment made in this Agreement, the City Manager or his/her designee may inspect and/or copy all Trust books, accounts and records at all reasonable times to determine compliance with such Agreement. This term does not limit any other remedy the City may have under other provisions of the Agreement and/or Federal and State law.
7. **Insurance.**

- a. **Commercial General Liability**

The Trust shall provide evidence of insurance to the City by certificate on a standard "ACORD" form, or its equivalent, issued by an insurance company licensed to do business in the State of Washington. The certificate must provide that coverage shall not be canceled or modified without thirty (30) days prior written notice to the City.

- \$5,000,000 minimum/general liability
- \$1,000,000 combined single limit auto liability
- City of Vancouver named as additional insured
- Current compliance with the State of Washington Industrial Insurance Program

- b. **Workers' Compensation**

The Trust shall carry workers' compensation insurance to cover obligations imposed by Federal and State statutes having jurisdiction of the Trust's employees engaged in the performance of the work or services; and, Employer's Liability insurance of not less than:

- Commercial General Liability on an "occurrence" basis, including products and completed operations, property damage, bodily injury and personal & advertising injury in an amount no less than \$5,000,000 per occurrence.
- \$1,000,000 for each accident;
- \$500,000 for each disease for each employee;
- \$1,000,000 for each disease policy limit.

- c. **Other Requirements**

- Washington Stop Gap Coverage: Consultants located in North Dakota, Ohio, West Virginia, Washington and Wyoming must have Washington Stop Gap

coverage listed on the Certificate of Liability Insurance. The limits and aggregates noted above must apply to the Stop Gap coverage as well. This must be indicated on the certificate.

- Coverage Trigger: The insurance must be written on an “occurrence” basis. This must be indicated on the certificate. Claims made policies will not be acceptable.
- City Listed as Additional Insured: The City of Vancouver, its agents, representatives, officers, directors, officials, and employees must be named as an additional insured on the CGL policy and shown on the certificate as an additional insured with an additional insured endorsement.
- City shall be listed as the Certificate Holder.

8. **Indemnification.** The Trust shall take all precautions necessary and shall be responsible for the safety of its employees, agents, volunteers and sub-consultants in the performance of the work hereunder. Trust shall defend, save and hold harmless the City of Vancouver, its officers, agents, volunteers, employees and assigns from any claims, damages, losses, liability or expenses (including attorney’s fees) which arise from the negligent performance of this Agreement, except those claims, damages, losses, liability, or expenses which arise from the sole negligent acts or omissions of the City, its officers, agents, employees or assigns. This indemnity and hold harmless provision shall include any claim made against the City by an employee of the Trust, its subcontractors, or agents even if the Trust is thus otherwise immune from liability pursuant to the workers’ compensation statute, Title 51 RCW, except to the extent that such liability arises from the sole negligence of the City.
9. **Volunteer Liability Waivers.** The Trust shall require all volunteers participating in activities associated with this Agreement to sign a Waiver and Release holding the City harmless for all claims arising out of the volunteers’ participation. Copies of the signed Waivers shall be given to the City upon request.
10. **Termination.** Termination for Convenience: The Agreement may be terminated by either party upon written notice to the other party given at least one hundred and eighty (180) days in advance of the renewal date.

Termination for Cause: Either party may terminate this Agreement if for any cause either party does not fulfill in a timely and proper manner its obligations under this Agreement, or violates any of the terms and conditions contained herein. The party believing that such a failure or violation has occurred shall give notice to the other party of their belief and allow a reasonable opportunity for correction of the violation or failure. If the failure or violation is not corrected in a reasonable time, this Agreement may then be terminated. The termination of the Agreement will become effective thirty (30) days after the notice of termination has been sent to the breaching party.

11. **Notice.** All notices which are given or required to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be hand delivered or mailed as follows:

To the City:
City Manager
City of Vancouver
P.O. Box 1995
Vancouver, WA 98668

To Trust:
President/CEO
The Historic Trust
750 Anderson Street
Vancouver, WA 98661

12. **Relation of the Parties.** The Trust, its subcontractors, agents and employees are independent contractors performing professional services for City and are not employees of City. The Trust, its subcontractors, agents and employees, shall not, as a result of this Agreement, accrue leave, retirement, pension, insurance, bonding or any other benefits afforded to City employees. The Trust, subcontractors, agents and employees shall not have the authority to bind City in any way except as may be specifically provided herein.
13. **E-Verify.** The Trust shall ensure all employees and any subcontractors assigned to perform work under this Agreement are eligible to work in the United States. Trust shall provide verification of compliance upon City request. Failure by Trust to comply with this subsection shall be considered a material breach
14. **Assignment.** Neither Party shall have the right to transfer or assign, in whole or in part, any or all of its obligations and rights hereunder without the prior written consent of the other Party.
15. **Compliance with the Law.** The Trust agrees to comply with all relevant, federal, state and municipal laws, rules and regulations, including but not limited to, compliance with any state or local business license requirements and insuring that no employee or applicant for employment is discriminated against because of race, religion, color, age, sex, national origin, or disability as a result of this Agreement. A breach of this provision shall be considered a material breach of this Agreement.
16. **Governing Law and Disputes.** This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the state of Washington. Before instituting any legal action hereunder, the Trust, through its President shall meet with the City Manager or other designated official and attempt in good faith to resolve the disagreement. Venue of any action hereunder shall be brought in the Superior Court of Clark County, Washington.
17. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement incorporates all the agreements, exhibits, covenants and understanding between the parties. No prior agreement or prior understanding, verbal or otherwise, of the parties or their agents shall be valid or enforceable unless set forth in this Agreement.
18. **Ratification.** Acts taken pursuant to this Agreement but prior to its effective date are hereby ratified and confirmed.
19. **Amendment.** Any amendments, changes or alternations to this Agreement shall be in writing and approved by both Parties.

CITY OF VANCOUVER,
a municipal corporation

VANCOUVER NATIONAL HISTORIC
RESERVE TRUST, a non-profit corporation

Lon Pluckhahn, City Manager

Temple Lentz, President/CEO

Approved as to form:

Nena Cook, City Attorney

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Vancouver amending the partial impact fee exemption approved by Resolution M-4332.

Staff Report: 103-25

To: Mayor and City Council
From: City Manager
Date: May 19, 2025

Subject

Resolution Amending Waterfront Gateway Impact Fee Waiver

Key Points

- The purpose of this amendment is to correct previously approved impact fee exemption amounts.
- VMC 20.915 authorizes City Council to partially exempt or fully waive traffic and park development impact fees.
- The City of Vancouver desires to stimulate the construction of new affordable housing.
- The applicant is proposing to provide 95 affordable rental housing units to households earning at or below 80% of the area median income in perpetuity.

Strategic Plan Alignment

Housing and Human Needs – meeting basic needs and partnering with organizations to support the community

Present Situation

On April 7 2025, Vancouver City Council approved an exemption of 80% of the standard traffic and park development impact fees for the Colas/NAYA low-income housing project located at 615 W. 6th Street, Vancouver, WA 98660. Following the hearing, it was discovered that the impact fee calculations noted in the Council staff report and resolution were incorrect. First, regarding the traffic impact fee, the average daily vehicle trip (ADT) rate used for the calculation was too high. The initial calculation used a “standard” multifamily unit classification rather than an “affordable” housing unit type classification. The difference in ADT will reduce from 431 trips down to 292 trips. Secondly, regarding the District A park impact fees, in the initial calculation used the most current 2025 fee rate of \$4,206 per unit. However, the project applicant applied for building permits in 2024 and is therefore vested to the 2024 Park impact fee rate of \$3,824 per unit. The tables below detail the initial and amended impact fees for the project. In both cases, the calculated impact fees will be less than the initial calculation.

Initial Fee Rates	Traffic	Park
Standard Impact Fees	\$90,488.45	\$399,570.00
80% exemption	\$72,390.76	\$319,656.00
Remainder 20% paid by applicant	\$18,097.69	\$79,914.00

Revised Fee Rates	Traffic	Park
Standard Impact Fees	\$59,568.00	\$363,280.00
80% exemption	\$47,654.40	\$290,624.00
Remainder 20% paid by applicant	\$11,913.60	\$72,656.00

All other program requirements and conditions in the initial resolution will remain in effect and unchanged. Only the amount of impact fees is changing from the original resolution approval.

Advantage(s)

1. The project adds 95 new multifamily units to the City's housing supply.
2. Impact fee exemption projects are required to serve low-income households, earning less than 80% of area median income. The applicant is additionally committing to serve households at or below 60% area median income.

Challenge(s)

This action represents the loss of \$47,654.40 in potential funding for Columbia subarea traffic improvement projects and \$290,624 in potential funding for Park District A projects.

Budget Impact

The proposal does not affect the City's adopted budget since the subject impact fees have not been assessed or collected and are therefore not included in any capital project planning. As noted above, the exemption would reduce the potential capital project funding for future parks and traffic projects by the amounts noted in the above analysis.

Prior Council Review

- October 9, 2023, Vancouver Waterfront Gateway Disposition and Development Agreement
- April 7, 2025, Vancouver Waterfront Gateway Impact Fee Exemption Request

Action Requested

On Monday May 19, 2025, adopt an amended resolution modifying the 80% exemption to park and traffic impact fees for the Vancouver Waterfront Gateway affordable housing project.

Staff Contact

Bryan Monroe, Associate Housing Project Coordinator, bryan.monroe@cityofvancouver.us

Attachments:

1. Presentation
2. Amended Resolution
3. Revised Covenant - VWG Impact Fee Exemption



Amended Vancouver Waterfront Gateway Impact Fee Exemption

Bryan Monroe

Associate Housing Coordinator
Economic Prosperity and Housing
May 19, 2025

Agenda



- VMC Impact Fee Exemptions
- Impact Fee District Overview
- Project Description
- Fee Exemption Value
- Low-Income Definition
- Discussion / Questions

VMC Impact Fee Exemptions

VMC 20.915.080

For low-income housing projects the City Council may:

- Grant a partial exemption of up to 80% of impact fees, or
- Provide a full waiver of impact fees

Applicants must record a covenant with the Clark County Auditor.

- Units restricted to households earning at or below 80% area median income
- Affordability requirement runs in perpetuity
- Property only for low-income housing use
- Any change of use requires re-payment of impact fees at current rate

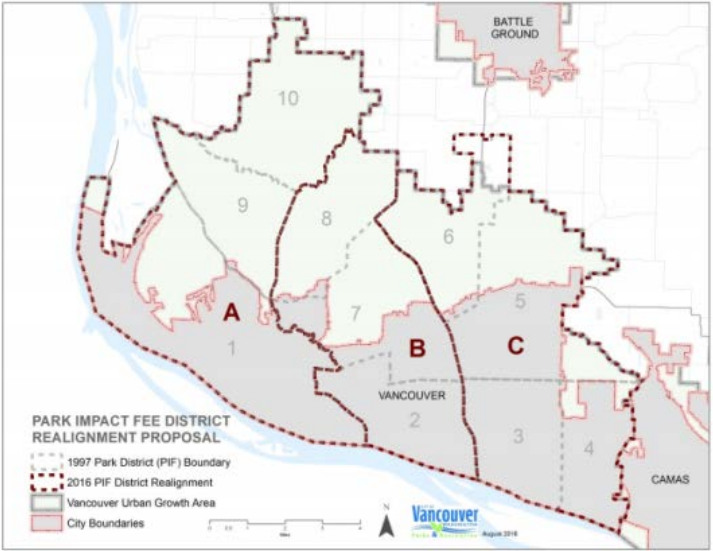
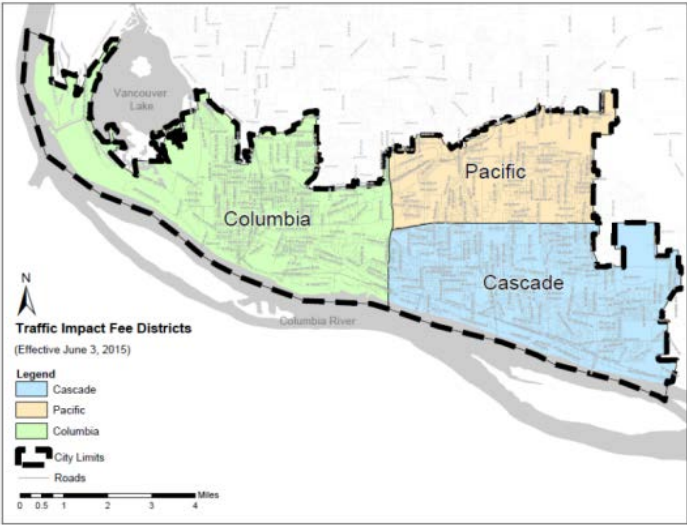


Impact Fee Districts

Traffic Impact Fee District	Rate per Trip
Columbia	\$247
Cascade	\$338
Pacific	\$439

Park Impact Fee District	Rate per Trip*
A	\$3,824 *
B	\$3,824
C	\$3,824

* Vested to 2024 fee rate



Project Description

6-story building

95 Units

19 Studios @ 490 square feet

42 One-Bedrooms @630 square feet

24 Two-Bedrooms @890 square feet

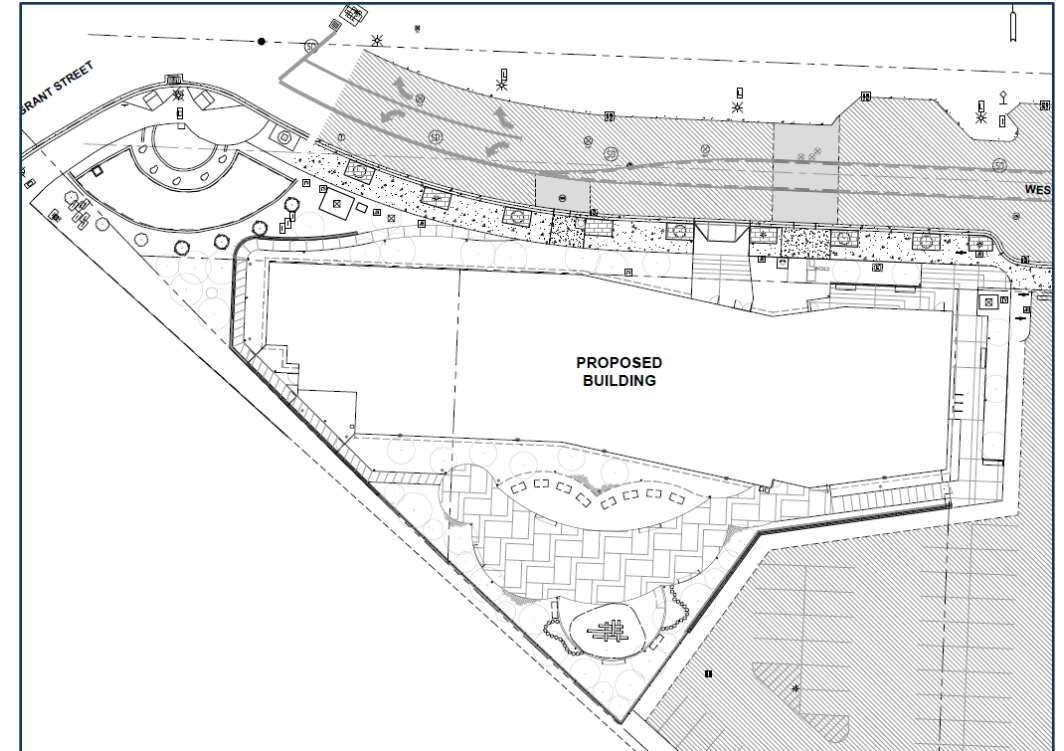
10 Three-Bedrooms @ 1,150 square feet

Units restricted to 80% area median income

Applicant proposing units at 50-60% area median income

LEED gold construction standard

Air-conditioned units



Revised Fee Exemption Value

Fee Type	Total	80% Exemption	20% Remainder
Traffic Impact Fee	\$59,568.00	\$47,654.40	\$11,913.60
Park Impact fee	\$363,280.00	\$290,624.00	\$72,656.00
Total	\$422,848.00	\$338,278.40	\$84,569.60

Fees not part of adopted City budget source

2024 Maximum Annual Income Levels

% Area Family Income	1-Person Household	2-Person Household	3-Person Household	4-Person Household	5-Person Household	6-Person Household
80% MFI	\$66,100	\$75,550	\$85,000	\$94,400	\$102,000	\$109,550
60% MFI	\$49,560	\$56,640	\$63,720	\$70,800	\$76,500	\$82,140
50% MFI	\$41,300	\$47,200	\$53,100	\$59,000	\$63,750	\$68,450



Discussion / Questions



Bryan Monroe- Associate Housing Coordinator
bryan.monroe@cityofvancouver.us

7 | Vancouver Waterfront Gateway Impact Fee Exemption



05/19/2025

RESOLUTION NO. M-_____

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Vancouver amending the partial impact fee exemption approved by Resolution M-4332.

WHEREAS, West 6th VWG LLLP (Applicant) applied for partial impact fee exemption for a low-income housing project located at 615 W 6th Street Vancouver, WA 98660 (Tax ID# 49360000).

WHEREAS, the Applicant has satisfied the eligibility criteria of VMC 20.915.080 and agreed, through proposed recorded covenant, to provide low-income housing to households earning at or below 80% area median income in perpetuity, also including annual compliance monitoring; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the importance of providing affordable housing within the City of Vancouver.

WHEREAS, on April 7th, 2025, City Council approved Resolution M-4332 for a partial 80% exemption in the amount of \$72,390.76 for Traffic Impact Fees and \$319,656 for Park Impact Fees which would otherwise be due prior to issuance of building permits; and

WHEREAS, following April 7th, 2025, approval an error was discovered in the variables used to calculate the impact fee amounts.

WHEREAS, The impact fees have been recalculated such that the 80% exemption for Traffic Impact Fee is now \$47,654.40 with the Applicant paying the remainder 20% of \$11,913.60 and the 80% exemption for the Park Impact Fee is now \$290,624.00 with the Applicant paying the remaining 20% of \$72,656.

RESOLUTION - 1

WHEREAS, this resolution amends and replaces the partial impact fee exemption granted by Resolution M-4332.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF VANCOUVER:

Section 1. Findings. The Applicant has applied for partial impact fee exemption for a low-income housing project located at 615 W 6th Street Vancouver, WA 98660 (Tax ID#49360000). The recitals set forth above are incorporated herein as findings in support of this resolution. Pursuant to VMC 20.915.080 D, the City Council makes the following additional findings:

1. The Applicant has documented that the new housing can meet the required standards regarding household income, rent levels, and number of units by submitting evidence of recorded covenant running with the land.
2. The Applicant has agreed to be monitored annually by the City of Vancouver including an annual fee of \$500 paid to the City to ensure compliance with the income requirements of VMC 20.915.
3. The developer shall record a covenant running with the land with the Clark County Auditor prior to issuance of building permits that includes the following commitments:
 - a. The property is prohibited from being used for any purpose other than for low-income housing.
 - b. If the property is converted to a use other than for low-income housing, the current property owner must repay the exempted impact fees at the rate in effect at the time of conversion.

RESOLUTION - 2

c. Low-income housing is defined as housing for which the monthly housing expense is no greater than thirty percent of eighty percent of the area median income adjusted for family size for Clark County, Washington, as reported and adjusted annually by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

4. The City of Vancouver will not collect revenue lost through the granting of the exemption by increasing impact fees unrelated to the exemption.

Section 3. Partial Exemption of Impact Fees. Based on the Applicant's satisfaction of the applicable criteria, the requested partial impact fee exemption for 95 new low-income housing units is approved. The amount of the partial exemption of Park and Traffic Impact Fees shall be equal to 80% of the standard rate (estimated to be \$338,278.40), with the Applicant paying the remaining 20% of the impact fees (estimated to be \$84,569.60 to the City of Vancouver prior to building permit issuance.

The Vancouver School District has discretion on whether or not School Impact Fees may be exempted or waived. The Vancouver School District was notified of this exemption request and responded with a denial of the request to exempt any School Impact Fees.

Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this resolution or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Section 4. Effective Date. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon final adoption.

ADOPTED at a regular session of the Vancouver City Council this 19th day of May,
2025.

Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor

Attest:

Natasha Ramras, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Nena Cook, City Attorney

RESOLUTION - 4

Resolution
Exhibit A
Legal Description

Tax ID #: 49360000

Description:

ALL of Lots 3, 4 and portions of Lots 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7, Block 38 and a portion of Lot 1 of Block 45, Town of Vancouver {commonly known as West Vancouver}, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Volume B of Plats, Page 40, records of Clark County, Washington, located in the Southwest quarter of Section 27, Township 2 North Range 1 East, Willamette Meridian described as follows:

COMMENCING at the Northeast corner of said Block 38, said Northeast corner being on the Southerly right of way line of West 6th Street;

THENCE North 87°39'52" West along the North line of said Block 38 and the Southerly right of way of West 6th Street, a distance of 3.75 feet to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING;

THENCE South 02°21'06" West, parallel with the East line of said Block 38, a distance of 75.46 Feet;

THENCE South 81°55'26" West 87.91 Feet;

THENCE South 36°00'24" West 85.42 Feet to the Northeasterly right of way of the Burlington Northern Railroad and a 3777.22 non-tangent radius curve to the right;

THENCE along said Northeasterly line and along said 3777.22 Foot radius curve to the right (the long chord of which, bears North 45°35'30" West 242.42 Feet), an arc distance of 242.46 Feet to a point on the Southerly right of way line of West 6th Street;

THENCE South 87°39'52" East along said Southerly right of way line of West 6th Street, 313.79 feet to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING.

When Recorded Return To:
City of Vancouver
Housing Program
PO Box 1995
Vancouver, WA 98668-1995
Attention: Samantha Whitley, (360) 487-7952

CITY OF VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON
LOW-INCOME HOUSING IMPACT FEE EXEMPTION COVENANT

Grantor: WEST 6th VWG LLLP
Grantee: City of Vancouver
Assessor’s Tax ID#: 49360000
Abbrev. Legal Description: ALL of Lots 3, 4, and portions of Lots 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7, Block 38 AND a portion of Lot 1 of Block 45, Town of Vancouver {commonly known as West Vancouver}, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Volume B of Plats, Page 40, records of Clark County, Washington, located in the Southwest quarter of Section 27, Township 2 North Range 1 East, Willamette Meridian
Full legal description attached as Exhibit A
Site Address: 615 W. 6th Street Vancouver WA 98660

COVENANT RUNNING WITH THE LAND:

This low-income housing covenant (hereinafter "Covenant") is made between WEST 6th VWG LLLP, a Washington Limited Liability Limited Partnership (hereinafter “Grantor”), whose address is 1419 NW 14th Avenue, Portland, OR 97209 and the City of Vancouver, Washington, a municipal corporation (hereinafter “Grantee”), in consideration for partial (80%) exemption of traffic and park development impact fees provided by the City of Vancouver to Grantor pursuant to an the authority granted under RCW 82.02.060 and VMC 20.915.080.

This COVENANT is made and effective this ____ day of _____, 2025, and by WEST 6th VWG LLLP and their respective, heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, to the CITY OF VANCOUVER, State of Washington (hereinafter the “City”).

Recitals:

- A. WEST 6th VWG LLLP is the owner or party in interest of certain real property with property tax ID # 49360000 and abbreviated legal description of: ALL of Lots 3, 4, and portions of Lots 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7, Block 38 AND a portion of Lot 1 of Block 45, Town of Vancouver {commonly known as West Vancouver}, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Volume B of Plats, Page 40, records of Clark County, Washington, located in the Southwest quarter of Section 27, Township 2 North Range 1 East, Willamette Meridian, more particularly described in Exhibit “A” attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference (hereafter the “Site”).
- B. All or a portion of the development on the Site shall be low-income housing to be owned and occupied by, or leased to, low-income persons with income no greater than eighty percent of the median family income adjusted for family size for Clark County, Washington, as reported and updated periodically by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. That portion of the development which is low-income housing is hereinafter referred to as the “Property” and identified in Exhibit A.

- C. For the purposes of this covenant, low-income housing is defined as housing for which the monthly housing expense is no greater than thirty percent of eighty percent of the median family income adjusted for family size for Clark County, Washington, as reported by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- D. City approved an impact fee waiver for the Property in accordance with Vancouver Municipal Code Section 20.915.080.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby covenanted, that during the affordability period:

- A. Grantor is the sole and exclusive owner or party of interest of the Property in Clark County, State of Washington, specifically described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference (hereafter the "Property").
- B. A copy of this covenant will be recorded with the Clark County, Washington Auditor.
- C. Development on the Property shall only be for the purpose of low-income housing.
- D. Grantor will provide housing to households where monthly the housing expense is no greater than 30 percent of 80 percent of the median-family income adjusted for family size for Clark County, Washington, as reported and adjusted by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- E. Grantor shall keep all records and make any reports relating to compliance with this Covenant that the Grantee may reasonably require for matters consistent with this Covenant, in accordance with applicable law.
- F. Grantor shall report to Grantee the following information annually for the duration of the COVENANT:
 - o Address and name of project
 - o Total number of units
 - o Individual unit data including:
 - Unit number
 - Number of bedrooms
 - Household size
 - Monthly rent payment
 - Utility allowance
 - Gross income for all household adults over 18 years of age
- G. Grantor will comply with all federal, state, and local laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age, sex marital status, race, creed, color, national origin, disability, or familial status. These requirements are specified in Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VI; Civil Rights Act of 1968, Title VIII; Executive Order 11063; Executive Order 11246; Architectural Barriers Act of 1968; and Americans with Disabilities Act.
- H. In the event that that the Property is converted to a use other than for low-income housing, the owner must pay the applicable impact fees in effect at the time of conversion.
- I. Affordability period- The subject housing will remain exclusively available to low-income households in perpetuity.
- J. This covenant and all of its provisions shall be binding upon WEST 6th VWG LLLP and any and all of its assigns and successors in interest into whose ownership the Property may pass, and any obligations made herein by WEST 6th VWG LLLP shall be enforceable against all of its assigns and successors in interest into whose ownership the Property may pass, and all of them, except as this covenant shall expressly provide to the contrary.

- K. Those signatories who sign on behalf of a corporation are expressly vested by the by-laws of the corporation which they purport to represent with the authority to bind such corporation in the manner in which such signatories have purported to bind their principal herein.
- L. In the event of any litigation arising hereunder, or with respect hereto, the law of the State of Washington will control and, and all signatories hereto, do hereby submit themselves personally to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Washington, and do hereby agree that any action arising hereunder may be instituted in Clark County Superior Court, if the parties are served, including anywhere not within the State of Washington, ay any method authorized by Washington law.
- M. If any breach of this Covenant is believed to have occurred, the Grantee may, after 30 days-notice to the Grantor, demand payment in full or in part of the impact fee exemption at the impact fee rate applicable at the time of the breach of Covenant. Grantee may institute and prosecute any proceeding at law or equity to recover all or a portion of the impact fee exemption as a result of the breach of this Covenant, or prevent, or enjoin any such violation or to compel specific performance by the Grantor of its obligations hereunder; provided that, the Grantor shall not be required by any provision herein to evict a residential tenant. No delay in enforcing the provisions hereof as to any breach or violation shall impair, damage, or waive the rights of the Grantee to enforce the provisions hereof or to obtain relief against or recover for the continuation or repetition of such breach or violations or any similar breach or violation hereof at any later time.
- N. This covenant shall remain in full force and effect until amended, modified, or terminated by the action of the City in proceedings appropriate for that purpose.

A copy of this covenant will be filed with the County Auditor.

EXHIBIT A:
SITE LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Tax ID #: 49360000

Description:

ALL of Lots 3, 4 and portions of Lots 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7, Block 38 and a portion of Lot 1 of Block 45, Town of Vancouver {commonly known as West Vancouver}, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Volume B of Plats, Page 40, records of Clark County, Washington, located in the Southwest quarter of Section 27, Township 2 North Range 1 East, Willamette Meridian described as follows:

COMMENCING at the Northeast corner of said Block 38, said Northeast corner being on the Southerly right of way line of West 6th Street;

THENCE North 87°39'52" West along the North line of said Block 38 and the Southerly right of way of West 6th Street, a distance of 3.75 feet to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING;

THENCE South 02°21'06" West, parallel with the East line of said Block 38, a distance of 75.46 Feet;

THENCE South 81°55'26" West 87.91 Feet;

THENCE South 36°00'24" West 85.42 Feet to the Northeasterly right of way of the Burlington Northern Railroad and a 3777.22 non-tangent radius curve to the right;

THENCE along said Northeasterly line and along said 3777.22 Foot radius curve to the right (the long chord of which, bears North 45°35'30" West 242.42 Feet), an arc distance of 242.46 Feet to a point on the Southerly right of way line of West 6th Street;

THENCE South 87°39'52" East along said Southerly right of way line of West 6th Street, 313.79 feet to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING.

To: Mayor and City Council
From: City Manager
Date: May 19, 2025

Subject

Approval of Claim Vouchers

Action Requested

Approve claim vouchers for May 19, 2025.

Attachments:

1. May 19, 2025 Claim Vouchers

VOUCHER APPROVAL

We, the undersigned council members of the City of Vancouver, Clark County, Washington, do hereby certify that the merchandise or services hereinafter specified have been received and that the vouchers listed below are approved for payment in the amount of:

\$ 10,118,062.06 this 19th day of May 2025.

MAYOR

Cyndi A. Turner

Digitally signed by Cyndi A.
Turner
Date: 2025.05.13 08:34:07 -07'00'

AUDITING OFFICER

COUNCILMEMBER

COUNCILMEMBER

DATE	INCLUSIVE CHECK NUMBERS	CHECK TOTAL
May 05, 2025 - May 11, 2025	Accounts Payable Checks (see attached)	\$ 5,861,584.54
May 05, 2025 - May 11, 2025	Hansen City Payments (see attached)	\$ 5,616.05
May 05, 2025 - May 11, 2025	Visa Refunds (see attached)	\$ 3,052.96
May 05, 2025 - May 11, 2025	Payroll Checks (see attached)	\$ 4,247,808.51
TOTAL		\$ 10,118,062.06

INVOICE PAYMENTS REPORT

<u>Payment Category</u>	<u>Payment Type</u>	<u>Transaction Reference</u>	<u>Payment Date</u>	<u>Payment Amount</u>	<u>Payment Payee</u>	<u>Memo</u>
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25163	5/7/2025	128.52	Abu Hamid, Helmi or Samira or Abraham	7005 NW 21ST AVE VANCOUVER, WA, 98665
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25164	5/7/2025	147.82	Anderson, Michelle	3909 NW WASHINGTON ST VANCOUVER, WA, 98660
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25165	5/7/2025	24.04	Baldwin, Stephanie	1910 SE 131ST AVE VANCOUVER, WA, 98683
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25166	5/7/2025	52.69	Benson, Kelly K	511 S LIESER RD VANCOUVER, WA, 98664
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25167	5/7/2025	18.78	Brown, Erica	1815 SE 183RD PL VANCOUVER, WA, 98683
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25168	5/7/2025	31.26	Crownover, Tillman or Tommie	9020 NE 158TH AVE VANCOUVER, WA, 98682
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25169	5/7/2025	196.46	Estate of Gwen Jones	3600 NE 53RD ST VANCOUVER, WA, 98661
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25170	5/7/2025	28.11	Estate of Nancy Fulton	15301 NE 77TH ST VANCOUVER, WA, 98682
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25171	5/7/2025	445.24	Jackson, Kathie	7572 DELAWARE LN VANCOUVER, WA, 98664
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25172	5/7/2025	46.70	Jeffrey Sutherland or Chi Phan	18118 SE 16TH ST VANCOUVER, WA, 98683
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25173	5/7/2025	50.33	Larson, Jerry	1915 H ST VANCOUVER, WA, 98663
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25174	5/7/2025	193.94	Matthew Chown or Erin Ingram	5203 NW LINCOLN AVE VANCOUVER, WA, 98663
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25175	5/7/2025	90.32	Mawhirter, Randy	2323 NE GENERAL ANDERSON AVE VANCOUVER, WA, 98661
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25176	5/7/2025	172.71	Motriuc, Taisa or Vladislav	5913 NE 38TH CT VANCOUVER, WA, 98661
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25177	5/7/2025	161.26	Olson, Douglas	7813 NE LOOWIT LOOP VANCOUVER, WA, 98662
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25178	5/7/2025	125.07	Real Property Manangement	4232 NE 34TH WAY VANCOUVER, WA, 98661
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25179	5/7/2025	94.02	Reuss, Thomas F	17303 SE 17TH WAY VANCOUVER, WA, 98683
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25180	5/7/2025	24.57	Stoltenberg, Ronald	518 SE 102ND AVE VANCOUVER, WA, 98664
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25181	5/7/2025	86.72	Summerfield Homes LLC	15619 NE 1ST CIR VANCOUVER, WA, 98684
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25182	5/7/2025	1,273.47	The Quad Apartments	1613 BRANDT RD VANCOUVER, WA, 98661
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25183	5/7/2025	854.91	The Quad Apartments	1613 BRANDT RD VANCOUVER, WA, 98661
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25184	5/7/2025	55.82	Valvo, Jeffrey or Allyson	7511 NE 121ST CT VANCOUVER, WA, 98682
Ad Hoc Payment	Check	25185	5/7/2025	55.78	Zirkle, Glenn	2323 NE GENERAL ANDERSON AVE VANCOUVER, WA, 98661
Miscellaneous Payment	Check	25186	5/7/2025	10.00	Bri Arriola	Soccer League Adjustment Refund
Miscellaneous Payment	Check	25187	5/7/2025	139.00	CBRE GWS LLC	Refund duplicate payments
Miscellaneous Payment	Check	25188	5/7/2025	144.00	Dawna Allison	Community Garden Refund
Miscellaneous Payment	Check	25189	5/7/2025	69.93	JOHNSON BIXBY	Refund parking permit #COV14350, COV14349 and COV14357. No longer needed.
Miscellaneous Payment	Check	25190	5/7/2025	100.00	Lincoln Neighborhood Association	2025 Resource Conservation Challenge
Miscellaneous Payment	Check	25191	5/7/2025	97.00	NADIA ESCHRIGHT	Refund for membership computer error
Miscellaneous Payment	Check	25192	5/7/2025	40.64	Professional Credit Service	Refund invoice 51499 negative trust. Citations 7205900946 and 7205601341 - MEISNER, AALIYAH.
Miscellaneous Payment	Check	25193	5/7/2025	84.00	Scott Jones Insurance Services	Refund duplicate payment to INV#77065195
Miscellaneous Payment	Check	25194	5/7/2025	84.00	Scott Jones Insurance Services	Refund duplicate payment to INV#77065195

*Please contact Procurement Services if you would like to review the justification for EMERGENCY procurement.

INVOICE PAYMENTS REPORT

<u>Payment Category</u>	<u>Payment Type</u>	<u>Transaction Reference</u>	<u>Payment Date</u>	<u>Payment Amount</u>	<u>Payment Payee</u>	<u>Memo</u>
Miscellaneous Payment	Check	25195	5/7/2025	10.00	Stephanie Fraiser	Soccer League Adjustment Refund
Supplier Payment	Check	25196	5/7/2025	1,721.25	Afghan Associates Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25197	5/7/2025	798.00	Allegheny Answering Services	
Supplier Payment	Check	25198	5/7/2025	9,837.81	AT & T Mobility National Accounts LLC - Remit-To: AT & T Mobility	
Supplier Payment	Check	25199	5/7/2025	4,389.50	BSK Associates - Remit-To: Supplier BSK Associates	
Supplier Payment	Check	25200	5/7/2025	61,798.84	Bud Clary Chevrolet, Cadillac Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25201	5/7/2025	5,070.00	Cascade Inn	
Supplier Payment	Check	25202	5/7/2025	41,207.26	Century West Engineering Corp	
Supplier Payment	Check	25203	5/7/2025	900.00	Clark County Fire District 5	
Supplier Payment	Check	25204	5/7/2025	1,925.05	Clark County - Remit-To: Clark County - Treasurer Seattle	
Supplier Payment	Check	25205	5/7/2025	38,738.30	Clark County - Remit-To: Clark County - Treasurer Vancouver	
Supplier Payment	Check	25206	5/7/2025	102,767.54	Clary Longview LLC	
Supplier Payment	Check	25207	5/7/2025	15,672.14	Columbia Resource Company	
Supplier Payment	Check	25208	5/7/2025	2,467.24	Comcast Holdings Corporation - Remit-To: Comcast Business - City of Industry	
Supplier Payment	Check	25209	5/7/2025	4,464.31	Cubic ITS, Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25210	5/7/2025	276.10	Dex Media West	
Supplier Payment	Check	25211	5/7/2025	9,726.96	Esix Sportswear	
Supplier Payment	Check	25212	5/7/2025	20,770.42	Friends of Trees	
Supplier Payment	Check	25213	5/7/2025	4,424.21	General Networks Corp	
Supplier Payment	Check	25214	5/7/2025	5,734.01	General Pacific Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25215	5/7/2025	2,874.98	Genuine Parts Company - Remit-To: NAPA - Vancouver	
Supplier Payment	Check	25216	5/7/2025	3,685.00	Global Transportation Engineering Corporation	
Supplier Payment	Check	25217	5/7/2025	288.28	Harold LeMay Enterprises	
Supplier Payment	Check	25218	5/7/2025	11,867.25	H D Fowler Company Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25219	5/7/2025	10,304.31	HMI Oregon	
Supplier Payment	Check	25220	5/7/2025	20.00	HM Pacific Northwest, Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25221	5/7/2025	4,408.87	Howmedica Osteonics Corp	
Supplier Payment	Check	25222	5/7/2025	85.00	Iverson-Miller Audio Productions, LLC	
Supplier Payment	Check	25223	5/7/2025	2,600.00	Jack M Litman Phd	
Supplier Payment	Check	25224	5/7/2025	1,468.80	Jamestown Networks	
Supplier Payment	Check	25225	5/7/2025	2,592.00	Keller Rohrbach LLP	
Supplier Payment	Check	25226	5/7/2025	2,949.66	Kittelson & Associates Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25227	5/7/2025	15,045.12	L.N. Curtis & Sons	
Supplier Payment	Check	25228	5/7/2025	8,773.91	Lakeside Industries Inc - Remit-To: Lakeside - LB Seattle	
Supplier Payment	Check	25229	5/7/2025	255.14	Lakeyland Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25230	5/7/2025	1,120.56	Langley's Ace Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25231	5/7/2025	820.69	Lewis River Doors, Inc.	
Supplier Payment	Check	25232	5/7/2025	6,145.17	Mallory Safety & Supply LLC	
Supplier Payment	Check	25233	5/7/2025	369.92	Mark IV Enterprises Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25234	5/7/2025	716.25	Maul Foster & Alongi Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25235	5/7/2025	2,485.20	McFarlanes Bark Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25236	5/7/2025	1,575.00	Message Gears LLC	
Supplier Payment	Check	25237	5/7/2025	1,535.20	Municipal Emergency Services Inc - Remit-To: Municipal Emergency Services - Chicago	
Supplier Payment	Check	25238	5/7/2025	1,431.80	Naegeli Reporting Corporation	

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INVOICE PAYMENTS REPORT

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Supplier Payment	Check	25239	5/7/2025	121,238.22	Northeast Electric LLC	
Supplier Payment	Check	25240	5/7/2025	110.00	Northwest Drug-Safe LLC	
Supplier Payment	Check	25241	5/7/2025	6,061.16	Northwest Natural Gas Company - Remit-To: NW Natural - Portland	
Supplier Payment	Check	25242	5/7/2025	1,903.59	One Call Concepts Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25243	5/7/2025	400.00	Oregon Transportation Forum	
Supplier Payment	Check	25244	5/7/2025	57,372.33	OSW Equipment & Repair, LLC	
Supplier Payment	Check	25245	5/7/2025	5,295.68	Performance Systems Integration, LLC - Remit-To: Performance Systems Integration, LLC	
Supplier Payment	Check	25246	5/7/2025	150,000.00	PlanIT Geo, Inc.	
Supplier Payment	Check	25247	5/7/2025	280.00	Porter W Yett Company	
Supplier Payment	Check	25248	5/7/2025	21,637.06	PPC Solutions Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25249	5/7/2025	15.27	Qwest Corporation - Remit-To: CenturyLink - Phoenix	
Supplier Payment	Check	25250	5/7/2025	6,541.72	Qwest Corporation - Remit-To: Qwest Corp- Seattle	
Supplier Payment	Check	25251	5/7/2025	8,682.91	Ready Rebound, Inc.	
Supplier Payment	Check	25252	5/7/2025	412.50	Renee Dee Stoll	
Supplier Payment	Check	25253	5/7/2025	529.63	Resolute Documentation Services	
Supplier Payment	Check	25254	5/7/2025	4,701.79	S&B Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25255	5/7/2025	61,081.47	Salt Distributors Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25256	5/7/2025	8,600.00	Samon Creek Koelsch Operations LLC	
Supplier Payment	Check	25257	5/7/2025	34,463.00	Saul Hernandez	
Supplier Payment	Check	25258	5/7/2025	3,262.07	SeaWestern Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25259	5/7/2025	397.02	Shrums Pest Control	
Supplier Payment	Check	25260	5/7/2025	10,360.00	SiteCrafting Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25261	5/7/2025	123.17	Software House International SHI - Remit-To: SHI - Dallas	
Supplier Payment	Check	25262	5/7/2025	417.20	State of Washington Department of Transportation - Remit-To: WADOT - 11018 NE 51st Cir.	
Supplier Payment	Check	25263	5/7/2025	31,679.18	State of Washington Department of Transportation - Remit-To: WADOT - PO Box 47305	
Supplier Payment	Check	25264	5/7/2025	1,461.00	State of Washington State Patrol	
Supplier Payment	Check	25265	5/7/2025	7.36	Stericycle Inc - Remit-To: Shred-It	
Supplier Payment	Check	25266	5/7/2025	106.62	Stericycle Inc - Remit-To: Shred-It	
Supplier Payment	Check	25267	5/7/2025	65.75	Stericycle Inc - Remit-To: Shred-It	
Supplier Payment	Check	25268	5/7/2025	76.11	Stericycle Inc - Remit-To: Shred-It	
Supplier Payment	Check	25269	5/7/2025	18,375.00	Tamarack Management LLC	
Supplier Payment	Check	25270	5/7/2025	265.00	T-Mobile	
Supplier Payment	Check	25271	5/7/2025	108.70	Towing & Recovering Services Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25272	5/7/2025	190.23	Transunion Risk & Alternative Data Solutions Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25273	5/7/2025	2,183.88	Triple J Enterprises	
Supplier Payment	Check	25274	5/7/2025	1,717.95	UKG Kronos Systems LLC - Remit-To: Atlanta	
Supplier Payment	Check	25275	5/7/2025	10,000.00	United States Postal Service - Remit-To: USPS - First Data/Remitco - 52940558	
Supplier Payment	Check	25276	5/7/2025	7,525.00	US Affordable Health LLC	
Supplier Payment	Check	25277	5/7/2025	5,000.00	Vancouver Arena	

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INVOICE PAYMENTS REPORT

<u>Payment Category</u>	<u>Payment Type</u>	<u>Transaction Reference</u>	<u>Payment Date</u>	<u>Payment Amount</u>	<u>Payment Payee</u>	<u>Memo</u>
Supplier Payment	Check	25278	5/7/2025	2,707.10	Veritext LLC - Remit-To: Veritext LLC	
Supplier Payment	Check	25279	5/7/2025	110.19	Vestis Group, Inc - Remit-To: Vestis - Pasadena	
Supplier Payment	Check	25280	5/7/2025	10,502.80	West Yost & Associates Inc.	
Supplier Payment	Check	25281	5/7/2025	4,674.40	Wex Bank	
Supplier Payment	Check	25282	5/7/2025	5,418.45	Yakima County	
Supplier Payment	Check	25283	5/7/2025	2,282.68	Zayo Group Holding Inc - Remit-To: Zayo Group Holding Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25284	5/9/2025	6,023.11	Aflac	
Supplier Payment	Check	25285	5/9/2025	6,273.28	AFSCME Local #307	
Supplier Payment	Check	25286	5/9/2025	334.00	California State Disbursement Unit	
Supplier Payment	Check	25287	5/9/2025	1,033.50	Chapter 13 - Trustee	
Supplier Payment	Check	25288	5/9/2025	491.00	Hawaii SDU	
Supplier Payment	Check	25289	5/9/2025	780.65	IAM Local #1374	
Supplier Payment	Check	25290	5/9/2025	8,983.04	Life Insurance Company of North America	
Supplier Payment	Check	25291	5/9/2025	1,300.00	MFS Service Center Inc	
Supplier Payment	Check	25292	5/9/2025	4,722.72	OPEIU Local #11	
Supplier Payment	Check	25293	5/9/2025	851.00	Teamsters Local #58	
Supplier Payment	Check	25294	5/9/2025	245.00	UA Local #290	
Supplier Payment	Check	25295	5/9/2025	3,269.70	Western Conference of Teamsters	
Supplier Payment	Check	25296	5/9/2025	1,515.24	Western Metal Industry Pension Plan	
			Check	1,065,409.58		
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295943	5/8/2025	301.00	Demetrius Brooks	Travel Advance
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295944	5/8/2025	738.00	Justin Thomas	Travel Advance
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295945	5/8/2025	738.00	Nick Copley	Travel Advance
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295946	5/8/2025	738.00	Elena Miron	Travel Advance
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295947	5/8/2025	301.00	Frank Dick	Travel Advance
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295948	5/8/2025	301.00	Stacey Allington	Travel Advance
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295949	5/8/2025	301.00	Jen Thomas	Travel Advance
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295950	5/8/2025	278.00	David Perlick	Travel Advance
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295951	5/8/2025	301.00	Jana Wilson	Travel Advance
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295952	5/8/2025	343.50	Mark Ghezzi	Travel Advance
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295953	5/8/2025	150.00	Tony Fletcher	Travel Advance
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295954	5/8/2025	150.00	Robb Milano	Travel Advance
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295955	5/8/2025	233.87	Chris Kimberling	Employee Reimbursement
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295956	5/8/2025	301.00	Tracy Walther	Travel Advance
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295957	5/8/2025	60.45	Paul Harris	Employee Reimbursement
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295958	5/8/2025	301.00	Kyle Privett	Travel Advance
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295959	5/8/2025	206.99	Nick Imbery	Employee Reimbursement
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295960	5/8/2025	301.00	Ashley del Campo	Travel Advance
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295961	5/8/2025	280.00	Nena Cook	Employee Reimbursement
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295962	5/8/2025	301.00	Elvira Juarez	Travel Advance
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295963	5/8/2025	258.72	DJ Strueby	Employee Reimbursement
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295964	5/8/2025	301.00	Cindy Price	Travel Advance
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295965	5/8/2025	250.00	Christopher Scott	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295966	5/8/2025	35.00	Lupe Pelayo	Employee Reimbursement
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295967	5/8/2025	156.00	Jenn Amadeo	Travel Advance
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295968	5/8/2025	38.05	Chad Eiken	Employee Reimbursement
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295969	5/8/2025	351.00	Ryan Starbuck	Travel Advance
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295970	5/8/2025	16.00	Jana Wilson	Employee Reimbursement
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295971	5/8/2025	156.00	Ashley Boal	Travel Advance
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295972	5/8/2025	91.47	Jordan Macfarlane	Employee Reimbursement
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295973	5/8/2025	278.00	Sean Suarez	Travel Advance
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295974	5/8/2025	270.00	Branden Werry	Employee Reimbursement
Cash Advance Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295975	5/8/2025	738.00	Jamie Haske	Travel Advance
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295976	5/8/2025	16.00	Karen Krohling	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295977	5/8/2025	198.85	James Allen	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295978	5/8/2025	210.00	Magaiva Herman	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295979	5/8/2025	270.00	Nathan Prigmore	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295980	5/8/2025	250.00	Matthew Hoesly	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295981	5/8/2025	347.95	Erica Nilsen	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295982	5/8/2025	151.33	Garrett Klein	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295983	5/8/2025	49.17	James Demmon	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295984	5/8/2025	181.41	Joseph Muirhead	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295985	5/8/2025	211.96	Joseph Stewart	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295986	5/8/2025	258.72	Zach Day	Employee Reimbursement

*Please contact Procurement Services if you would like to review the justification for EMERGENCY procurement.

INVOICE PAYMENTS REPORT

<u>Payment Category</u>	<u>Payment Type</u>	<u>Transaction Reference</u>	<u>Payment Date</u>	<u>Payment Amount</u>	<u>Payment Payee</u>	<u>Memo</u>
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295987	5/8/2025	107.50	Michael Maini	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295988	5/8/2025	58.99	Katherine Grose	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295989	5/8/2025	504.84	Cary Driskell	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295990	5/8/2025	369.95	Wayne Folkers	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295991	5/8/2025	7.25	Saray Farias-Pulido	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295992	5/8/2025	220.02	Christopher Nerton	Employee Reimbursement
Expense Payment	Direct Deposit	EFT-00295993	5/8/2025	688.87	Ryan Miles	Employee Reimbursement
			Direct Deposit	13,667.86		
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00295994	5/8/2025	60.93	Lasko Printing Specialties Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00295995	5/8/2025	1,285.19	Bound Tree Medical LLC	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00295996	5/8/2025	9,250.00	Morgan Stanley Capital Managment LLC	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00295997	5/8/2025	663.08	Loma Media Partners	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00295998	5/8/2025	34,549.06	Wilson Oil Inc. - Remit-To: Wilson Oil Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00295999	5/8/2025	1,448,702.71	Nutter Corporation	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296000	5/8/2025	6,647.36	Del Sol Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296001	5/8/2025	10,634.42	Northwest Staffing Resources Inc - Remit-To: Northwest Staffing Resources	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296002	5/8/2025	3,675.00	BCE Engineers, Inc.	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296003	5/8/2025	9,604.69	Fire Systems West	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296004	5/8/2025	10,725.19	Guy Edward Lennon	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296005	5/8/2025	30,202.20	NW Tel, LLC	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296006	5/8/2025	755,560.97	Golf Construction LLC	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296007	5/8/2025	23,636.24	FuelCare Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296008	5/8/2025	9,550.83	Waxie's Enterprises Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296009	5/8/2025	2,718.91	RELX Inc. - Remit-To: LexisNexis - Chicago	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296010	5/8/2025	1,324.53	Continuant, Inc.	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296011	5/8/2025	12,719.50	Mead and Hunt Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296012	5/8/2025	7,210.88	Tapani Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296013	5/8/2025	7,619.00	MacKay Sposito Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296014	5/8/2025	956.25	Otak Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296015	5/8/2025	5,000.00	The Arts Centered	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296016	5/8/2025	2,065.00	Brad Piesch Aggressive Enterprises, Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296017	5/8/2025	7,500.00	Arbutus Consulting LLC	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296018	5/8/2025	1,060.50	Allegiance Benefit Plan Management Inc (Pension and Flex).	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296019	5/8/2025	87,666.55	McClure and Sons Inc.	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296020	5/8/2025	3,391.20	Retail Lockbox Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296021	5/8/2025	3,921.75	Fehr & Peers	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296022	5/8/2025	2,140.00	The Loudenback Corporation	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296023	5/8/2025	204.92	Linguava Interpreters Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296024	5/8/2025	61,756.24	Live Love Outreach	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296025	5/8/2025	15,544.26	Work Right NW	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296026	5/8/2025	83,110.00	Sazan Group, Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296027	5/8/2025	1,620.00	The EBOA	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296028	5/8/2025	11,625.00	Andrews Terry Jeffers LLP	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296029	5/8/2025	23,394.75	Nelson Nygaard Consulting Associates Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296030	5/8/2025	581.95	Kennedy Jenks Consultants, Inc.	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296031	5/8/2025	4,524.23	Consolidated Supply Co	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296032	5/8/2025	59,057.65	YWCA Clark County	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296033	5/8/2025	1,008.00	Rotschy Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296034	5/8/2025	2,845.58	Praxair Distribution Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296035	5/8/2025	47,738.51	Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296036	5/8/2025	547.85	Harry's Key Service Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296037	5/8/2025	2,134.44	Jacobs Engineering Group Inc	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296038	5/8/2025	908.47	Branlo Enterprises, LLC	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296039	5/8/2025	25,616.00	Clark EMS Physicians, LLC	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00296040	5/8/2025	49,630.00	United Site Services of Nevada, Inc.	

*Please contact Procurement Services if you would like to review the justification for EMERGENCY procurement.

INVOICE PAYMENTS REPORT

<u>Payment Category</u>	<u>Payment Type</u>	<u>Transaction Reference</u>	<u>Payment Date</u>	<u>Payment Amount</u>	<u>Payment Payee</u>	<u>Memo</u>
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00297949	5/9/2025	1,401.14	Vancouver Command Guild	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00297950	5/9/2025	134.95	Legal Shield	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00297951	5/9/2025	12,128.68	Vancouver Police Officer Guild	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00297952	5/9/2025	20,645.41	Allegiance Benefit Plan Management Inc (COBRA)	
Supplier Payment	EFT	EFT-00297953	5/9/2025	33,816.24	IAFF Local #452	
			EFT	2,960,016.21		
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/1/2025	58,561.39	JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/2/2025	20,000.00	Ticor Title Company of Oregon	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/5/2025	211,282.34	Western States Health & Welfare Trust	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/5/2025	643,991.03	Vancouver Firefighters Union Health & Welfare Trust	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/5/2025	6,602.58	VSP Vision Care Inc	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/5/2025	52,180.26	Liberty Mutual Group Inc.	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/7/2025	127.97	Allegiance Benefit Plan Management Inc (COBRA) - Remit-To: COBRA	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/9/2025	23,990.84	Western States Health & Welfare Trust	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/9/2025	34,271.47	Vancouver Firefighters Union Health & Welfare Trust	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/9/2025	347,398.69	International City Management Association Retirement Corporation	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/9/2025	586.00	Oregon SDU	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/9/2025	6,668.16	Washington SDU	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/9/2025	28,750.00	Washington State Firefighters	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/9/2025	70,562.50	State of Washington Department of Retirement Systems (DRS)	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/9/2025	18,858.90	Washington Dental Service	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/9/2025	217,683.66	Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oregon	
Supplier Payment	Manual Wire		5/9/2025	80,975.10	Liberty Mutual Group Inc.	
			Manual Wire	1,822,490.89		
			Checks	1,065,409.58		
			Direct Deposit	13,667.86		
			EFT	2,960,016.21		
			5/12/2025	5,616.05	City Payments	Posted 05-05-25 to 05-11-25
			Hansen Total	5,616.05		
			5/12/2025	2,508.96	Miscellaneous	Parks Class Refunds FCC 05-05-25 to 05-11-25
			5/12/2025	544.00	Miscellaneous	Parks Class Refunds MCC 05-05-25 to 05-11-25
			VISA Total	3,052.96		
			Payroll Total	4,247,808.51		
			GRAND TOTAL	10,118,062.06		

City of Vancouver
Payroll Council Report
May 05, 2025 - May 11, 2025

Check No.	Date	Explanation	Amount
2783 - 2798	05/09/25	May 09 Payroll	\$ 7,059.15
296041 - 297948	05/09/25	May 09 Direct Deposits	\$ 4,240,749.36

\$ 4,247,808.51

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Parking Code for the City of Vancouver under Vancouver Municipal Code (VMC) Titles 19 and 9; amending VMC sections 19.040.070 relating to On-Street Permits; 19.13.010 relating to payment transferability; 19.11.030 relating to parking meter fees designated; 9.92.10 relating to Carpool permit eligibility; 9.92.020 relating to Carpool permit parking hours; 9.92.040 relating to Carpool Permit rate; providing for severability; and setting an immediate effective date.

Staff Report: 100-25

To: Mayor and City Council
From: City Manager
Date: May 19, 2025

Subject

Amendment to Vancouver Municipal Parking Code related Downtown Access Mobility and Parking Plan

Key Points

- Downtown Access, Mobility and Parking Plan (Plan) was adopted by City Council on February 24, 2025.
- The Plan emphasizes increased access and mobility for downtown residents, visitors and employees through improved turnover of public parking on all days and enhanced alternate commute options.
- Initial implementation of the Plan requires immediate VMC modifications to allow for priority parking initiatives to proceed.
- Proposed code modifications include changes to: 1) on-street permit eligibility and fees, 2) hourly rates, 3) payment transferability, 4) weekend enforcement, and 5) carpool requirements and monthly fees.

Strategic Plan Alignment

Transportation and Mobility – a safe, future-ready and convenient transportation system

Present Situation

City Council approved the Downtown Access and Mobility plan on February 24, 2025. The approved plan emphasizes strategic pricing practices to improve on-street parking supply, turnover and utilization. Implementation of the Downtown Access and Mobility Plan will occur in phases and will require multiple code changes. The first phase of implementation is underway and requires code modifications to Chapters 9 and 19 of the Vancouver Municipal Code (VMC).

The following code modifications are proposed for adoption:

- **9.92.010 -Carpool parking permit eligibility** – This change reduces the required number of days to qualify for a carpool permit from 4 days to 2 days to encourage more carpooling.
- **9.92.020- Carpool parking hours** – This modification changes the eligible hours and days for carpool permit holders from 7am to 9am to 8am to 11am, and from Mon-Fri to all seven days.

This change aligns carpool hours with existing usage of carpool spaces.

- **9.92.040- Carpool parking rate** - This change increases the carpool permit rate cap from \$30 for two months, to a maximum of \$100 per month. An immediate increase is necessary to reflect market and add seven day a week parking. Permit prices will still be discounted from standard monthly permits.
- **19.04.070 - On-street permits** – This change removes the requirement for downtown employment to purchase an on-street permit. This change will allow residents and visitors to purchase a downtown on-street permit, in addition to employees, to expand options for other downtown stakeholders.
- **19.04.070- Permit fees**- This change increases the \$100 cap for on-street monthly permits to \$200 per month. Current permit rate for on-street rate is already at maximum and an immediate increase is necessary to meet market demand and compensate for seven day a week parking.
- **19.11.030- Parking meter fees** – This change removes Saturday and Sunday from exemption for paid on-street parking to better regulate weekend parking.
- **19.11.030- Parking meter fees** – This change increases maximum hourly rate of \$2.50 to \$3.50 to allow for parking rate to move with market demand. Waterfront is currently at maximum and more flexible pricing is needed to improve turnover.
- **19.13.010-Transferability of payment** - This change eliminates transferability of payment to different blocks to encourage a “park once” approach rather than driving within downtown.

Advantage(s)

1. Alignment with Downtown Access, Mobility and Parking Plan, Transportation Systems Plan and Climate Action initiatives.
2. Enhanced incentives for alternate commute and mobility options downtown, including walking and carpooling.
3. Greater flexibility in setting public parking rates to meet changing demand and occupancy downtown.
4. Enhanced tools to manage weekend parking to maintain access for downtown visitors and residents.
5. Increased options for downtown parking in addition to hourly on-street parking.

Challenge(s)

Communicating changes in pricing and policies to downtown stakeholders and addressing any concerns. Stakeholder engagement and communications are already underway on these changes.

Budget Impact

This request is projected to add revenue to Parking Fund through increases in fees and enforcement days. Seven day a week paid parking is projected to increase parking revenue by \$750,000 in 2026. The cost to enforce seven day a week paid parking is already included in the approved 2025 budget for Parking Services. Further budget and staff evaluation will occur after implementation of seven day a week paid parking.

Prior Council Review

- Adoption of Downtown Access, Mobility and Parking Plan on 2/24/2025.
- Workshop - Downtown Access, Mobility and Parking Plan, 1/13/25.
- Workshop - Downtown Parking Existing Conditions Report, 9/9/2024.

- Consent - Approval of consent item, 5/12/2024.

Action Requested

On Monday, May 12, 2025, upon second reading and a public hearing, approve the ordinance, amending the Vancouver Municipal Parking Code to implement the Downtown Access Mobility and Parking Plan.

Staff Contact

Gabe Montez, Parking District Manager, Gabriel.Montez@cityofvancouver.us

Attachments:

1. Presentation
2. Ordinance



Downtown Parking VMC Changes

Gabriel Montez

Parking District Manager

Economic Prosperity & Housing

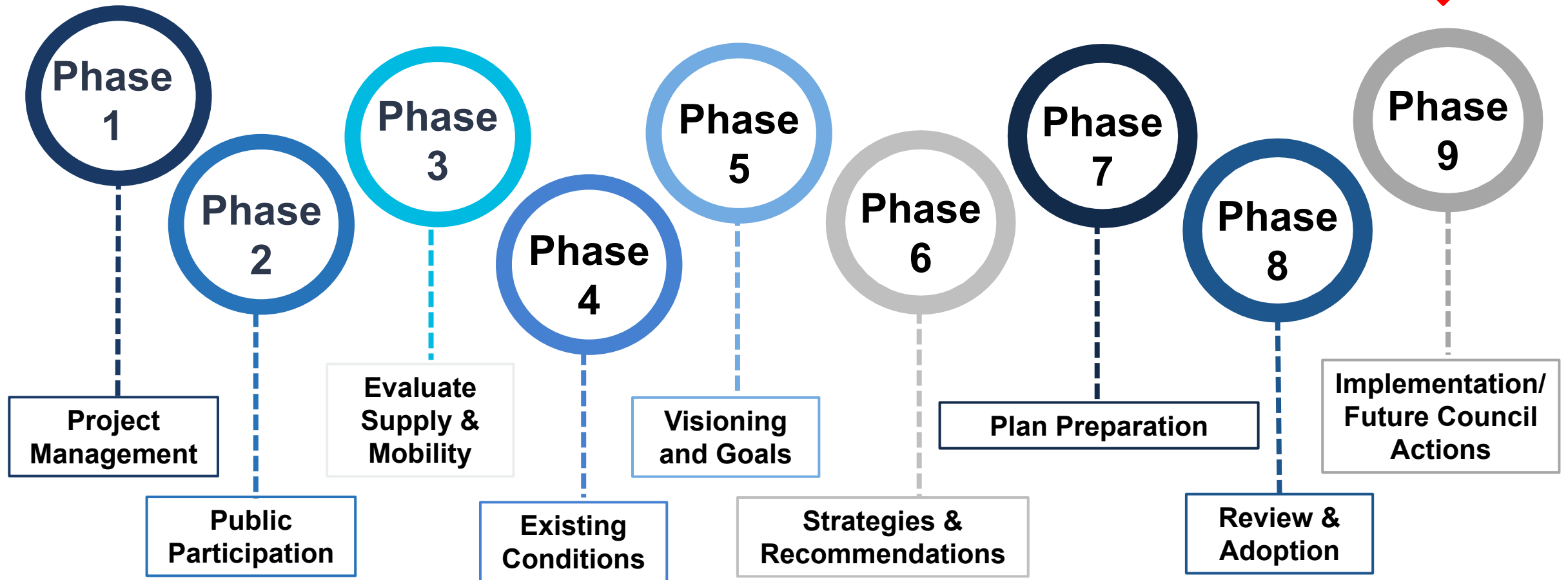
May 19, 2025

Agenda

- Parking Plan Implementation
- Strategic Context
- Proposed VMC Changes
- Future Changes
- Requested Action
- Questions



Downtown Parking Plan Implementation



Three Plan Pillars

1. Adopt Pricing Practices to Improve On-Street Parking Supply Utilization
2. Expand Public Parking Supply through Shared Parking Arrangements
3. Enhance Car-Free Options for Getting to and Around Downtown



Pillar 1: Adopt New Pricing Practices to Improve Utilization of On-Street Parking Supply

- 7-Day enforcement: 8 am – 6 pm
- Simplify on-Street parking with High-Demand & Low-Demand Areas
- Evaluate tier-based pricing
- Enhance technology options for payments and enforcement
- Provide options for low-wage hourly employee
- Improve ADA access and parking options
- Extend Buffer Zones between residential & commercial areas
- Evaluate existing on-street permits



Carpool Parking

Encourage carpooling by enhancing value of on-street permits

9.92.010 - Carpool parking permit eligibility

Reduction in number of days to qualify for a carpool permit from 4 days to 2 days.

9.92.020 - Carpool parking hours

Modification of eligible hours and days for carpool permit holders from 7am to 9am to 8am to 11am, and from Mon-Fri to all seven days.

9.92.040 - Carpool parking rate

Increase maximum fee from \$30 for two months to \$100 per month on monthly carpool permit fee.



On-Street Permits

Expand on-street parking options by updating permit requirements

19.04.070 - On-street permits

Removal of downtown employment requirement to purchase an on-street permit.

19.04.070 - Permit fees

Increase in maximum monthly permit fee from \$100 to \$200 per month.



Parking Meter Fees

Improve utilization of on-street parking through pricing and enforcement

19.11.030 - Parking Meter Fees

Removal of Saturday and Sunday exemption for paid on-street parking to regulate weekend parking.

19.11.030 - Parking Meter Fees

Increase maximum hourly rate of \$2.50 to \$3.50 to allow for parking rate to move with market demand. Waterfront is currently at maximum and more flexible pricing is needed to improve turnover.

19.13.010 -Transferability of Payment

Elimination of transferability of payment to different blocks to encourage a “park once” approach rather than driving within downtown.



Upcoming Code Changes

- Off street parking regulations
- Shared parking requirements
- Residential parking areas



Requested Action

Advance the ordinance amending VMC on first reading, setting a date for second reading and public hearing on May 19, 2025.



Questions?



05/12/2025 (Date of First Reading)
05/19/2025 (Date of Public Hearing)

ORDINANCE NO. M- [Ordinance Number]

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Parking Code for the City of Vancouver under Vancouver Municipal Code (VMC) Titles 19 and 9; amending VMC sections 19.040.070 relating to On-Street Permits; 19.13.010 relating to payment transferability; 19.11.030 relating to parking meter fees designated; 9.92.10 relating to Carpool permit eligibility; 9.92.020 relating to Carpool permit parking hours; 9.92.040 relating to Carpool Permit rate; providing for severability; and setting an immediate effective date.

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver downtown parking ordinances date back to 1948; and

WHEREAS, in early 2024 the City of Vancouver Parking Services department initiated a occupancy and existing conditions study as a part of the City's effort to develop a Downtown Access and Mobility Plan; and

WHEREAS, between January of 2024 and January of 2025 multiple community stakeholder engagements were included in the existing conditions and community outreach phases of the Downtown Access and Mobility Plan; and

WHEREAS, on September 9, 2024, the Vancouver City Council reviewed weekend occupancy and existing conditions in a September 9th, 2024 Workshop, and

WHEREAS, on January 13, 2025 Vancouver City Council reviewed proposed changes to weekend parking regulations, hours of payments, permit reforms and pricing in the Downtown Access and Mobility Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Parking Advisory Committee and City Center Redevelopment Authority has reviewed and approved the proposed changes to weekend parking regulations; and

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2025 City Council adopted the new Downtown Access and Mobility Plan, which included the proposed changes to weekend parking regulations; and

WHEREAS, on May 7, 2025 the Parking Advisory Committee reviewed and approved the changes to the Vancouver Municipal Code (VMC) proposed by this ordinance.

WHEREAS, City Council adopts and incorporates by reference Staff Report SR_____and the Downtown Access and Mobility Plan and finds that it is in the public interest to amend VMC 19.040.070, 19.13.010, 19.11.030, 9.92.010,9.92.020 and 9.92.040 to implement actions defined in the Downtown Access and Mobility Plan.

WHEREAS, with proper notice to the public, the Vancouver City Council conducted a first reading of the proposed ordinance on May 12, 2025 and a public hearing concerning the ordinance and proposed code changes on May 19, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF VANCOUVER:

SECTION 1. Legislative Findings. The recitals set forth above are adopted as the legislative findings of the City Council of the City of Vancouver in support of adoption of this ordinance.

SECTION 2. Vancouver Municipal Code Section 19.04.070 entitled “Permits – Issuance, display and fee” as codified by Ordinance Ord. M-4088 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 19.04.070-Permits- Issuance, Display and fee

The parking permits provided for in section 19.10.050 shall be issued by the department of finance upon application of anyone providing satisfactory evidence that he or she works in the central city area, and upon payment in advance of a fee hereby set at no more than ~~one hundred dollars (\$100.00)~~ two hundred dollars (\$200) per month for long-term permits. This maximum fee may be reduced administratively by the city manager or his/her designee pursuant to the guidelines set forth in section 19.11.040. The city manager, or his/her designee, shall report to the city council from time to time as requested by the city council, but in any event, shall report at least once every year regarding these parking rates. Such person shall be issued a parking permit in a form to be prepared by the department of finance, which permit shall be displayed in or on his or her vehicle so as to be readily observable by parking control officers, and then such vehicle can be parked at any legal parking space which is marked as being for parking by permit only. (Ord. M-4088 §1, 2014)

SECTION 3. Vancouver Municipal Code Section 19.13.010 entitled “Compliance required-Pay stations” as codified by Ordinance Ord. M-4088 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 19.13.010-Complainace required-Pay stations

A. *Compliance with Instructions and Limitations of Use.* Every person who parks a vehicle in an area regulated by a parking pay station is required to comply with the instructions for use, including, but not limited to, applicable time limits and proper proof and display of payment.

~~B. *Transferability.* An individual may use a valid or unexpired receipt or proof of payment from a parking pay station to park in any parking space, regulated by a parking meter, without additional payment to the meter, so long as the individual complies with the time limits for parking applicable to the parking space and displays proof of payment in the required manner.~~

~~C.~~B. *Permits.* Any permit that exempts an individual from paying parking meter fees shall also exempt that individual from the payments required by parking pay stations, provided that the holder of any authorized permit complies with the permit's conditions.

SECTION 4. Vancouver Municipal Code Section 19.11.030 entitled "Parking meter fees designated" as codified by Ordinance Ord. M-4088 and most recently amended by Ordinance Ord. M-4365 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 19.11.030 - Parking meter fees designated

A. Between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. daily ~~except Saturdays and Sundays, and also~~ except days being celebrated as any city-recognized holiday, the operator of a vehicle, upon entering any metered parking space, shall immediately deposit, in the proper adjacent parking meter, coins totaling no more than ~~\$2.50~~ \$3.50 per hour as shown on the meter, and shall put the meter in operation. (In some short-term meters a portion of the hour is available free by turning

the dial of the meter.) If the vehicle remains parked in the parking space beyond the legal parking time which is designated by a sign or signal on the parking meter, such vehicle shall be considered as parked overtime. In zones where parking is limited to 15 minutes or less per use, the meter fee shall be no more than \$0.70 per quarter hour. In zones where parking is limited to 30 minutes or less per use, the meter fee shall be no more than \$1.30 per half hour. In zones where parking is limited to two hours or less per use, the meter fee shall be no more than ~~\$2.50~~ \$3.50 per hour. In zones where parking is permitted for longer than two hours per use, the meter fee shall be no more than ~~\$2.50~~ \$3.50 per hour.

The parking meter fee may be reduced administratively by the city manager or his/her designee in accordance with the provisions of VMC [19.11.040](#). The city manager, or his/her designee, shall report to the city council from time to time as requested by the city council, but in any event, shall report at least once every year regarding these parking rates.

B. The department of public works shall cause for there to be installed on each parking meter a suitable plate informing of the hours and days in which such metered parking regulations are enforced.

SECTION 5. Vancouver Municipal Code Section 09.92.010 entitled “Program established.” as codified by Ordinance Ord. M-2198 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 9.92.010-Program established

As recommended in Staff Report 426-80 and approved by city council on November 24, 1980, and as discussed in SR 278-A-80, an employee carpool program for downtown Vancouver is

established. For purposes of this program, a "carpool" is defined as any instance in which two or more persons regularly drive together to and from downtown Vancouver at least ~~four~~ two days per week. Preference may be granted to carpools with three or more participants. Permits shall be issued to individuals applying for and qualifying for said program and such permits shall authorize permit holders to park in one of eighty-two on-street parking spaces herein designated for carpools between the hours of ~~seven a.m. and nine a.m., Monday to Friday~~ eight a.m. to eleven a.m., seven days a week. Such permits shall be displayed on vehicles as required by rules and regulations established and to be established pursuant to this chapter.

SECTION 6. Vancouver Municipal Code Section 09.92.020 entitled "Spaces designated" as codified by Ordinance Ord. M-2198 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9.92.020-Spaces designated

Eighty-two on-street parking spaces, as shown on the map attached to the ordinance codified in this chapter as Exhibit "A," are designated carpool parking spaces. Such spaces shall be signed accordingly and designated exclusively for carpool use, as defined by this chapter, between the hours of ~~seven a.m. to nine a.m., Monday through Friday. After the hour of nine a.m.,~~ eight a.m. to eleven a.m., seven days a week. After the hour of eleven a.m. such spaces shall be open to other parking uses if not occupied by a vehicle with such a permit, subject to any other applicable parking regulations. (Ord. M-2198 §2, 1981)

SECTION 7. Vancouver Municipal Code Section 09.92.040 entitled “Permit fee.” as codified by Ordinance Ord. M-2198 and most recently amended by Ordinance Ord. M-2680 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9.92.040-Permit fee.

The fee for obtaining a carpool permit shall be ~~thirty dollars for each two months, payable bimonthly~~ no more than one hundred dollars for each month, payable monthly in advance, or as established by rule. Renewals shall be obtained by the fifteenth of the second month of each bimonthly period on forms approved and supplied by the city for such purpose and in accordance with rules established pursuant to this chapter.

SECTION 8. Severability. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or part of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such order or judgment shall be confined in its operation to the controversy in which it was rendered and shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of any parts thereof to any other person or circumstances and to this end the provisions of each clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this law are hereby declared to be severable.

SECTION 9. Effective date and Notice. This ordinance shall be effective on June 1, 2025.

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE at a Regular Meeting of the Vancouver City Council:

_____.

SIGNED this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor

Attest:

Natasha Ramras, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Nena Cook, City Attorney

SUMMARY

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Parking Code for the City of Vancouver under Vancouver Municipal Code (VMC) Titles 19 and 9; amending VMC sections 19.040.070 relating to On-Street Permits; 19.13.010 relating to payment transferability; 19.11.030 relating to parking meter fees designated; 9.92.10 relating to Carpool permit eligibility; 9.92.020 relating to Carpool permit parking hours; 9.92.040 relating to Carpool Permit rate; providing for severability; and setting an immediate effective date.

The full text of this ordinance will be mailed upon request. Contact public records staff at (360) 487-8480, citypdr@cityofvancouver.us, or via [Public Records Request -The City of Vancouver, WA](#).

Homelessness Emergency Situation Report

Incident Name: Homelessness Emergency
Situation Report # 18

Incident Commander: Aaron Lande
Operational Period: April 2025

New Emergency Orders (if any)

None. The list of existing emergency orders can be found on the City’s [Homelessness Emergency Declaration](#) page.

Emergency Response

- We have lost 13 people since December 2024 Homeless Memorial
 - 2 in the month of April
- VFD Data: Reporting quarterly – Next update in July for second quarter.
- VPD Data:

Police Events and Time on Events with Unsheltered Homelessness Involvement

	April 2025	Year to Date
# of Events	975 (10.1%)	3,927 (10.4%)
Time Spent on Events (hours)	2,123.6 (19.2%)	7,941.7 (18.1%)

- The blue row provides the **total number of events** officers indicated were related to unsheltered homelessness in the month of April and year to date (YTD), as well as the **percentage of all events these events represent relative to all police events** in April and YTD.
- The green row provides **total number of officer hours spent on events** officers indicated were related to unsheltered homelessness in the month of April and year to date (YTD), as well as the **percentage of time spent on these events** relative to all events in April and YTD.

HART Activities

- HART conducted clean-ups at the following locations:
 - Area around W 11th, 12th, 13th, and Jefferson, King, Lincoln streets
 - Burnt Bridge Creek Trail system near Andresen Rd
 - Leverich Park, Ellen Davis, and Discovery Trail areas
 - Regular coordination with WSDOT for outreach and cleanup on their properties along the freeway system in the City of Vancouver

HART Encampment Cleanups and Solid Waste Removal	
Type of Operation	Tons Removed
Coordinated health & sanitation encampment cleanups	30.67
HART Encampment Response Coordinator – rapid response crew	9.97
Year-to-date	99.35

- Responded to 107 My Vancouver app submissions in April; YTD: 422
 - Handed out 53 naloxone kits and provided awareness on overdose response to 21 individuals through our partnership with WA State Dept. of Health's Opioid Education and Naloxone Distribution (OEND) Program.
 - **2 overdoses were reversed** by the use of these naloxone kits in March
- * This program supports access to naloxone for people who are likely to experience or witness an opioid overdose by providing free naloxone to organizations and community groups for distribution to clients and community members.*

Community Engagement

- Downtown Stakeholders meeting – update on the City's homelessness response
- Community Court's 2-year anniversary celebration
- Hope Village's 3 Year Anniversary where we celebrated with current residents, past participants who are now housed, Hope Village staff, other service providers and many other neighbors and community members who support their efforts
- Clark County Homeless Action Plan – Steering Committee

Safe Stays/Safe Park

- The Outpost:
 - 4 residents transitioned to housing in April
 - 1 resident obtained ID
 - 2 residents have attained employment
 - 4 residents engaged in mental health services
 - The YWCA sponsored a breakfast for residents and staff

- Recovery Café is holding Saturday circles on-site, supporting residents and community building
- Hope Village:
 - This site celebrated its 3-year anniversary, a reminder of the long-term positive impact and stability the site has brought to many lives.
 - 1 resident transitioned to housing
 - 5 other residents are in-process for housing and should move in over the coming month.
 - 2 prior residents are receiving housing retention case management for success beyond Safe Stay as part of the Everybody In pilot project in partnership with CFTH and VHA.
 - 1 resident obtained their Social Security Card.
 - 3 residents interviewed for employment.
 - 1 resident participated in detox services.
 - Partners in Careers and Key Bank conducted resource presentations to residents.
- Kiggins Village:
 - 7 residents transitioned into housing!
 - 1 resident has a signed lease and will transition to housing in May
 - 3 residents obtained IDs
 - 2 residents obtained Social Security Cards
 - 2 residents participated in detox services
 - This has been their most successful month to date, and they look forward to building relationships and community with new residents as they move towards housing
- 415 West:
 - 2 residents transitioned into housing
 - 1 resident obtained their Social Security Card
 - 1 resident participated in detox services
 - Prior residents are supported by the new Housing Stability Team (part of the Everybody In pilot project in partnership with CFTH and VHA)
 - Victory Garden Project visited twice to prep the raise gardens and build community with residents
 - Other community support came from Meals on Wheels, Free Hot Soup, the Humane Society, and Messiah Lutheran Church who donated food, care, and resources
- Homeward Bound – Safe Park:
 - 85 total individuals served
 - 2 residents moved to transitional programs
 - 1 resident is celebrating 50 days of sobriety, bought a car, and obtained employment
 - Another resident has also obtained employment

- After 30 years a resident obtained his DD214 opening the door to full VA benefits
- 1 resident who has battled addiction for 30 years is now more than 40 days sober!
- Homeward Bound has enjoyed community participation and volunteerism as follows-
 - Fircrest Neighborhood Association
 - Partners in Careers
 - Key Bank
 - Retails – in support of weekly art sessions to inspire expression, creativity, and connection
 - Onsite medical supports by a local Naturopathic Doctor and US Digital
 - Crossroads Church bimonthly coffee and donut community events

Bridge Shelter

- **Phase 2 – Design Development:** 100% design anticipated in May; Construction Documentation to begin following approval of Design Development documents
- **Clark County funding** – Eligibility determination of fund uses completed and legislative updates passed. Working with County staff and Carelon to draft interlocal agreements for each funding source.
 - Mental Health Sales Tax: \$2.1M
 - County Opioid Settlement: \$2.75M
- **PeaceHealth funding** – Funding request approved, and the fiscal sponsorship agreement will be coming to Council for approval in May.
 - \$800,000 for Bridge Shelter kitchen

Community Court

Newly cited/referred into Court	51
Opted into Community Court	10
Graduations (successful completion)	12
Community Service hours completed	76
Obtained Temporary Housing	4
Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder evaluations completed	14

Accessing/participating in treatment services	2
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Court Highlights for April:

- Community Court, one of the most successful collaborative efforts between the City and County, celebrated its 2-year anniversary! Many were in attendance to hear success stories from program graduates, and several partners were recognized by the Court in categories of Everyday Hero, Champion, and Hall of Fame. All of HART was mentioned several times for its efforts in support of the Community Court's success, and two team members (Sheila and Tiffini) received awards. CVTV put together a fantastic recap of the event: <https://youtube.com/shorts/bzJTOMQdTPg>
- In addition to the monthly reporting, **2-year highlights shared by the Court** include:
 - 446 total referrals to Community Court (some individuals have been referred more than one time)
 - 222 individuals opted into the Community Court program
 - 118 have graduated from the program
 - 778 community restitution hours were completed by participants

Property Closures

None. The list of properties which have been closed by emergency orders can be found on the City's [Homelessness Emergency Declaration](#) page.

Our Appreciation

This month, we recognize Parking Services for their collaboration with HART in addressing the needs of individuals living in vehicles on public streets. When their team encounters someone sheltering in their vehicle they go above and beyond—providing information about available resources, engaging HART for outreach support, and taking a compassionate approach to enforcement when necessary. We applaud their dedication and collaborative spirit in support of HART's mission and the City's response to the homelessness crisis!

In recognition that the City's Homelessness Response team could not accomplish what it does alone, especially during this declared emergency, HART would like to express its appreciation for the many departments and individuals who partner in the work:

- Economic Prosperity and Housing Department
- Public Works – grounds, streets, greenways, parks, environmental services, transportation, and more
- Vancouver Police Department
- Vancouver Fire Department
- Vancouver Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

- Code Compliance
- Parking Services
- General Services
- Information Technology
- Planning
- Budget
- Legal
- Procurement
- Administrative Assistants
- And countless others who are critical to our mission