



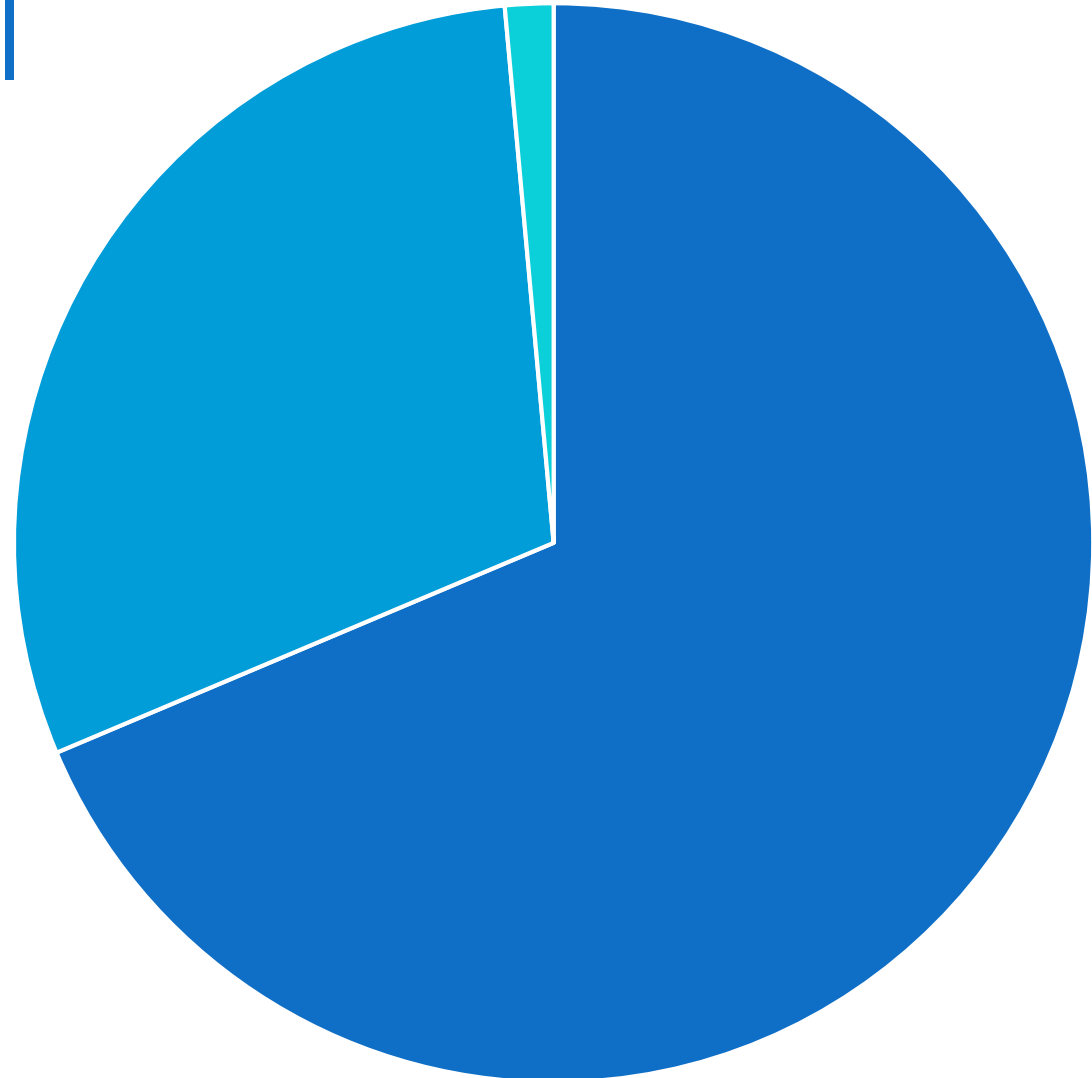
UTILITY TAXES

City of Camas

2023-2024 Budget Preparation

Three-Legged Stool

- Property Tax \$14,498,264
- Sales Tax \$6,317,091
- Utility Tax \$306,023



Utility taxes are levied on the gross operating revenues earned by private utilities operating within a city and by the city's own utilities.

Utility taxes are levied on the utility NOT the customer. Confusion for the customer is when the utility lists the tax on the customer's bill. The tax must be paid from the utility revenues and not the customer pass through.

RCW 35A.82.020

What are utility taxes?

Utility Taxes can be imposed on these utilities

Telephone

Natural Gas

Water

Sewer

Stormwater

Solid Waste

Electricity

Cable (not satellite or internet)

Limits on tax rates

**Limits of
6%
without
voter
approval**

Electricity

Natural Gas

Telephone

Cable

No Limit

Sewer

Stormwater

Water

Solid Waste

Neighboring Jurisdictions

Agency	Water	Sewer	Storm Water	Total	City Utility Tax Rate	Rate W/Utility Tax	Rate w/out Utility Tax
Vancouver 2022 <i>(within city limits)</i>	\$32.89	\$49.28	\$13.01	\$95.18	28.90%	\$95.18	\$67.67
CPU/ CRWWD/ ClarkCo (2022)	\$23.80	\$42.00	\$3.92	\$69.72	0.00%	\$69.72	\$69.72
Battle Ground (2022)	\$27.97	\$53.70	\$12.08	\$93.75	12.00%	\$105.00	\$93.75
Camas (2022)	\$30.65	\$62.48	\$13.16	\$106.29	0.00%	\$106.29	\$106.29
Portland (2022)	\$71.58	\$95.36	\$31.30	\$198.24	5.00%	\$208.16	\$198.24
Ridgefield (2022)	\$26.77	\$60.28	\$10.15	\$97.20	8.00%	\$97.20	\$95.05
Washougal (2022)	\$40.38	\$84.49	\$17.25	\$142.12	varies	\$142.12	\$130.72

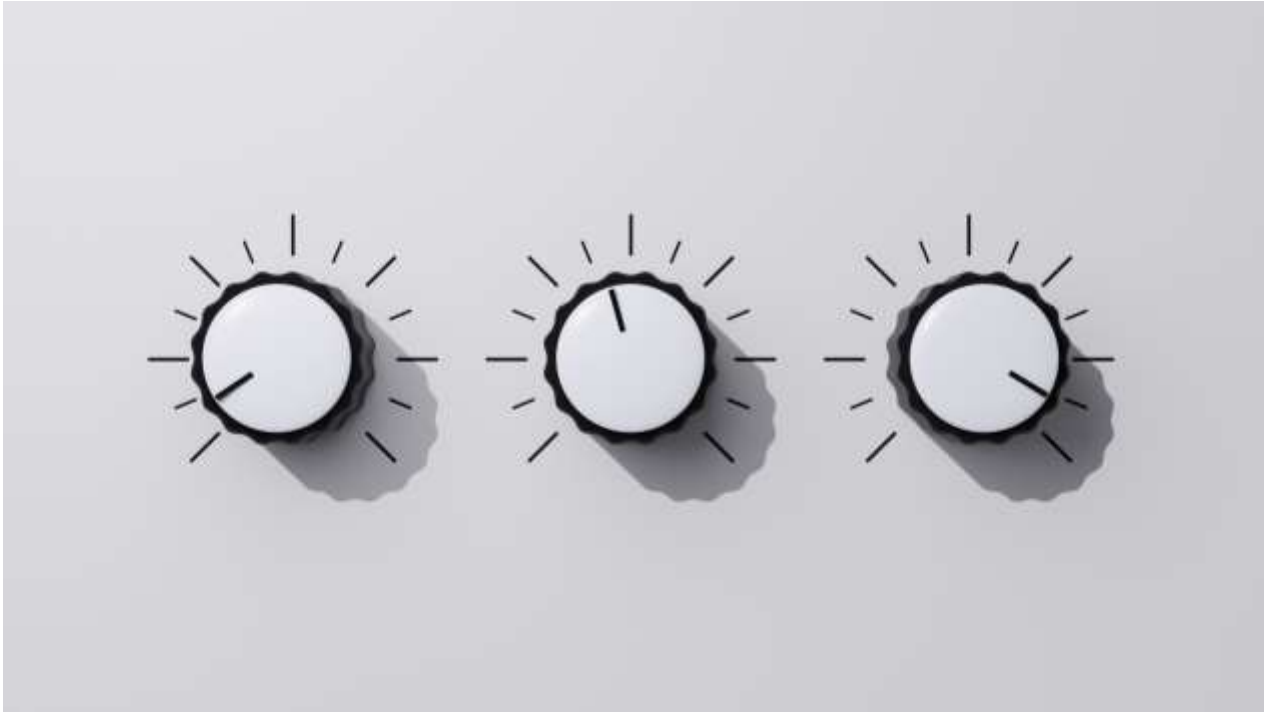
Utility (Residential)	1% Revenue Estimate	6% Revenue Estimate	Includes Industrials
Natural Gas (Currently at 3%)	\$120,329	\$721,974	\$760,036
Stormwater	\$21,125	\$126,750	\$126,750
Solid Waste	\$32,664	\$195,984	\$195,984
Water	\$52,635	\$315,810	\$400,692
Sewer	\$99,123	\$594,738	\$809,868
Total	\$325,876	\$1,955,256	\$2,293,330

Possible Revenue Generation

How can the revenue be used?

- Used for any purposes
- Most cities use the tax for general fund purposes.
- Voter approved utility tax rates are generally used for specific purposes such as streets and public safety.

Considerations



- Industrial Customers
- Stair Step Rates
- Use for General Fund or for Public Safety
- Low Income or Disabled Citizen Options

Low Income or Disabled Citizen Options

- Tax Rebate

- Customer would apply for the rebate in January-April each year. Requirements would include:
 - 65 years or older or have a disability as defined by RCW
 - Live within City limits
 - Meets income level as defined by HUD and proof with IRS forms or the last two months of bank statements
 - Have copies of full bills

- Tax Exemption

- Customers would apply by instead of a rebate, there would be an exemption for City utilities.

1. Public Hearing



2. Ordinance should include a referendum clause



3. 60 Day Waiting Period for electric, telephone
and gas

Process to implement