

CITY OF STEVENSON, WASHINGTON
ORDINANCE NO. 2024-_____

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF STEVENSON ADOPTING STEVENSON MUNICIPAL
CODE CHAPTER 12.40 STEVENSON TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICT,
ESTABLISHING A TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICT, SPECIFYING THE
BOUNDARIES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICT, SPECIFYING THE
CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND PRESERVATION OF
EXISTING IMPROVEMENTS, AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE
DATE**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Stevenson has the responsibility under the constitution of the State of Washington for the improvement, maintenance, protection and operation of public ways within the corporate limits of the City pursuant to ECW 35A.11.020 and RCW Chapter 35A.47; and

WHEREAS, the City has limited transportation funding to pay for necessary transportation preservation and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, while dedicated revenues have decreased, the ongoing annual costs to preserve and maintain the City's transportation infrastructure continue to rise leaving the city unable to continue to adequately preserve and maintain the City's transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, RCW Chapter 36.73 provides for the establishment of transportation benefit districts and for levying of additional revenue sources for transportation improvements within the District that are consistent with existing state, regional, and local transportation plans; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35.21.225 authorizes the City Council to establish a transportation benefit district subject to the provisions of RCW Chapter 36.73; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to form a Transportation Benefit District which includes the entire City of Stevenson as the boundaries currently exist or as they may exist following future annexations; and

WHEREAS, prior to establishing a Transportation Benefit District, the City Council conducted the required public hearing on August 7, 2024, which was noticed in accordance with RCW 36.73.050. All persons desiring to comment were given a full and complete opportunity to be heard; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Stevenson finds it to be in the best interests of the City to establish a Citywide Transportation Benefit District for the preservation and maintenance of the City's transportation infrastructure consistent with RCW Chapter 36.73, to protect the City's long-term investments in that infrastructure, to reduce the risk of transportation facility failure, to improve safety, to continue optimal performance of the infrastructure over time, and to avoid more expensive infrastructure replacements in the future; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Stevenson shall be the governing body for the Transportation Benefit District acting in an ex officio and independent capacity.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Stevenson do hereby ordain as follows:

Section 1. Title 12 of the Stevenson Municipal Code Amended. The Title 12 of the Stevenson Municipal Code entitled "Stevenson Transportation Benefit District," is hereby amended to add a new Chapter as set forth on Exhibit "A" attached hereto and by this reference incorporated herein.

Section 2. Continuance. This ordinance affects SMC Title 12 only insofar as set forth herein. All provisions not amended shall remain in full force and effect and shall be interpreted as a continuation of those previous provisions and not as a new enactment.

Section 3. Severability. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective following passage and publication as provided by law.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this _____ day of _____, 2024.

Scott Anderson, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTEST:

Robert C. Muth
City Attorney

Leana Kinley, City Clerk

Chapter 12.40

STEVENSON TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICT

Sections:

- 12.40.010 Establishing Transportation Benefit District
- 12.40.020 Governing Board
- 12.40.030 Functions of the District
- 12.40.040 Transportation Improvements Funded
- 12.40.050 Dissolution of District

12.40.010 Establishing Transportation Benefit District. There is created a transportation benefit district to be known as the Stevenson Transportation Benefit District or “District” with geographical boundaries comprised of the corporate limits of the City as they currently exist or as they may exist following future annexations.

12.70.020 Governing Board.

A. The governing board or “Board” of the transportation benefit district shall be the Stevenson City Council acting in an ex officio and independent capacity, which shall have the authority to exercise the statutory powers set forth in RCW Chapter 36.73.

B. The treasurer of the transportation benefit district shall be the City Administrator.

C. The Board shall develop a material change policy to address major plan changes that affect project delivery or the ability to finance the plan, pursuant to the requirements set forth in RCW 36.73.160(1). At a minimum, if a transportation improvement exceeds its original cost by more than twenty percent, as identified in the District’s original plan, a public hearing shall be held to solicit public comment regarding how the cost change should be resolved.

D. The Board shall issue an annual report, pursuant to the requirements of RCW 36.73.160(2).

12.70.030 Functions of the District.

A. The District Board may authorize a vehicle tax fee of up to \$20 per vehicle as provided for by RCW 82.80.140. Any expansion of the authorized purposes of the District shall be undertaken only after notice, hearing, and adoption of an ordinance in accordance with RCW 36.73.050(2)(b) or a vote of the people pursuant to RCW 36.73.065(3).

B. When authorized by the voters pursuant to the requirements of Chapter 36.73, other taxes, fees, charges and tolls, or increases in these revenue services may be assessed for the preservation, maintenance, and operations of City streets. Additional transportation improvements may be added to the functions of the District upon compliance with the requirements of said chapter.

C. The Board shall have and exercise all powers and functions provided by Chapter 36.73 to fulfill the functions of the District.

12.07.040 Transportation Improvements Funded. The funds generated by the transportation benefit district shall be used for transportation improvements that preserve, maintain, and operate the existing transportation infrastructure of the City, consistent with the requirements of RCW Chapter 36.73. The funds may be utilized for any lawful purpose under the Chapter; but all funds raised through the TBD shall be expended only for such preservation, maintenance, and operation in accordance with the provisions of RCW Chapter 36.73 as the same exists or is hereafter amended. The funds expended by the District shall preserve, maintain, and operate the City's previous investments in the transportation infrastructure, reduce the risk of transportation facility failure, improve safety, continue the cost-effectiveness of the City's infrastructure investments, and continue the optimal performance of the transportation system. Additional transportation improvement projects may be funded only after compliance with the provisions of RCW 36.73.050(b) following notice, public hearing, and enactment of an authorizing ordinance.

12.07.050 Dissolution of District. The transportation benefit district shall be automatically dissolved when all indebtedness of the District has been retired and when all of the District's anticipated responsibilities have been satisfied. Street preservation, maintenance, and operation are ongoing, long-term obligations of the City.