



Meredith R. Green, CPA
Kitsap County Treasurer

614 Division Street, MS-32 • Port Orchard, WA 98366-4678

Dear Taxpayer,

February 2022

Will this pandemic ever end? You may have noticed that your tax statement envelope changed. Our goal is to have your tax statements to you by February 14th, and decades ago we began using distinctive pink envelopes so that the bills are easily found on due dates. Unfortunately, because of “supply chain issues” this year pink envelopes weren’t available. We had to improvise with something I hope you find distinctive and perhaps brings some levity to a serious matter during a time we could all use extra kindness.

Kitsap County continues to innovate and strive to provide online services that are convenient to our citizens. At www.kitsapgov.com, you can find online resources for operations across Kitsap County. If you prefer in person, the Treasurers office is currently open to the public from 9 AM – 4 PM Monday – Thursday, and 9 AM – Noon Fridays, although this may change so I encourage you to check our website.

Tax bills for 2022 are based on property values as of January 1, 2021. Your property tax bill reflects your property’s share of the budgets of state, county, and other taxing districts, such as school, fire, emergency services, and ports. For tax years 2018-2021, the State property tax portion was **rate-based**, which meant taxes increased along with values, but that expired for 2022, thus the State portion is now **budget-based**. Now our property taxes are entirely budget-based, and the State allows local districts **budget** increases of 1 percent, plus an allowance for new construction. Changes in taxes for individual properties vary, depending on that property’s change in value as compared with others in the district. Other increases may only come in the form of voter-approved levies.

For properties and taxes, many online tools are available at Kitsap County’s “[Parcel Details](#)”. In addition to data regarding values and taxes, more information such as well and septic history, voting districts, plat and permit data is available. We also encourage you to explore our [property tax distribution](#) tool to understand the allocation of your property taxes.

Taxes for 2022 bring increases for some taxpayers, which are largely a result of local voter approved levies. Read this letter on our website at www.kitsapgov.com/treas to access the links and your [property tax bill](#). The Treasurer serves as the bank for the County as well as all [40 junior taxing districts](#). This year, approximately 56% of the property taxes we collect go to schools, 16% goes to fire districts, 9% to the County general fund, and the remainder to roads, cities, port, water and other districts we serve.

Voters previously approved new school capital or renewal enrichment levies, which resulted in levy increases for [Bremerton](#) (4%), [Central Kitsap](#) (5%), and [North Kitsap](#) (5%) school districts. [South Kitsap](#) voters renewed a enrichment levy for a 6% increase. [North Mason](#) school district voters approved a new enrichment levy for 2022. New voter-approved levies for Fire Districts resulted in increases for [Central Kitsap](#) (14%) and [South Kitsap](#) (19%). Voters approved a [Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park](#) levy, resulting in a 33% increase.

[Kitsap County Assessor Phil Cook](#) reports that residential appraisers are currently conducting on-site inspections throughout Bainbridge Island. Also, over the last couple years the legislature made a few recent changes to the senior citizen/disabled exemption, which the Assessor administers. The changes (1) reduced the occupancy requirement to six months, (2) reduced Veteran’s Service-Connected Disability from 100% to 80%, and (3) allows for deductibility of additional health related expenses. For more information, please contact the Assessor’s office at 360-337-7160 or visit their website at www.kitsapgov.com/assessor.

Paying your tax bill

Visit our [website](#) to view payment options. Some taxpayers automatically pay their [taxes monthly](#) or [semi-annually](#) through our office. Tax bills can also be paid by [e-check](#) (less than \$1 fee) or [credit card](#) (2.4% fee). If you mail your check, we highly recommend taking it to the post office a couple days in advance, which reduces mail fraud and ensures a postmark by the due date.

More Information

Please remember to update your house and mailbox numbering and notify your creditors or anyone who sends you mail if the county changes your physical address as a result of the Kitsap 911 Addressing Project. An accurate and easily visible address is vital for mail delivery and rapidly locating a home in case of fire or a medical emergency. Although we hope you never have to use their services, Kitsap 911 is dedicated to being there for you, so help them find you.

Volunteering is an excellent means to have a voice in our community. Our Districts' elected board members volunteer countless hours serving us. Smaller volunteer opportunities exist on county advisory groups that provide valuable input to local government! Kitsap County Commissioners invite community members to apply who represent the diversity of Kitsap neighborhoods and want to bring their perspectives, interests, and professional experience to help develop and review plans and policies, make funding recommendations and ensure available resources are distributed equitably. Advisory group members also serve as advocates and provide a communication link and sounding board between residents, communities, county staff and Commissioners. Review current vacancies and find the online application at <http://kcowa.us/advisorygroups>. The Commissioners also remind citizens that unincorporated parcels in Kitsap County may be within or near agricultural lands on which a variety of commercial activities may occur.

Please remember that the taxes we collect fund teachers, fire fighters and safety officers' salaries, along with many other important government expenses which are essential to keep our communities operating. The pandemic has tremendously stretched them, and I truly appreciate being of service to you and them. We strive to make your interaction with us positive, and we welcome your questions, comments and suggestions. Please call us at 360-337-7135 or email treasurer@co.kitsap.wa.us.

Regards,

Meredith Green and Team

Change of Address

If your MAILING ADDRESS has changed from the address shown on the enclosed tax statement(s), complete this form and return it with your payment, mail it to us, or see our [website](#). Note: Completing a change of address does not change legal ownership.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name

Mailing Address

City State ZIP

Email Address

Phone Number (in case we have questions)

Date Owner's Signature

List of all Account Numbers affected by this change*

*Refer to tax statement for Account/Parcel Numbers