



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Carolina Mejia
District One

Gary Edwards
District Two

Tye Menser
District Three

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 17, 2021

The Honorable Mayor Wayne Fournier
City of Tenino
149 Hodgden Street S
Tenino, WA 98589

Dear Mayor Fournier,

During the 2019 Legislative Session House Bill 1590 (HB-1590) was passed into law. HB-1590 provided County legislative authorities with the option (in addition to a ballot measure) to impose, by councilmanic action, an additional 0.1 percent sales in use tax for housing and related services (Home Fund).

A minimum of 60 percent of revenues collected must be used for constructing affordable housing and facilities providing housing-related services, constructing mental and behavioral health-related facilities, or funding the operations and maintenance costs of newly constructed affordable housing, facilities providing housing-related services, or evaluation and treatment centers. The affordable housing and facilities providing housing-related programs may only serve the following individuals with income below 60 percent of area median income: individuals with mental illness, veterans, senior citizens, homeless families with children, unaccompanied homeless youth, persons with disabilities, or domestic violence victims. The remainder of the moneys collected must be used for the operation, delivery, or evaluation of mental and behavioral health treatment programs and services, or housing-related services.

The Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) is considering the option of implementing a Countywide Home Fund (excepting the City of Olympia since it already has a Home Fund) and has set a Public Hearing for October 19, 2021, at 3:00 PM (or as soon after the matter may be heard) to hear from the public about this option.

Further, the BoCC would like to hear from your City about this proposal and requests that you send a letter by no later than October 19, 2021, outlining your position related to the implementation of a Countywide Fund.

If you have questions related to this matter, please contact Ramiro Chavez County Manager at ramiro.chavez@co.thurston.wa.us or at (360) 754-2960. Thank you.

Attest:

RAO (Initials)
County Manager/Asst. County Manager



Tye Menser, Chair



Gary Edwards, Vice-Chair



Carolina Mejia, Commissioner