

Lopez Island School District No. 144

Lopez Island School District No. 144 Proposition No. 1 - Capital Projects Levy

The Board of Directors of Lopez Island School District adopted Resolution No. 24/25-3 concerning capital improvement levies. This proposition authorizes upgrades to the water system and if funds available, other capital upgrades; and authorizes the following excess levies for such purposes on all taxable property within the District:

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000	Levy Amount
2026	\$0.039	\$100,000
2027	\$0.038	\$100,000
2028	\$0.038	\$100,000
2029	\$0.037	\$100,000
2030	\$0.036	\$100,000

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes
 No

To vote, use your official ballot.

Argument For

The Lopez Island School District has approved a plan and identified a contractor to complete a significant upgrade to the water system serving the school. Currently, a single well provides all water to the school district. The new system would upgrade the district to a Group A water system served by two wells providing higher quality drinking water for students and staff, better flow rates for district services, and water security in the event that one source goes out of commission. The original well would serve as an emergency back-up.

This capital levy is essential to provide the funds necessary to complete the water project and bring clean drinking water to the kids of Lopez Island School. As part of the agreement with the well owners and neighbors, quality water from the two wells would be pumped to the new water system where the water operator would test and treat the water and then provide it to the school and the parties to the agreement which include OPALCO, the Lopez Pool, Island Propane and one residential party. This community partnership will benefit all, and supporting this levy ensures equitable access to high-quality water for the school district and its neighbors.

Vote yes to provide Quality Water for Kids!

Vote YES on the levy, vote YES for Lopez kids!

Written by

Quality Water for Kids Committee

John Holding
Del Guenther
Chris Greacen

Explanatory Statement

Written by Cynthia Weed, Attorney for Lopez Island School District

Lopez Island School District seeks voter approval of a capital levy to complete its water utility project and, if funds are available, make other capital project expenditures as found necessary by the District's Board of Directors.

If the levy is approved, taxable property within the District would be taxed over the next five years to pay for the water improvements. The estimated rates of this levy are \$.039 (2026 collection); \$.038 (2027 collection); \$.038 (2028 collection); \$.037 (2029 collection), and \$.036 (2030 collection) per year for each thousand dollars of assessed property value. The levy would generate funding in the amount of \$100,000 each year of the levy. The exact levy rates shall be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of the property within the District at the time of the levy.

A "yes" vote approves the imposition of the levy. A "no" vote opposes the imposition of the levy. To pass, this measure must be approved by a simple majority of voters.

Argument Against

No argument against was submitted.

Lopez Island Library District

Lopez Island Library District Proposition No. 1 - Restoring Regular Property Tax Levy Rate

The Board of Trustees of the Lopez Island Library District adopted Resolution No. 01-2025 concerning the District's regular property tax levy rate. This proposition would authorize a regular property tax levy of \$0.48 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2025 (the same level as in 2019), and would authorize an increase in the District's tax allocation of up to 6% (but not to exceed the rate of \$0.48 per \$1,000 in assessed valuation) for each of the five succeeding years. The maximum allowable levy in 2031 shall serve as the base for subsequent levies under RCW 84.55.050.

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes
 No

To vote, use your official ballot.

Argument For

Join us in voting yes for the Lopez Library levy and support a vital community resource that offers something for everyone.

The Library holds thousands of books, videos, musical instruments, and digital materials; hosts free concerts and author readings; provides StoryTime and Teen Movie Night; shares Crafternoons and Needlecraft nights; provides after school programs and supports lifelong literacy; offers free internet and community meeting space; shares the resources to start a business or find a job; and collaborates with the Family Resource Center, school district, and museum.

In 2024, the Library hosted 512 special programs, welcomed 42,397 visitors, and loaned 61,000 items.

The levy is a necessary, reasonable, and local measure.

It's necessary. Since the last was levy approved in 2019, the 1 % annual limit on property tax increases has restricted our ability to keep up with rising operating costs and essential infrastructure upgrades to our 100+ year-old building (leaky roof and more).

It's reasonable. The levy will be an increase of 18 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value; an extra \$90.00 per year for owners of a \$500,000 home.

It's local. While future federal and state funding is uncertain, Lopez voters have the power to say yes to the Library. It's in your hands. More than ever, we need to rely on each other.

A trip to the library can change a person. Vote yes to restore the levy and ensure the Lopez Library continues to serve the community.

www.voteyes4lopezlibrary.org

Written by

Bruce Botts
Mary Bywater Cross
Gerald (Michael) Mickler

Explanatory Statement

Written by Tom Dixon, Attorney for the Lopez Island Library District

The Lopez Library is a community hub providing a broad array of services to the island, including after-school tutoring, lifelong learning and of course thousands of books and digital materials, all in its historic 100+ year old building.

In 2024, the Library welcomed 42,397 visits, hosted 512 programs, and had 61,000 items checked out.

More than 90% of Library funding comes from local property taxes through voter-approved levies. Given current uncertainties in state and federal funding, this proposition is critical to maintain the present level of library services.

In 2019, Lopez voters approved a levy of 48 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value to fund Library operations and maintenance. Since then, costs have increased over 26%.

Meanwhile, state law limits increases in the amount the Library can collect from taxes to 1% per year, even if property values increase at a greater rate. As a result, the Library is currently able to collect only 30 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value, rather than the voter-approved 48 cents.

This year's levy measure asks voters to restore a levy of 48 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. That would mean an additional cost of \$90.00 per year for owners of a \$500,000 home.

This measure also permits an increase in the Library's tax allocation of up to 6% per year for five years beginning in 2027 to keep pace with inflation, but never exceeding 48 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. The resulting levy would then be used to calculate the 1% limit on future levy increases after 2031.

Rejection of this measure would mean that funds would not cover operating expenses, leading to cutbacks in operating hours, building maintenance, books and programs.

Approval of this measure would mean stable funding for Library operations and maintenance.

Argument Against

No argument against was submitted.

Why is my signature important?

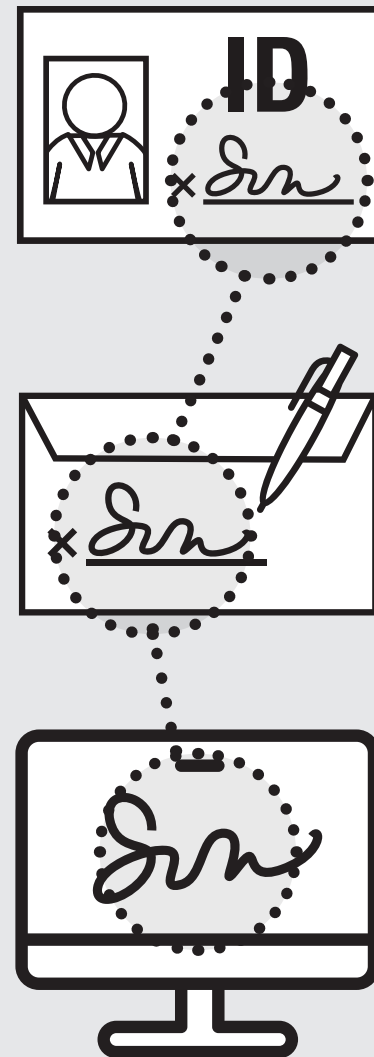
Your signature is needed to make sure your ballot gets counted.

The signature on your return envelope is compared to the signature on your voter registration record. Trained election officials verify each and every signature.

If your signature is missing or does not match your voter registration record, the county elections office will contact you by mail **before results are certified**. They may call or email if you gave them this info.

If you registered to vote online or through Department of Licensing, the signature from your driver's license, permit or state ID will be on your voter registration record.

Voters can track and check their ballot status at **VoteWA.gov**.



San Juan County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet August 5, 2025 Primary



Local Jurisdictions Participating in this Election
Lopez Island School District No. 144
Lopez Island Library District

Replacement Ballots

1. **Contact SJC Elections as soon as possible:**
Phone: 360-378-3357
Email: elections@sanjuancountywa.gov
OR
2. **Print a replacement ballot:**
 - Sign in to votewa.gov with your name/birthdate
 - Click *Your Ballot & Voting Materials > Get a Replacement Ballot* in the left column, then Print a Replacement Ballot

Register to Vote

Online

Log in to votewa.gov to register to vote or update your address. Online registrations must be submitted no later than July 28 in order to process the registration for the Primary Election.

In person

The Elections office is open for registration 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, M-Th, and 8:00 am to 8:00 pm on Election Day, August 5. In person registrations must be initiated no later than 8:00 pm on Election Day, August 5.

By mail

Print a voter registration form from sanjuancountywa.gov/elections under Voter Information. Fill out the form and mail it to San Juan County Elections.

San Juan County Elections must receive the mailed form by July 28 in order to process the registration for the Primary Election.

Return Your Ballot

Ballot drop box

Return your ballot to an official ballot drop box by 8:00 pm on Election Day, August 5:

San Juan County Elections Office
55 Second St., Ste. A, Friday Harbor
M-TH 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Election Day 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Lopez Island Fire District Office
2228 Fisherman Bay Rd., Lopez Village

San Juan County Courthouse
Second St. Entrance, 350 Court St., Friday Harbor

By mail

No stamp is needed! Place your ballot in the mail before the deadline. **Your ballot must be postmarked on or before August 5 in order to count.**

Contact Information

San Juan County Auditor
Elections Division
PO Box 638
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

Phone: (360) 378-3357
Email: elections@sanjuancountywa.gov