



**CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND**  
**July 16, 2009 Workstudy Agenda**  
25510 Lawson St., Black Diamond, Washington

Workstudies are meetings for Council to review upcoming and pertinent business of the City. Public testimony is only accepted at the discretion of the Council.

**6:00 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**

- 1.) Public Safety Levy – Mayor Botts, Ms. Miller
- 2.) Adjournment

# Black Diamond Public Safety Lid Lift

Workstudy July 16, 2009

Agenda

Supplemental Attachment

## **Home Owner Property Tax Comparison**

Page 1

comparisons for different value homes and shows that there is no increase if the lid lift includes a dollar levy including only the replacement public safety dollars.

## **Tax Levy Comparison**

Page 2

The comparison was updated to show how the Public Safety dollar options were calculated. Option 2 has been used for tax comparisons. The note at the bottom explains the factors used.

## **Emails from Hazel Gantz at King County**

Pages 3 & 4

Supports the use of a dollar levy with assessed valuation fluctuating. Also clarifies the rules.

Original packet also attached

# 2011 Property Tax Estimate

Annual City

	Home values	Annual City		Monthly Taxes	2011 w/ Repl Increase		Monthly Increase
		Taxes Paid	Monthly Taxes		Annual Taxes	Monthly Taxes	
Black Diamond Current Regular*	\$180,000	\$191	17.53				
Black Diamond Public Safety	\$180,000	\$144	13.23				
Total		\$335	27.92		\$335	27.92	0.00
Black Diamond Current Regular*	\$300,000	\$240	20.00				
Black Diamond Public Safety	\$300,000	\$318	19.00				
Total		\$558	39.00		\$558	39.00	0.00
Black Diamond Current Regular*	\$450,000	\$477	39.75				
Black Diamond Public Safety	\$450,000	\$360	30.00				
Total		\$837	69.75		\$837	69.75	0.00

This shows Black Diamond property taxes estimate for 2011 for a variety of home values with a replacement dollar levy. The green box assumes the same home values, and total dollar property tax levy, including the estimated replacement dollars of the expiring lid lift. The far left column on the right in blue shows that there is no increase with a replacement. The levy rate is just a calculation using the dollar amount we set which the county divides into their current assessed valuation. The levies fluctuate up or down opposite of the changes in valuation, but does not change the amount of taxes a homeowner or business pays. What changes the taxes are bond issues or lid lifts. Black Diamonds replacement dollar lid lift used the estimates loss of \$418,863 shown on page six of the original packet. This does not replace the public safety shortfall which is estimated to be an additional \$407,039 for a total of \$825,902. The lid lift as shown only replaces an estimated expiring lid lift dollar loss. The final dollar lid lift will change slightly as we add the estimated changes for the completion of new construction and the South and East Annexations. This will not change the property taxes paid as the owners of the completed construction and the annexations will pick up the increased tax dollars for their additional share.



## 2009 Tax Levy Comparison

	City Levy	Avg School Levy	County, Hospital, Library, etc	Avg. Total
Black Diamond Total (includes Fire costs)	1.52	3.73	4.09	9.34
Enumclaw (includes Fire Costs & .11 Bond Issue)	1.92	4.19	4.64	10.75
Algona	1.38	4.32	5.07	10.77
Fire District	1.11			1.11
Algona Total	2.49			11.88
Covington	0.98	4.07	6.06	11.11
Fire District	1.45			1.45
Covington Total	2.43			12.56
Maple Valley	1.08	3.80	5.83	10.71
Fire District	1.50			1.50
Maple Valley Total	2.58			12.21

### Black Diamond Voted Public Safety Lid Lift Options

Dollars options, with possible levy estimates if values increase 5% each year.

2011 Levy \$ if levy remained	\$998,332	Note (1)				
2011 public Safety est portion	\$418,883	Base loss				
	net \$ Options	net loss/Inc.	Levy will vary			
1. PS Replacement Dollars*	\$320,637	(\$98,246)	1.86	3.73	4.09	9.68
2. PS Replacement Dollars*	\$418,883	\$0	1.99	3.73	4.09	9.81
3. PS Replacement Dollars*	\$441,188	\$120,551	2.03	3.73	4.09	9.85
4. PS Replacement Shortfall	\$825,922	\$407,039	2.46	3.73	4.09	10.28

Note: (1) King County has advised us to select the Dollar amount of the levy, as the Levy rates could significantly increase or decrease, depending on Assessed Values increasing or decreasing. The city could loose up to \$168,668 more than expected if the values and levy rates swing. Tax payers bills are not increased by the levy increases or decreases only the dollar amounts of increase or dollars of bond issues. The levy rates can swing from as low as 1.41 to a possible high of 2.24. It would be beneficial to focus on the total amount of the levy, estimating the inclusion of the dollar amount we are replacing. The base levy of \$998,332 only includes 1% increases for 2010 and 2011 and does not include the remaining new construction and South and East annexations. The final dollar levy will need to include estimates for those items.



**Brenda Martinez**

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**From:** May Miller  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2009 1:32 PM  
**To:** Brenda Martinez  
**Subject:** FW: Levy lid lift

Brenda this is the letter to include with the workstudy pages.  
 Thanks May

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**From:** Gantz, Hazel [mailto:Hazel.Gantz@kingcounty.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 07, 2009 4:52 PM  
**To:** May Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Levy lid lift

May, below is the reply I got back from DOR:

2SSB 5433 will take effect July 26, 2009 concerning levy lid lifts.

The City of Black Diamond can ask the voters to approve a multi year levy lid lift, up to six years, under RCW 84.55.050(2)(a). The ballot proposition must state the dollar rate proposed for the first year of the levy and the limit factor, or a specified index to be used to determine the limit factor. The ballot measure must also state the limited purposes for which the proposed increases will be used for. The city must request the levy lid during a primary or general election.

The new bill allows taxing districts to supplant funds that had been used for the specific purpose of the lid lift, when the lid lift is approved by the voters in calendar years 2009 (after July 26) , 2010 and 2011 in a county with a population of 1.5 million or more. Voter approved levy lid lifts approved after 2011 will not be able to supplant funds in a county with a population of 1.5 million or more.

*What all this means is if you want to do a six year lid lift, use a specific rate for the 'entire' regular levy that will include what you will need for public safety. Specify what limit factor you want to use for the next five years (CPI-w or whatever) and then state that the last year of the levy is the basis for future levies, meaning do not recalculate the levy as if the lid lift never existed.*

*All properties are revalued every year. One sixth of the properties have physical inspections each year, so that within a six year period all properties have had a physical inspection, but all properties DO get revalued each year. Any decrease or increase in values will be reflected in the next year's levy. There is no more that I can tell you regarding the values at this stage of the game, not on a district-wide basis.. Individual property values get reflected in the district's taxable value, but you cannot determine if the district-wide value will decrease or increase by an individual property value.*

*Hopefully this all makes sense to you, but if not, let me know and I will try to clarify.*

Hazel J. Gantz  
 Business and Finance Officer II  
 Levy Administration  
 (206) 296-5145

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**From:** May Miller [mailto:mmiller@ci.blackdiamond.wa.us]

3

7/13/2009

**Brenda Martinez**

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**From:** May Miller  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2009 1:57 PM  
**To:** Brenda Martinez  
**Subject:** FW: Levy lid lift

Brenda,  
 Here is Hazel other email. I think we should include both in the supplemental information.  
 May

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**From:** Gantz, Hazel [mailto:Hazel.Gantz@kingcounty.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 01, 2009 4:08 PM  
**To:** May Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Levy lid lift

*May, I do not have an answer for your right now. I need to do some research in order to answer your question, so I will not be able to get back to you until next week (Tuesday). Our furlough day is Monday and tomorrow is our day off for the holiday since we do not ordinarily work on Fridays.*

*Hazel J. Gantz  
 Business and Finance Officer II  
 Levy Administration  
 (206) 296-5145*

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**From:** May Miller [mailto:mmiller@ci.blackdiamond.wa.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 01, 2009 3:01 PM  
**To:** Gantz, Hazel  
**Subject:** Levy lid lift

Thanks so much, Hazel, for your answers. I did click on the link you sent regarding the decrease in property sales. The only close ones I found were Fairwood, near Renton and the Skykomish rural area. The report for Fairwood shows an 18.9% decrease and the rural area 27.1% decrease. How will the county use this information in determining our Assessed valuation? I read that they only do one sixth of the properties each year, but I don't know if they then use the trend of that one sixth to update all the assessed valuations, or if they only change the one sixth. Also I have already received personal tax value information from the county and it was showing an increase. Will that be what they will use for the 2010 Taxes. When do you think any decreased will effect our Black Diamond Assessed Valuations, 2010? 2011?

I think we are going to do a multi year lid lift for 6 years with the CPI-W (June) inflation factor and setting the amount at the end. Is there any way we can replace our total dollar levy, (both the Public safety piece and the regular piece) with one dollar levy? All of our Property Taxes are used for Public Safety, even then it only pays for less that half the cost. If we only state a dollar amount and only do the public safety piece, the regular levy will continue to decline as it will have no inflation factor to safe guard the decline. Would it be possible to set a total dollar replacement amount specifically for public safety? That way the entire levy would increase or decline in the same way and it would be a lot less confusing for our council and tax payers. They just struggle with the levy ups and downs.

We are going to our council workstudy tomorrow night at 6 pm, so any help is greatly appreciated.

4

7/13/2009



## Public Safety Levy Lift - Financial Analysis

Agenda 7/2/09

	PAGE
1. Lid Lift – Deadlines (see page 4)	1-4
2. Where do our Property Tax dollars go?	5
3. How do our Property Tax rates compare to other Cities?	6
4. How much would we lose if the levy expires in 2011?	7
5. Does your tax bill increase or decrease if AV increases or decreases?	8
6. Comparison of fixed levy rates	9
7. Replacement Levy Rates	10
8. How much does Public Safety cost and what is the revenue source?	11
9. Property Tax Options	12
10. Tax levy rate comparison with options	13
11. Extra: King County email example of assessed value decreases	14-18
12. Extra: Previous Black Diamond Newsletter Article	19-29
13. Extra: 2004 Lid Lift Ordinance	30-32
14. Issues Remaining	
15. Council Direction	



# CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE DEPARTMENT

To: Gwendolyn Voelpel, City Administrator  
 From: Brenda L. Streepy, May Miller  
 Re: Public Safety Levy Summary  
 Date: June 26, 2008

The following is a summary for the current public safety levy and the process for getting a ballot measure in the voter's pamphlet for voter consideration. The table below gives you the base levy and rate before and after the lid lift. Unfortunately we do not know what the base or rate will be after the lid lift expires because the values are an unknown for the 2009 and 2010 tax years.

<b>TAX ROLL:</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Maximum limited levy since 1985	\$494,239	\$504,852	\$514,094	\$535,071	548,207
Limit factor	1.010	1.010	1.010	1.010	1.010
Limited levy	\$499,181	\$509,901	\$519,235	\$540,422	\$553,689
Local new construction	4,372,118	3,578,995	2,397,737	6,012,156	
Plus utility new construction	0	0	0	1,302,322	
x Prior year regular levy rate (excluding lid lifts)	1.29702	1.17150	1.14113	1.06433	
New construction levy (\$000)	\$5,671	\$4,193	\$2,736	\$7,785	
Levy ceiling (limited levy + NC levy )	504,852	514,094	521,971	548,207	
Omits levy	0	0	0	0	
Adjusted levy ceiling	504,852	514,094	521,971	548,207	
Annexation rate			1.83687		
Annexation AV			7,131,841		
Annexation levy			13,100		
			535,071		
<b>Lid lift: Fire, Police Services – Replacement 6 yr levy (2005-2010)</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Limit factor x prior year's allowable	371,187	374,899	381,757	387,661	
Effect of new construction on lid lift	0	3,078	2,066	5,666	
Total limited lid lift	371,187	377,977	383,823	393,327	
Limit factor	371,187	386,823	391,522	395,437	
Allowable lid lift	371,187	386,823	391,522	395,437	
Actual lid lift	371,187	387,646	391,522	397,526	
Cumulative Fire/Police Services	371,187	758,833	1,150,355	1,547,881	
Fire/Police Services rate	0.86000	0.86183	0.77469	0.69134	
Total allowable regular levy (including omits and lid lifts)*	876,039	901,740	926,593	951,399	
Refund fund levy:	780	1,248	3,499	924	
Levy correction (limit factor cannot be a rate)			(3,224)	(3,224)	
Regular levy assessed value	431,612,820	449,793,888	505,566,937	575,076,069	



Maximum statutory levy (including omits levy)	\$1,345,609	\$1,412,875	\$1,600,979	\$1,844,867	
<b>Allowable levy: (including refund fund if limit factor)</b>	<b>\$876,819</b>	<b>\$902,988</b>	<b>\$928,934</b>	<b>\$949,099</b>	
Final AV	431,612,820	449,793,888	505,393,337	575,006,069	
Actual regular rate including all lid lifts	2.0315	2.00296	1.83902	1.65059	
Total basis for following year					
*Includes new construction and compounding effect of lid lifts	876,039	901,740	926,593	951,399	

The lid lift was passed on 9/14/04 (59.32%) as a six-year temporary lid lift at \$.86/\$1,000 for the first year (2005) with the ballot title requesting an 86 cents limit factor. After levying the 86 cents the next year (2006), the County was notified by the Department of Revenue that a temporary lid lift cannot have a limit factor in cents/dollars; it had to be a percentage, therefore, a correction needed to be done for the prior year which is why the City had to pay back \$9,673. Currently the City is paying this amount over a three-year period, via the levy limit worksheet, \$3,224 each year except for the last year (2009) it will be \$3,225.

In order to continue this lid lift, a ballot measure must be approved by the voters in 2010, the year this temporary lid expires – it does not matter when in 2010 as lid lifts go into effect the following year no matter what. A permanent lid lift can always be put before the voters, but it must say ‘permanent’ in the ballot title.

The 1% limit factor comes into effect after the first year of the permanent lid lift – 1% is added to the levy each year as currently done. A district can request a temporary lid lift for up to six years with a specific rate the first year, then a certain limit factor for the next five years (for example, 3%, 4%, etc., or use the CPI-w), and then request that after the sixth year, the maximum allowable levy (base) in the sixth year be used to determine future increases as allowed by RCW 84.55.

**Election Dates:**

February 3, 2009	First Tuesday after first Monday of February
March 10, 2009	Second Tuesday in March
April 28, 2009	Fourth Tuesday in April
May 19, 2009	Third Tuesday in May
August 18, 2009	Third Tuesday in August
November 3, 2009	First Tuesday after first Monday of November

### Deadlines for Ordinance or Resolution Calling for the Election:

In order to be included in a special election in February through May a resolution needs to be presented to the county auditor at least fifty-two days prior to the election date. A resolution calling for a special election in August or November must be presented to the county auditor at least eighty-four days prior to the election date. The table below is an example of the due dates:

Date of Election	Resolution Deadline
February 3, 2009	December 12, 2008
March 10, 2009	January 16, 2009
April 28, 2009	March 6, 2009
May 19, 2009	March 27, 2009
August 18, 2009	May 26, 2009
November 3, 2009	August 11, 2009

### Ballot Measure Requirements:

#### 1. City's Responsibilities:

- Notify Legal Counsel to write 250 word explanatory statement, appoint Pro and Con committees, submit appointment form and inform committees of their duties by the following deadlines:

	Special	Primary	General
Explanatory Submission	52 days prior to election date	May 2009	August 2009
Committee Appointments	52 days prior to election date	May 2009	August 2009

#### 2. Pro/Con Committees' Responsibilities:

- Provide 200 word statement and obtain a copy of opponent's statement for 75 word rebuttal submission by the following deadlines:

	Special	Primary	General
Pro/Con	49 days prior to election date	June 2009	August 2009
Rebuttal	47 days prior to election date	June 2009	August 2009

The table below is an **example** of the above deadlines for the 2009 elections:



<b>Election:</b>	<b>Feb.3, 2009</b>	<b>Mar.10, 2009</b>	<b>April 28, 2009</b>	<b>May 19, 2009</b>	<b>Aug. 18, 2009</b>	<b>Nov. 3, 2009</b>
Resolution	Dec. 12, 2008	Jan. 16, 2009	Mar. 6, 2009	Mar. 27, 2009	May 26, 2009	<b>Aug. 11, 2009</b>
Explanatory Statement	Dec. 12, 2008	Jan. 16, 2009	Mar. 6, 2009	Mar. 27, 2009	May 26, 2009	<b>Aug. 14, 2009</b>
Committee Appointments	Dec. 12, 2008	Jan. 16, 2009	Mar. 6, 2009	Mar. 27, 2009	May 26, 2009	<b>Aug. 11, 2009</b>
Pro/Con Statements	Dec. 16, 2008	Jan. 20, 2009	Mar. 10, 2009	April 1, 2009	June 3, 2009	<b>Aug. 19, 2009</b>
Rebuttals	Dec. 18, 2008	Jan. 22, 2009	Mar. 12, 2009	April 3, 2009	June 7, 2009	<b>Aug. 21, 2009</b>

Word limits for all statements are:

- 250 words – Explanatory
- 200 words – Pro and Con Statements
- 75 words – Rebuttal Statement

#### **Estimated Special Election Costs for 2009:**

<b>2009 Dates</b>	<b>Election Type</b>	<b>Number of Voters (1)</b>	<b>Estimated Cost Per Voter (2)</b>	<b>Estimated Total Costs</b>
February	Special	2714	\$2.95	\$8,006
March	Special	2714	\$3.50	\$9,499
April	Special	2714	\$3.50	\$9,499
May	Special	2714	\$3.50	\$9,499
August	Primary	2714	\$1.71	\$4,641
November	General	2714	\$1.25	\$3,393

More popular & less costly

Least costly

(1) Number of registered voters from November 2007

(2) King County staff provided the estimates and noted costs are probably on the high side, especially for the primary and general elections in 2009 as the City has three positions that may be in the primary and will be in the general election. In the general election there should be no additional costs, as we will already be paying for those election costs.

King County staff also mentioned next year the County will be going to an all mail election, which could result in reduced costs. Of special note is that odd year (2009) costs are generally less than even year (2010) costs.

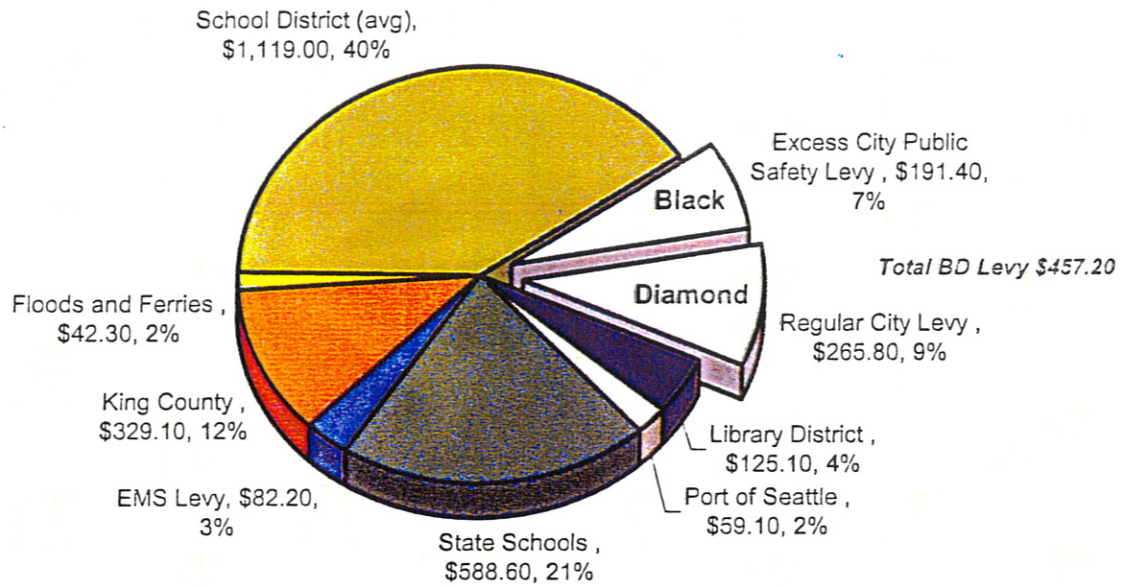
Actual costs for the 2004 ballot measure were \$4,576.10.

#### **Recommendation:**

Based on the costs and lead time needed to get election information to King County the 2009 fall dates appear to be the better options.

## City of Black Diamond 2009 Property Tax Distribution

Total Taxed amount on a \$300,000 property  
in Black Diamond = \$2,814.60



King County Taxing District	Levy Rate per \$1,000 in value	Annual Tax on a \$300,000 home	Monthly Tax on a \$300,000 home
Port of Seattle	0.20	\$59.10	\$4.93
State Schools	1.96	\$588.60	\$49.05
EMS Levy	0.27	\$82.20	\$6.85
King County	1.10	\$329.10	\$27.43
Floods and Ferries	0.14	\$42.30	\$3.53
School District (avg)	3.73	\$1,119.00	\$93.25
Library District	0.42	\$125.10	\$10.43
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>7.82</b>	<b>\$2,345.40</b>	<b>\$195.45</b>
Black Diamond Regular	0.89	\$265.80	\$22.15
Black Diamond Public Safety (voted)	0.64	\$191.40	\$15.95
<b>Black Diamond Total Levy (rounded)</b>	<b>1.52</b>	<b>\$457.20</b>	<b>\$38.10</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>9.34</b>	<b>\$2,802.60</b>	<b>\$233.55</b>

# Current Public Safety Levy Structure and Potential Loss

**Levy Amount at a 1%  
increase per year**

2009	Public Safety	\$410,610
	Regular	\$568,051
		<hr/> \$978,661

2010	Public Safety	\$414,716
	Regular	\$573,732
		<hr/> \$988,448

2011	Public Safety	\$418,863
	Regular	\$579,469
		<hr/> \$998,332

Loss of \$418,863 divided by \$78,000 per entry Police Officer = 5.37 officers

If the City receives no Cops Grant = Eliminate 3 officers

If the City receives no Public Safety Levy = Eliminate 5 officers

Total Reduction = 8 officers



## 2009 Tax Levy Comparison

	City Levy	Avg School Levy	Avg EMS, County, Hospital, Library, etc	Avg. Total
Black Diamond Total	1.52	3.73	4.09	9.34
Enumclaw Total	1.92	4.19	4.64	10.75
Algona	1.38	4.32	5.07	10.77
Fire District	1.11			1.11
Algona Total	2.49			11.88
Covington	0.98	4.07	6.06	11.11
Fire District	1.45			1.45
Covington Total	2.43			12.56
Maple Valley	1.08	3.80	5.83	10.71
Fire District	1.50			1.50
Maple Valley Total	2.58			12.21



# Property Tax Analysis for Property Owners

	AV in Mil Rate \$	Levy \$ at 1% per yr	Levy Rate	Home Values	Annual Tax in \$	Monthly Tax in \$
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If the AV increases 5% per year

2009	643,196	978,661	1.52	300,000	\$456	\$38.00
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2010	675,356	978,661		300,000		
+5%		9,787		15,000		
		988,448	1.46	315,000	\$460	\$38.33

2011	709,123	988,448		315,000		
+5%		9,884		15,750		
		998,332	1.41	330,750	\$466	\$38.86

If the AV decreases 10% per year

2009	643,196	978,661	1.52	300,000	\$456	\$38.00
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2010	643,196	978,661		300,000		
-10%	-64,320	9,787		-30,000		
	578,876	988,448	1.71	270,000	\$461	\$38.42

2011	578,876	988,448		270,000		
-10%	-57,888	9,884		-27,000		
	520,989	998,332	1.92	243,000	\$466	\$38.80

If the AV decreases at a higher rate

2009	643,196	978,661	1.52	300,000	\$456	\$38.00
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2010	643,196	978,661		300,000		
-27%	-173,663	9,787		-81,000		
	469,533	988,448	2.11	219,000	\$461	\$38.42

2011	469,533	988,448		219,000		
	-23,477	9,884		-10,950		
-5%	446,056	998,332	2.24	208,050	\$466	\$38.80

NOTE: Increases or decreases in assessed valuation has little to do with the computed property tax bill, as Black Diamond's tax is basically limited to 101% of last year's property tax dollar's received. Therefore Black Diamond's property owners tax bills change only a few dollars each year regardless of property values.



## Property Tax Analysis - Setting Fixed Levy Rate

	AV in Mil Rate \$	Levy \$ at 1% per yr	Levy Rate	Home Values	Annual Tax in \$	Monthly Tax in \$
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If the AV increases 5% per year

2009	643,196	978,661	1.52	300,000	\$456	\$38.00
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2010	675,356	978,661	1.46	300,000		
+5%		9,787		15,000		
		988,448		315,000	\$460	\$38.33

2011	709,123	988,448	1.41	315,000		
+5%		9,884		15,750		
		998,332		330,750	\$466	\$38.86

If the Levy is set at \$1.86 with a 5% increase in AV

2011	709,123	1,318,969	1.86	330,750	\$615	\$51.27
+5%						
+5%						
Increase		320,637	+.34		\$149	\$12

If the Levy is set at \$1.86 with a 10% decrease in AV

2011	520,988	969,038	1.86	243,000	\$452	\$37.67
-10%						
-10%						
Decrease		-29,294	+.34		-\$14	-\$1

If the Levy is set at \$1.86 with a 27% decrease in AV

2011	446,056	829,664	1.86	219,000	\$407	\$33.95
-27%						
-5%						
Decrease		-168,668	+.34		-\$59	-\$5

Note. With a fixed levy, dollar amounts could increase or decrease a significant amount. If assessed valuation decreases the City would lose property tax dollars.



# City of Black Diamond Final Budget 2009

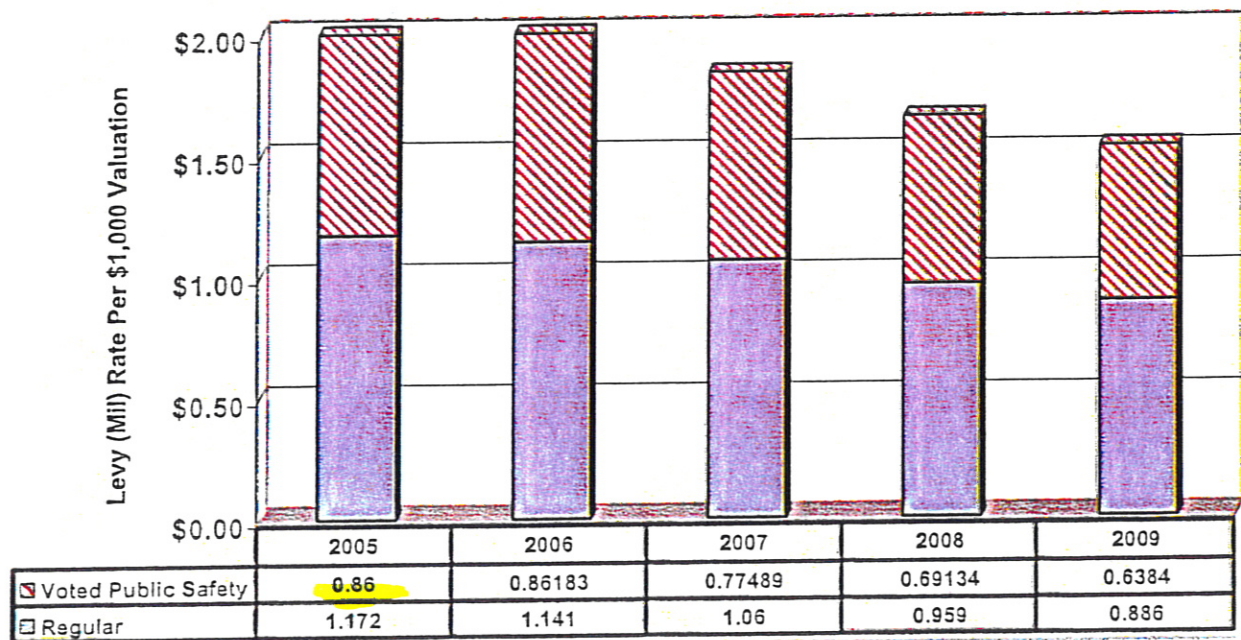
## 2009 General Fund Revenue Sources

### Property Tax

Property taxes are 55.5% of General Fund tax revenue and are expected to generate \$978,119 in revenue for the City in 2009. This includes an allowed 1% tax levy increase of \$9,514 plus \$20,921 from new construction taxes and other adjustments.

All revenues from property tax go directly to the General Fund in support of services such as police and fire protection. In 2009, 42% of property taxes or \$407,224 comes from a voted public safety levy due to expire in 2010. The total mil property tax rate for the City has decreased from \$2.032 per \$1,000 assessed valuation in 2005 to \$1.52 per \$1,000 in 2009. That equals an approximate 25% decrease in four years, due to Referendum 747 limiting the increase in the property tax levy to 1% above the previous year.

### Property Tax Levy History



Total Levy (Mil) Rate	2.032	2.003	1.835	1.65	1.52
Tax \$					
Voted Public Safety	371,187	386,823	391,522	395,437	407,224
Regular	505,632	516,165	537,412	553,662	570,895
Total	\$876,819	\$902,988	\$928,934	\$949,099	\$978,119*
Allowable Levy					3.10
Total Allowable Tax					\$1,993,908
Assessed Valuation	\$431,612,820	\$449,793,888	\$505,566,937	\$575,076,069	\$643,196,160

\* Note that King County adjusted Black Diamond's property tax levy to \$978,119 after the budget had been adopted at \$978,661.



## Public Safety is a Priority in Black Diamond

Did you know that 81% or \$2.5 million is devoted to Public Safety in the 2009 Net General Fund Budget? This money is dedicated to ensure our citizens and visitors are safe in Black Diamond. This budget covers the cost of the Police Department, contract with Fire District 44, Legal, Jail and Court costs. Marine costs are budgeted at \$28,505 with \$24,000 covered by a King County Boat Vessel Grant and \$460 in Marine Safety Revenue for a net cost of \$3,413. The 2009 budgeted expenditures for Public Safety are as follows:

	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Criminal Justice</b>	<b>Total</b>
Police	\$1,728,000	\$110,550	\$1,838,550
Fire	459,540		459,540
Court	281,016		281,016
Legal	87,000		87,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,555,556</b>	<b>\$110,550</b>	<b>\$2,666,106</b>

### How is Public Safety Funded in Black Diamond?

With Public Safety costing approximately \$2.5 million, it takes literally all of our tax money, as well as some dedicated and miscellaneous revenue. Even then we still had to use \$307,934 in cash reserves in 2009. The following lists the expected public safety revenue sources for 2009.

#### Public Safety Revenues:

Estimated 2009 Dedicated Revenue		
Police Boat Safety Grant	\$20,127	
Police traffic School fees	73,000	
Gun permits & Fin Perm	1,000	
KC EMS Contract	53,104	
Court Fines	180,000	
State Shared Liquor tax/profit	48,000	
Total Dedicated Revenue		\$375,660
Taxes		
Regular Property Taxes 2009	567,624	
<b>**Voted Public Safety Levy 2009</b>	<b>411,037</b>	
Total Property taxes		978,661
Sales Tax	224,000	
Utility Taxes	492,500	
Total Sales & Utility Taxes		716,500
Total Taxes		1,795,161
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>2,247,622</b>
Cash Reserves (shortfall used)		<b>384,734</b>
<b>Total Public Safety Sources of Revenue GF</b>		<b>\$2,555,556</b>
Criminal Justice Sales Tax Revenue		110,550
<b>Grand Total Public Safety Revenue</b>		<b>\$2,666,106</b>

**\*\*Voted Public Safety levy will expire in 2010**

**To ensure continued funding of Public Safety in Black Diamond, a voted Public Safety lid lift will need to be passed and in place in 2010. The County requires notice of lid lift the year before they take effect.**



## Property Tax Analysis - Fixed Dollar Options

	AV in Mil Rate \$	Levy \$ at 1% per yr	Levy Rate	Home Values	Annual Tax in \$	Monthly Tax in \$
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### Current Tax with 5% increase in AV each year

2011	709,123	998,332	1.41	330,750	\$466	\$38.86
------	---------	---------	------	---------	-------	---------

### Fixed Dollar Replacement Option 1

2011	709,123	1,318,969	1.86	330,750	\$615	\$51.27
------	---------	-----------	------	---------	-------	---------

(AV Increases 5% each year)

Increase		320,637	0.45		\$149	\$12
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### Fixed Dollar Replacement Option 2

2011	709,123	1,439,520	2.03	330,750	\$671	\$55.95
------	---------	-----------	------	---------	-------	---------

(AV Increases 5% each year)

Increase		441,188	0.62		\$205	\$17
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### Fixed Dollar Public Safety Shortfall Option 3

2011	709,123	1,824,254	2.57	330,750	\$851	\$70.91
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(AV Increases 5% each year)

Increase		825,922	1.16		\$385	\$32
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Note: Property tax levy rates are used to arrive at a fixed dollar increase. The actual levy will be calculated by King County. The Lid Lift dollar increase is the factor that changes Black Diamond's property tax bills as noted in the last two columns. The amounts are estimates are based on current information.



## 2009 Tax Levy Comparison

	City Levy	Avg School Levy	Avg EMS, County, Hospital, Library, etc	Avg. Total
<b>Black Diamond Total*</b>	1.52	3.73	4.09	9.34
<b>Enumclaw Total*</b>	1.92	4.19	4.64	10.75
<b>Algona</b>	1.38	4.32	5.07	10.77
Fire District	1.11			1.11
<b>Algona Total</b>	2.49			11.88
<b>Covington</b>	0.98	4.07	6.06	11.11
Fire District	1.45			1.45
<b>Covington Total</b>	2.43			12.56
<b>Maple Valley</b>	1.08	3.80	5.83	10.71
Fire District	1.50			1.50
<b>Maple Valley Total</b>	2.58			12.21

### Black Diamond Voted Public Safety Lid Lift

#### Options

<b>1. BD Replacement Levy*</b>	1.86	3.73	4.09	9.68
<b>2. BD Replacement Levy*</b>	2.03	3.73	4.09	9.85
<b>3. BD Replacement Shortfall Levy*</b>	2.46	3.73	4.09	10.28

\* Includes Fire Services

Note. The three property tax options are estimates, but show that even at the highest option, our citizens will pay the lowest combined rate.

**May Miller**

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**From:** Gantz, Hazel [Hazel.Gantz@kingcounty.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2009 9:53 AM  
**To:** May Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Public Safety Lid lift for Black Diamond

*Hi May,*

*The city can ask for a multi year lid lift up to 6 consecutive years. A simple majority is needed for it to pass. A rate or dollar amount can only be used for the first year of the lid lift, afterwards a limit factor has to be used as in the CPI-W June that you have stated.*

*You must specify after the end of the lid lift what is to be done - recalculate the levy as if it never existed or use the final year of the levy as the levy basis for subsequent years.*

*As far as I can tell the values throughout the county are going down. Check our website at [www.kingcounty.gov/assessor/reports](http://www.kingcounty.gov/assessor/reports) and look at our 2009 Area Reports to get an indication on how much they are going down. We do not have a good estimate on how much each district's value is going down, but looking at the reports will give you some info. You are right that if you request a rate and the value goes down, the city may not get the amount of funds needed, but specify a dollar amount the first year will at least get the city to the amount they will need for the first year and subsequent years using a limit factor. So, if the city requested \$350,000 for the first year, then the following year the limit factor from the CPI-w June is 3.9%, then for the 2011 tax year the city would get \$362,250, thereby increasing the amount each year for the lid. Keep in mind the city will have no control over the rate of the lid if it is done in that manner.*

*If you would like once the city decides to place the lid on the ballot, send the ballot title to me to review and I will be able to inform you better on if what you are requesting can be done. Anything I can do to assist you, I will be more than happy to do.*

*I am attaching a copy of the RCW relating to lid lifts for your use. If you have further questions, let me know.*

**RCW 84.55.050**

## **Election to authorize increase in regular property tax levy — Limited propositions — Procedure.**

\*\*\* CHANGE IN 2009 \*\*\* (SEE 5433-S2.SL) \*\*\*

(1) Subject to any otherwise applicable statutory dollar rate limitations, regular property taxes may be levied by or for a taxing district in an amount exceeding the limitations provided for in this chapter if such levy is authorized by a proposition approved by a majority of the voters of the taxing district voting on the proposition at a general election held within the district or at a special election within the taxing district called by the district for the purpose of submitting such proposition to the voters. Any election held pursuant to this section shall be held not more than twelve months prior to the date on which the proposed levy is to be made, except as provided in subsection (2) of this section. The ballot of the proposition shall state the dollar rate proposed and shall clearly state the conditions, if any, which are applicable under subsection (4) of this section.

(2) Subject to statutory dollar limitations, a proposition placed before the voters under this section may authorize annual increases in levies for multiple consecutive years, up to six consecutive years, during which period each year's authorized maximum legal levy shall be used as the base upon which an increased levy limit for the succeeding year is computed, but the ballot proposition must state the dollar rate proposed only for the first year of the consecutive years and must state the limit factor, or a specified index to be used for determining a limit factor, such as the consumer price index, which need not be the

6/29/2009

14

## Executive Summary Report

### Characteristics-Based Market Adjustment for 2009 Assessment Roll

Area Name / Number: Fairwood / 30

Previous Physical Inspection: 2003

Improved Sales: 401

Range of Sale Dates: 1/2007 - 12/2008

#### Sales – Average Improved Valuation Change Summary

	Land	Imps	Total	Sale Price**	Ratio	COV*
2008 Value	\$113,700	\$208,400	\$322,100			
2009 Value	\$113,700	\$147,600	\$261,300	\$309,400	84.5%	7.16%
Change	\$0	-\$60,800	-\$60,800			
% Change	0.0%	-29.2%	-18.9%			

\*COV is a measure of uniformity; the lower the number the better the uniformity.

\*\* Sales adjusted to 1/1/09.

Sales used in this analysis: All sales of one to three unit residences on residential lots which were verified as, or appeared to be market sales were considered for the analysis. Sales along with values were market adjusted to 1/1/09. Individual sales that were excluded are listed later in this report. Multi-parcel sales, multi-building sales, mobile home sales, and sales of new construction where less than a 100% complete house was assessed for 2008 or any existing residence where the data for 2008 is significantly different from the data for 2009 due to remodeling were also excluded. In addition, the summary above excludes sales of parcels that had improvement value of \$25,000 or less posted for the 2008 Assessment Roll. This also excludes previously vacant and destroyed property partial value accounts.

#### Population - Improved Parcel Summary:

	Land	Imps	Total
2008 Value	\$117,300	\$208,100	\$325,400
2009 Value	\$117,300	\$149,100	\$266,400
Percent Change	0.0%	-28.4%	-18.1%

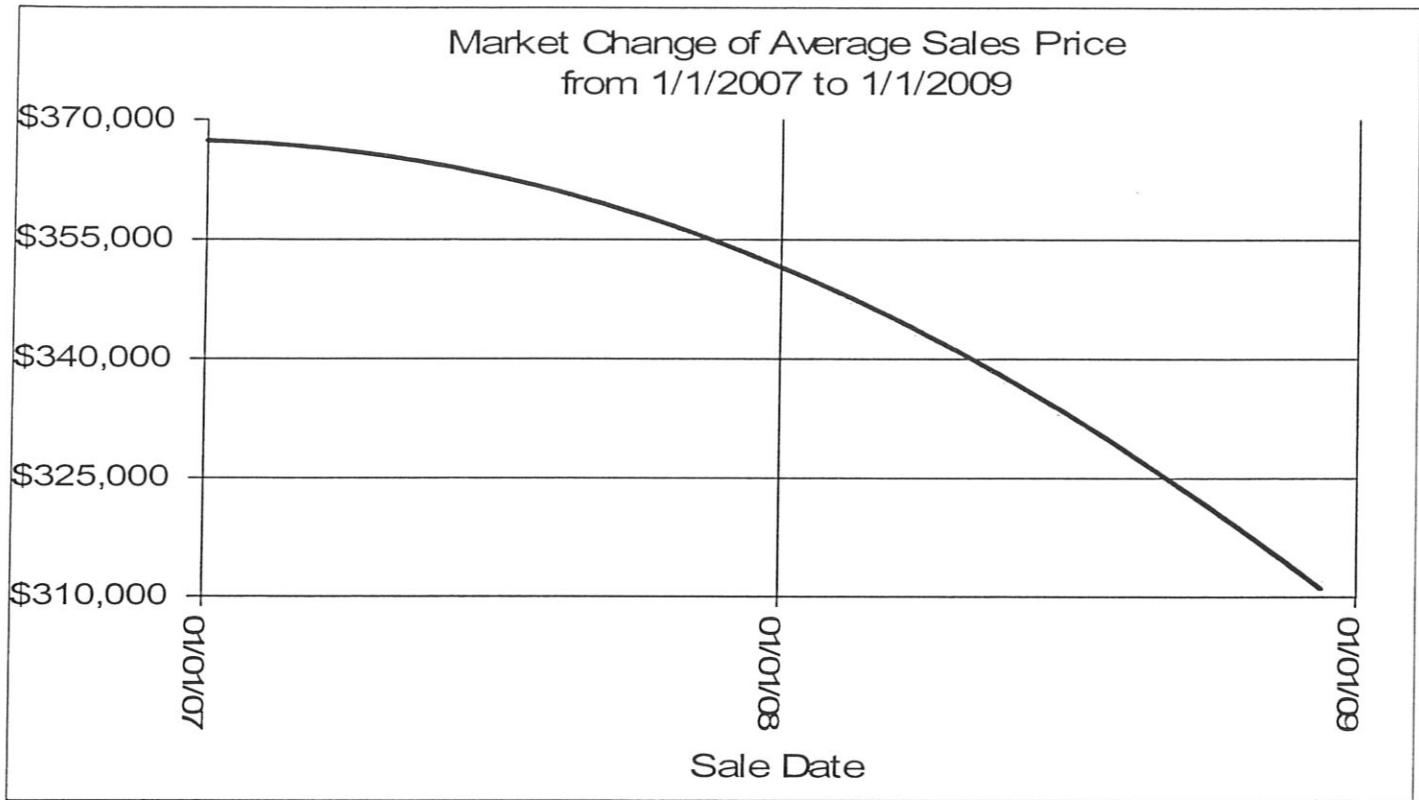
Number of one to three unit residences in the Population: 6641

**Summary of Findings:** The analysis for this area consisted of a general review of applicable characteristics. The analysis results showed that two Townhouse plat variables needed to be included in the update formula in order to improve uniformity of assessments throughout the area. For instance the Townhouse plats of Glacier View. Ph.1 and Glacier View. Ph. 2 had higher average ratios (Assessed Value/Sales Price) and required further downward adjustments. As described in the model validation section of this report, sales and values were adjusted to 1/1/09 with an additional adjustment of .85 made to all properties. Exceptions may be found in the Improved Parcel Update section.

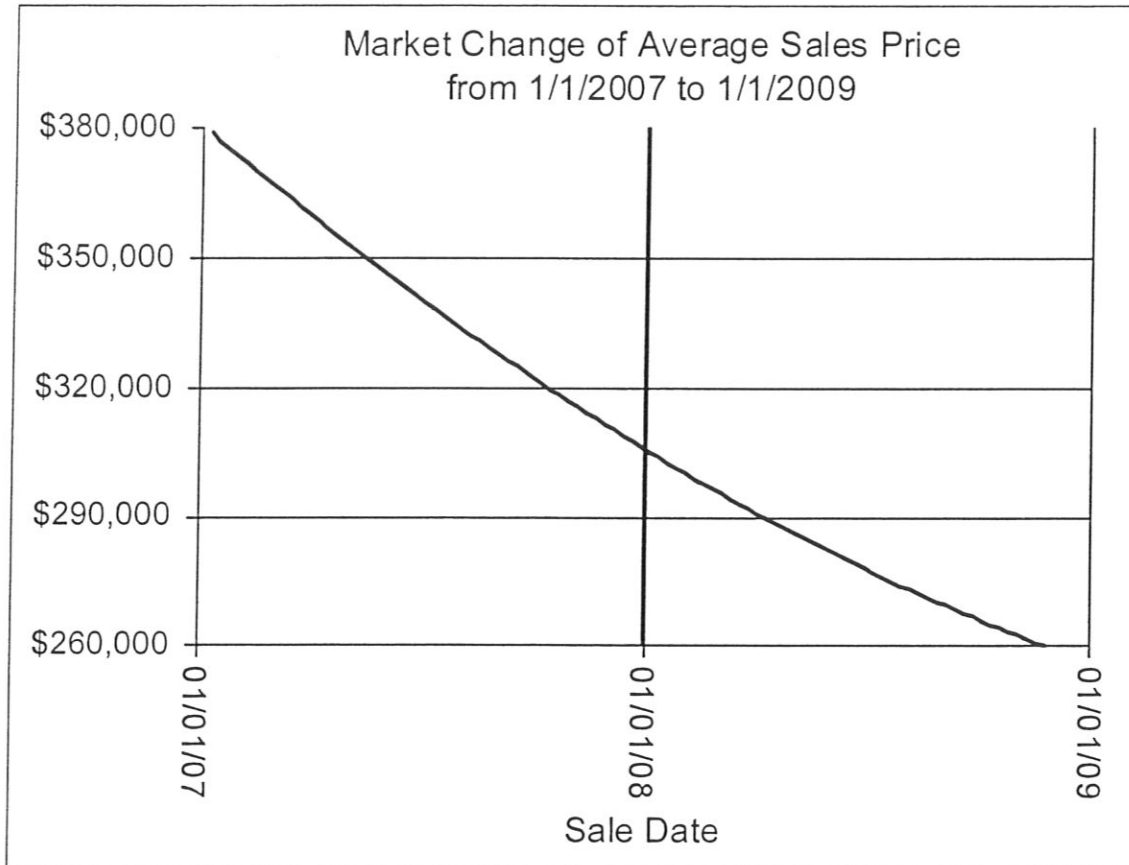
The Annual Update Values described in this report improve uniformity and equity. We recommend posting these values for the 2009 assessment roll.



*Market Change of Average Sale Price in Area 30  
From 1/1/07 to 1/1/09*



*Market Change of Average Sale Price in Area 90  
From 1/1/07 to 1/1/09*



# Executive Summary Report

## Characteristics-Based Market Adjustment for 2009 Assessment Roll

**Area Name / Number:** Alpentel\Skykomish\Environs / 90  
**Previous Physical Inspection:** 2008

**Improved Sales:**

Number of Sales: 18  
 Range of Sale Dates: 1/2007 - 12/2008

Sales – Average Improved Valuation Change Summary						
	Land	Imps	Total	Sale Price**	Ratio	COV*
<b>2008 Value</b>	\$56,400	\$239,400	\$295,800			
<b>2009 Value</b>	\$47,500	\$168,200	\$215,700	\$255,000	84.6%	18.24%
<b>Change</b>	-\$8,900	-\$71,200	-\$80,100			
<b>% Change</b>	-15.8%	-29.7%	-27.1%			

\*COV is a measure of uniformity; the lower the number the better the uniformity.

\*\* Sales adjusted to 1/1/09.

Sales used in this analysis: All sales of one to three unit residences on residential lots which were verified as, or appeared to be market sales were considered for the analysis. Sales along with values were market adjusted to 1/1/09. Individual sales that were excluded are listed later in this report. Multi-parcel sales, multi-building sales, mobile home sales, and sales of new construction where less than a 100% complete house was assessed for 2008 or any existing residence where the data for 2008 is significantly different from the data for 2009 due to remodeling were also excluded. In addition, the summary above excludes sales of parcels that had improvement value of \$25,000 or less posted for the 2008 Assessment Roll. This also excludes previously vacant and destroyed property partial value accounts.

**Population - Improved Parcel Summary:**

	Land	Imps	Total
<b>2008 Value</b>	\$56,400	\$189,500	\$245,900
<b>2009 Value</b>	\$47,400	\$131,700	\$179,100
<b>Percent Change</b>	-16.0%	-30.5%	-27.2%

Number of one to three unit residences in the Population: 686

**Summary of Findings:** The analysis for this area consisted of a general review of applicable characteristics. As described in the model validation section of this report, sales and values were adjusted to 1/1/09 with an additional adjustment of .85 made to all properties. Exceptions may be found in the Improved Parcel Update section. Overall, the area received a single standard area adjustment.

The Annual Update Values described in this report improve uniformity and equity. We recommend posting these values for the 2009 assessment roll.

## Where do your property taxes go?

With most folks having just received property tax statements from King County, this is a timely question. Many homeowners are a bit mystified as to how the postcard from King County relates to their own personal property taxes, and what their taxes actually fund.

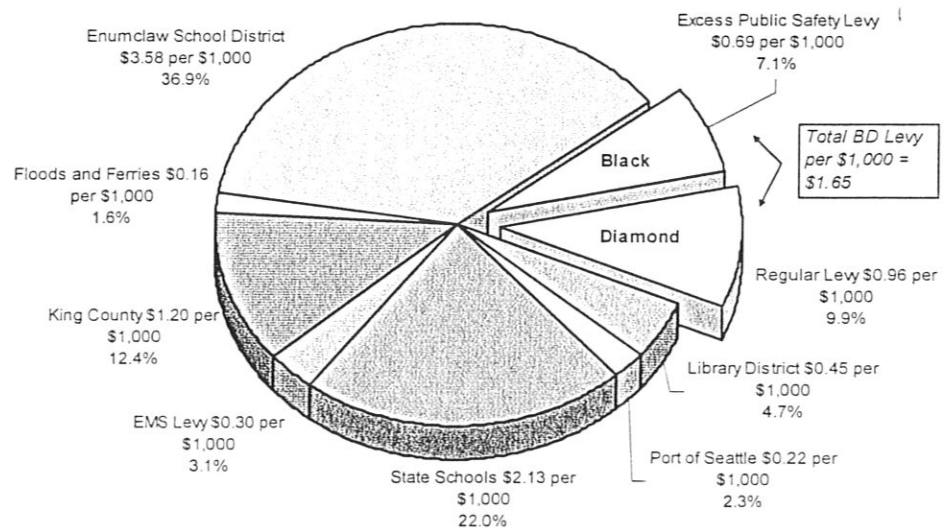
The property tax cards show a pie chart of how the county's property taxes are distributed. That pie chart reflects aggregate totals and not individual property tax information. So, depending on where in the county your property is located, levied tax amounts can differ greatly.

To find how your own property tax dollars are distributed, we encourage you to visit King County's website. The site has an online parcel viewer showing specifics for each property in the county. The website is [www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov) and once there, enter the term "Parcel Viewer" in the search box. Look for the "Interactive Property Research Tool" link, then click the parcel viewer button. King County properties can then be located by the parcel ID number or by street address. If searching by address, only input the basic street name without abbreviations or direction. For example, if you live on 15<sup>th</sup> St. SE, just enter 15 for the street name. Once your parcel information appears, click "get property report." Toward the bottom of that web page click "property tax information on this property." In the real property tax section under the tab 2009 tax/fee distribution, you will find specifics on your own property.

Property tax levies usually vary even within a city's limits because different jurisdictions have overlapping boundaries. For example, the majority of Black Diamond citizens are in the Enumclaw School District and are taxed for 2008 at the rate of \$3.58 per \$1,000 of the assessed valuation as determined by the King County Assessor's office. Other Black Diamond residents in the Tahoma School District have a levy rate of \$3.87. Furthermore, some Black Diamond residents support Kent School District and paid \$4.39 per \$1,000, and some of our residents reside in the Auburn School District and paid \$4.41. Some properties in our City have charges under the heading of "Other." These fees are not a tax, but rather special charges, such as the \$5.50 Surface Water Management Bond issue for King County.

The following graph shows all the pieces of property taxes a Black Diamond property owner in the Enumclaw School District paid for tax year 2008. The total approximate levy was \$9.69 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. Of this amount the City of Black Diamond received \$1.65 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation or about 17%. The rest goes to the local school district, State schools, King County, Port of Seattle, Library District, and the Emergency Medical Services levy voted in by residents.

**City of Black Diamond  
2008 Property Tax Distribution**  
Taxed amount is per each \$1,000 in assessed value



Note that for every \$100 paid in property taxes, only \$17.00 comes back to Black Diamond to support municipal services.

King County does provide a senior/disability property tax exemption if the taxpayer is 61 years of age or older and has an annual income of less than \$35,000. Some other disability exemptions are also provided. You can call King County at (206) 296-3920 or find the rules online at [www.kingcounty.gov/Assessor/Exemptions](http://www.kingcounty.gov/Assessor/Exemptions).



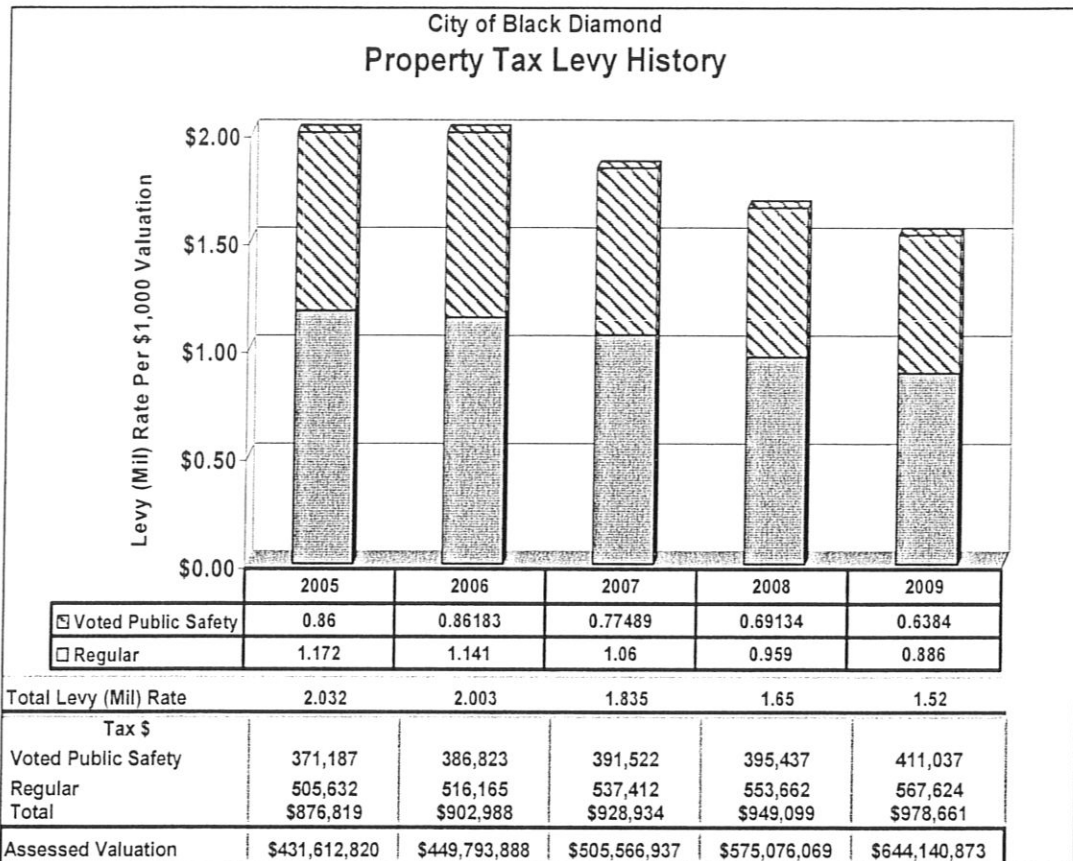
## Why do I hear that property tax rates go down? (Taxes continued from page 5)

Good question. While your total bill could go up due to voted levies from other taxing jurisdictions, Black Diamond's levy rate has been dropping.

For a typical Black Diamond homeowner in the Enumclaw School District with land and buildings valued at \$300,000, the property tax is \$2,907 for 2008 with approximately \$495 going to the City of Black Diamond. This primarily pays for public safety (see article on page 5).

King County sets the property (land and building) valuations. Cities can only increase the base amount of property taxes collected each year by 1%. In 2009, the total beginning property tax amount in Black Diamond was \$978,661, thus the

total additional base tax the City could add for 2009 was \$9,787. King County then divides the total tax amount by each parcel's assessed valuation. The result is the levy (or mil) rate to be assessed. Since values have increased for the last few years, Black Diamond levy rates have been decreasing. See the graph above.



To better understand how a levy cap works in a more typical situation, let's take the model of rent due for a home shared by three college students. No matter how many occupy the home, the base rent is the same. To begin, they split the base rent of \$1,500/per month three ways. In this case, the total rent due is much like a property tax levy under I-747 in that no matter how many people help with the rent, it stays the same amount. It is the total amount to be collected. And in this case, the number of student renters act like the assessed value—it's the way the charges are spread over all of the payers. So for the three co-renters that means a monthly payment of \$500 each. If the rent doesn't change and they add a new roommate, that same amount is spread over four students, decreasing the per-student payment to \$375 per month. Even if the rent were to rise by \$100 to \$1,600, the students would only pay \$400, still reduced for the three original renters. That same example can be used to explain property taxes:

### Levy Year 2007

Property Tax = \$949,099

Divided by Assessed Valuation:  
\$505,566,937

Equals Levy Rate: \$1.835  
(per \$1,000 of value)

Black Diamond's share of tax on a home  
valued at \$300,000/1,000 x \$1.835 = \$551

### Levy Year 2008

Property Tax = \$978,661  
(1% increase + value of new construction)

Divided by Assessed Valuation:  
\$575,076,069

Equals Levy Rate: \$1.65  
(per \$1,000 of value)

Black Diamond's share of tax on a home  
valued at \$300,000/1,000 x \$1.65 = \$495

This is a real life example for Black Diamond: In 2008, the property taxes paid per \$1,000 of property values decreased from a little over \$1.83 to \$1.65, or for a \$300,000 valued home, from \$551 to \$495 per year.

## Celebrate safely over the holidays



The holidays are a time of celebration for many people, but it is also a time when fires and injury are common. In 2005, there were 210 house fires across the nation that started when a Christmas tree caught fire. About 13 percent of home fires caused by candles happen

in December compared to about 4 percent during the entire rest of the year.

Mountain View Fire & Rescue/Black Diamond Fire Department would like everyone to have a wonderful and safe holiday season. To help keep safety "top of mind," here are a few tips:

### Holiday Trees

- ♦ **Selecting a tree:** Needles on fresh trees should be green and hard to pull back from the branches, and the needle should not break if the tree has been freshly cut. The trunk should be sticky to the touch. Old trees can be identified by bouncing the tree trunk on the ground. If many needles fall off, the tree has been cut too long, has probably dried out, and is a fire hazard.
- ♦ **Caring for your tree:** Do not place your tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks. Be careful not to drop or flick cigarette ashes near a tree. Do not put your live tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks. Keep the tree stand filled with water at all times.
- ♦ **Disposing of your tree:** Never put tree branches or needles in a fireplace or wood burning stove. When the tree becomes dry, discard it promptly. The best way to

dispose of your tree is by taking it to a recycling center or having it hauled away by a community pick-up service.

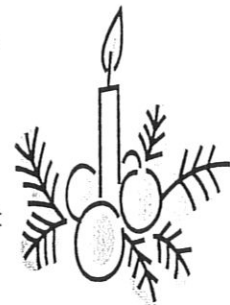


### Holiday Lights

- ♦ **Maintain your holiday lights:** Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear before putting them up. Use only lighting listed by an approved testing laboratory.
- ♦ **Do NOT overload electrical outlets:** Do not link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it is safe. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet. Make sure to periodically check the wires -- they should not be warm to the touch.
- ♦ **Do NOT leave holiday lights on unattended.** Keep children and pets away from light strings and electrical decorations.

### Holiday Decorations and Candles

- ♦ **Keep holiday decorations safe:** All decorations should be nonflammable or flame-retardant and placed away from heat vents. Be sure to keep breakable objects or heavy objects that can be pulled down away from children and pets. Also, never put wrapping paper in a fireplace.
- ♦ **Use candles wisely:** Never leave lit candles unattended. Be sure to keep children and pets away from lit candles. Also, keep candles away from decorations and other combustible materials, and do not use candles to decorate Christmas trees.



*(To access links for more information on candles and Christmas tree safety, please go to [www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us](http://www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us) on the homepage under documents and click on the newsletter).*

## Black Diamond Police busy protecting the peace



For the Black Diamond Police Department, October was a busy and productive month. Officers responded to 230 calls for service ranging from burglary reports to domestic disputes, thefts, traffic collisions and other crimes. Officers initiated approximately 340 traffic stops. Of those traffic stops, about 190 warnings were given and 150 citations were issued including 14 citations for driving under the influence (DUI).



So far this year, officers have responded to over 2,100 calls for service and have initiated over 3,000 traffic stops. About 1,600 of those traffic stops resulted in a warning and about 1,400 citations. Black Diamond Officers have made 65 arrests for DUI already this year.

Remember to drive safely during the upcoming holiday season and use a designated driver while attending holiday celebrations. Black Diamond officers will be on proactive patrols for seat belt violations, speeding violations and DUI emphasis patrols to help keep our community safe over the holidays.

## Fire district in third year of protecting Black Diamond



### Background on department

In June of 2006, the City of Black Diamond and King County Fire District #44 (Mountain View Fire and Rescue) entered into an agreement for fire and emergency medical services. Under this agreement, fire services were regionalized. The Mountain View and Black Diamond fire departments now operate as one department under the direction of Chief Greg Smith.

King County Fire District #44 is not under the jurisdiction of, nor does it report to, King County government. It is its own autonomous taxing district governed by an elected Board of Fire Commissioners. All members of the board are residents of the District.

### District funding sources

Fire services in the District are funded through property taxes specifically collected for the Fire District. Fire districts in the state are limited to \$1.50 per \$1,000 dollars of property value as determined by the King County Assessor. For example, a \$300,000 home would pay a maximum of \$450 a year in fire district taxes. All of these funds go directly to the District and are controlled by the Board of Commissioners. However, the district has been limited to a 1% increase in funding each year since Initiative 747 passed in 2001. This effectively lowers the rate over a period of years. In 2005, Mountain View collected \$1.31 per \$1,000 until the voters of the District approved a levy lid lift to reinstate the \$1.50 per \$1,000 rate.

### Black Diamond services

Fire services in Black Diamond are funded out of the General Fund. Property taxes, sales taxes, utility taxes and other taxes and fees provide the revenues for that fund.

The citizens of Black Diamond currently pay about \$.63 per \$1,000 of assessed value for fire and emergency medical services based on the current contract costs the City pays to the District. The City currently has a public safety levy that assists in paying the costs for both police and fire protection. This levy terminates at the end of 2010 unless it is reinstated.

### Merger capital bond passed

King County Fire District #17 that surrounded Black Diamond in the unincorporated area was merged into Mountain View by a vote of the citizens of District #17. This merger took place on January 1, 2009. In the fall of 2008, the citizens of Mountain View voted to authorize a \$7.5 million dollar capital bond issue. These funds will replace fire apparatus, safety equipment and one fire station. While the citizens of Black Diamond and those of the former District #17 will not pay for these bonds, they will benefit from the improvements.



### *From Black Diamond Fire / Mountain View Fire & Rescue*

Our mission is to protect life and property from the threat of fire and other dangers, and to provide emergency medical care to victims of accidents and other medical conditions. We appreciate the support our citizens give to our Department and understand that, without your support, we could not fulfill our mission.

We operate as one department. You may see Black Diamond or you may see Mountain View on the sides of emergency vehicles in the city, because we operate without borders. In total, Mountain View's resources from each of its six stations plus the two stations operated out of Black Diamond equal almost 100 combined career and volunteer firefighter/EMTs. All of our staff and resources are utilized to provide the most efficient and effective service to our citizens.

We ask each of our citizens to check and test their smoke detectors regularly and learn basic first aid and CPR. The Fire Department offers classes and information that citizens can use to keep them and their families safe. Visit us at [www.kcfd44.org](http://www.kcfd44.org) or link to us from the City of Black Diamond's website. We offer information on disaster preparedness, home fire safety and other topics. Just click on the public information tab. You may also reach us at (253) 735-0284 or at [info@kcfd44.org](mailto:info@kcfd44.org).

- Fire Chief Greg Smith



## February is American Heart Month

Sudden cardiac arrest is a major cause of death in the United States. It claims about 335,000 lives each year. Sudden cardiac arrest means that the heart stops pumping blood. This can happen suddenly and without warning. There are many causes for cardiac arrest which include a heart attack, electrical shock or near-drowning.

The American Heart Association reports that 75 percent to 80 percent of all out-of-hospital cardiac arrests happen at home. So learning CPR may help you save the life of a loved one if they have sudden cardiac arrest while you are with them. If bystander CPR is not provided, a sudden cardiac arrest victim's chances of survival fall about 10% for every minute of delay until CPR and defibrillation is started, and brain death starts to occur 4 to 6 minutes if no CPR and defibrillation occurs.

Mountain View Fire & Rescue/Black Diamond Fire Department have first aid classes, and CPR classes that are open to the public. The classes are taught by fire department personnel and are conveniently held at various locations within the district. For more information on attending a class, please visit [www.kcfd44.org](http://www.kcfd44.org) or call Tim Perciful at (253) 735-0284.

Some warning signs of a heart attack:

- ★ Chest discomfort. This discomfort may come and go and may feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain.
- ★ Discomfort in other areas of the upper body. Symptoms can include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, the neck, jaw or stomach.
- ★ Shortness of breath, cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

Denial is very common with heart attack victims. Heart attacks can happen to men and women of all races and ethnicities. If you suspect that someone is having a heart attack tell them to sit quietly and then you should call 9-1-1.

Learn more about the American Heart Association's efforts to reduce death caused by cardiovascular disease at [www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org)

For more information on attending first aid and CPR classes please visit [www.kcfd44.org](http://www.kcfd44.org) or call Tim Perciful at (253) 735-0284.



## 1<sup>st</sup> annual citizens' police academy begins in March



The Black Diamond Police Department is hosting its 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Citizens' Police Academy. The citizens' academy is a free, seven-week, two-nights-per week classroom based course that includes hands-on learning and mock scenes. Our goal is to facilitate a better understanding of the criminal justice system and local police services through education. A time commitment of two evenings per week for seven weeks is required. Class begins March 3, 2009. Class hours are from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. There will also be one Saturday scheduled for firearms and emergency vehicle operations. The class will be hosted at the Black Diamond Elementary School Library located at 25314 Baker Street. The curriculum of the academy is intended to provide a comprehensive overview of the operational dynamics of the Black Diamond Police Department. Classes include criminal law, police patrol procedures, 9-1-1 communications, crime prevention, driving under the influence (DUI), traffic enforcement, domestic violence, school violence, narcotics and investigations. There will also be K-9 demonstrations, student participation in "mock scenes," and hands-on firearms and emergency vehicle operations. All applicants interested in attending the citizens' police academy must be at least 18 years of age or a high school senior, have a valid driver's license, no felony convictions or outstanding warrants. There is no requirement that a participant live or work in the City of Black Diamond. All applicants are subject to a background check. There is no fee to attend the academy and class notebooks and identification badges will be provided to participants.

If you are interested in attending the academy, please visit the City of Black Diamond's website at [www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us](http://www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us). Click on "Departments" then click on Police Department. Print out the application form and return it to the Black Diamond Police Department by February 18, 2009. If you have any questions, call Debbie McGraw or Amy Murphy at (253) 631-1012 or email [contactus@police.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us](mailto:contactus@police.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us).





## Spring forward with fire safety on March 8

Daylight savings time is coming up on March 8 and there are a couple of other things that you should do besides changing your clocks. Daylight savings time is a great time to provide maintenance to your smoke alarms. Several studies have concluded that when working smoke alarms are present, the chance of dying from fire is cut in half.

The primary job of a smoke alarm is to protect you from fires while you are asleep. Thus, your alarms should be located between any sleeping persons and the rest of the house, outside bedrooms or sleeping areas, and on each level of the home.

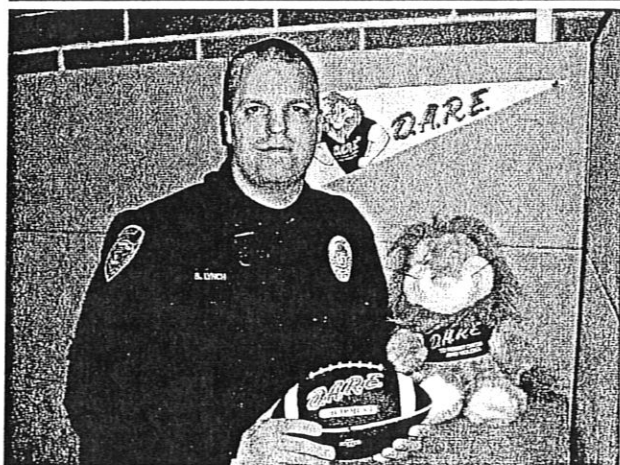
There are two types of home smoke alarms available; ion and photoelectric. The ion models react faster to open flaming fires and are usually the least expensive.

The photoelectric models react faster to smoldering fires and are less likely to react to cooking. Both types provide good protection and can be used without worry. If you need more than one alarm, you might get one of each.



Smoke alarms should be tested once a month by pressing the button on the alarm. If this is too high to reach then you may use a broom handle or something similar to reach the button. The alarm will need to have the batteries changed and cleaned on a regular basis. Daylight saving time is a great time to do this.

Mountain View Fire & Rescue/Black Diamond Fire Department has a smoke alarm program where people can receive a **FREE** smoke alarm. Please call Tim Perciful at (253) 735-0284 for more information.



## Officer accepts D.A.R.E.

D.A.R.E. will be returning to the Black Diamond Elementary School in April when Officer Brian Lynch steps into the classroom for the first time.

D.A.R.E. is short for Drug Abuse Resistance Education, or the police officer-led series of classroom lessons that in some communities starts in kindergarten and continues through high school graduation. In Black Diamond, the focus is on elementary school children. For more information, visit [www.dare.com](http://www.dare.com).

To prepare himself for this new challenge, Officer Lynch recently withstood below freezing temperatures and two feet of snow in New Hampshire to become certified as a D.A.R.E. instructor. The highly intense 80-hour training course culminated in Officer Lynch

teaching a 5<sup>th</sup> grade lesson at the Center Strafford Elementary School.

"I was extremely nervous going into the class, but it didn't take long before I remembered how to connect with the children," said Officer Lynch. "It made the trip and the class, and the two weeks away from my own family all worth it."

After years of going into the elementary schools in Enumclaw to teach safety to his own daughter's classes, Officer Lynch has taken on the important responsibility of instructing the children of Black Diamond on how to stay alcohol and drug free. "It started when my daughter was in kindergarten," he said. "I would bring the police car to the school and talk about how to be safe around strangers, or at the bus stop, or how and when to dial 9-1-1. She liked it so much that I came back a couple times a year until she moved on to middle school."

Now Officer Lynch will be able to provide even more children with the decision making tools offered in D.A.R.E.'s 10-week curriculum.

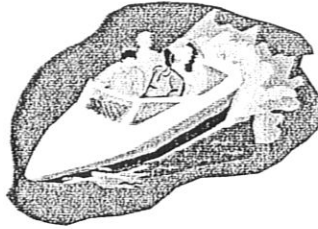


## SUN, FUN AND SAFETY: THE MARINE UNIT

Summer is a great time to enjoy Lake Sawyer and other local lakes and water bodies. With the element of fun and a little sun, however, boaters may forget to put safety first. That's where the Black Diamond Police Department Marine Services Unit comes in to protect our citizens and visitors.

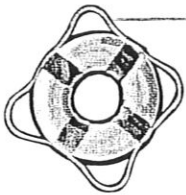
The Marine Services Unit's primary duties are to enforce the boating safety laws of the City of Black Diamond and the State of Washington on beautiful Lake Sawyer. In addition, the Marine Services Unit:

- Performs boating law enforcement patrols
- Performs boating safety inspections
- Investigates boating accidents
- Provides Boating Education Card classes
- Maintains our current patrol vessels, ensuring they are in proper working order



Each Officer that participates within the unit received advanced training in Marine Law Enforcement and is expected to maintain proficiency in operating the patrol vessels. Currently, our Police Department has the privilege of operating a brand new, state of the art, 20-foot Pro-Line Government Series Police Boat and a Bombardier Wave Runner. Officers patrol Lake Sawyer during the primary boating season of May through September; however, boating and water-related activities occur year round.

The Marine Services Unit would like to remind Black Diamond residents and visitors who use Lake Sawyer of some of the important rules and safety tips that will help keep this boating season safe and enjoyable for everyone. Remember the following are only a few of the rules. For a complete brochure, you can visit the Police Department or visit the Washington State Parks and Recreation Website at [www.parks.wa.gov/boating/](http://www.parks.wa.gov/boating/) for state laws regarding boating and the new Washington State Mandatory Boating Safety Education Law that went into effect on January 1, 2008.



## CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND BOATING REGULATIONS

- ▣ **Required Vessel Safety Equipment:**  
Personal flotation devices (life jackets) are required in every vessel for each person on board. The life jacket must be of appropriate size, in serviceable condition and readily available. Additionally, vessels 16 feet or longer must also carry a throw-able type IV flotation device. Every child 12 years of age or younger must wear a Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device while on board any vessel, except while in a cabin. Vessels shall also have a fire extinguisher and a sound producing device, such as a horn or whistle.
- ▣ **Vessel Registration:**  
You are required to carry the vessel registration certificate on board at all times. In Washington State, vessel registrations expire every year on June 30th. On the first of July, every boater should have the new validation sticker displayed on the vessel behind the hull numbers.
- ▣ **Speed Limits And Hours Of Operation:**  
You may only operate your vessel above 5 m.p.h. during designated times on Lake Sawyer. Vessels may exceed the 5 m.p.h. speed limit between the hours of 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Monday through Friday and from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sunday, and holidays. Speeds of 5 m.p.h. or less (no wake) are required when operating within the buoys. The maximum speed limit on Lake Sawyer is 36 m.p.h. providing you are outside the buoys and at least 100 feet from any other vessel.
- ▣ **Direction of Travel:**  
The general direction of travel is counter-clockwise around the lake.
- ▣ **Restricted Areas and Buoys:**  
Certain areas of the lake have been designated as restricted or regulated areas. A visible system of buoys has been installed to identify these areas. Please observe and obey all restrictions and speed limits. It is illegal to move or remove any marker buoy placed by law enforcement. Additionally, it is unlawful to strike or damage a buoy in any way. Marker buoys are not for boat moorage or swimming activities.
- ▣ **Reckless or Negligent Operation:**  
It will be considered reckless to operate a vessel while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug. Boating under the influence (BUI) will be aggressively prosecuted. Negligent operation may include disregard of careful and prudent operation and speeds.
- ▣ **Water Skiing Safety:**  
An observer is required when towing any person on water skis, inner tubes, kneeboards, or other water toys. They shall continuously observe the person being towed and immediately display a flag whenever the person is in the water. The flag must be at least a 12-inch square mounted on a 24-inch pole or longer and be either bright red or brilliant orange in color. A life jacket is to be worn by the person being towed.
- ▣ **Personal Watercraft Safety:**  
A life jacket is required for operating personal watercraft such as jet skis and wave runners. No one may operate a personal watercraft without attaching the lanyard to his or her person, clothing or personal flotation device. It is illegal to disable or remove an engine cutoff switch. You must be at least 16 years old to operate a personal watercraft on Lake Sawyer. It cannot be operated after legal sunset or before legal sunrise. It is illegal to operate a personal watercraft in a reckless manner and execute tight 360-degree turns commonly referred to as "spinning donuts". Additionally, you must carry a fire extinguisher and sound signaling device. A personal watercraft must be registered just like an ordinary vessel.
- ▣ **Vessel Inspections:** Marine Service officers will make courtesy inspections of vessels both on the water and at the launch facility. Our primary concern is for boating safety and education. If you are a Black Diamond resident and would like to schedule a vessel inspection at your residence, please call the Police Department at (253) 631-1012. Upon successful completion, you will be provided with a safety inspection sticker which may save you time getting in the water at the boat launch.

### BEFORE YOU JUMP IN, READ THESE IMPORTANT WATER SAFETY TIPS!

- Know the hazards before you jump. Swim only in safe areas and be conscious of 'cold shock' - hypothermia from cold water can occur in minutes.
- Do not use intoxicants and swim.
- Never swim alone.
- Use a Coast Guard-approved life jacket (water wings are not life jackets!).
- Throw, Don't Go! Throw an object to assist someone in distress before jumping in.
- Never leave children alone or unsupervised near water.
- Be a "Water Watcher!" Assign an adult to supervise children around water at all times!
- Children should always wear a life jacket when in or around water.
- Learn CPR!

Don't forget to visit [www.parks.wa.gov/boating/](http://www.parks.wa.gov/boating/) for the State Boating Rules and Regulations!

## The Economic Development Department

The Economic Development Department came into existence with the appointment of Economic Development Director Andrew Williamson in the fall of 2007.

The purpose of the Economic Development Department is to improve the economic vitality and the quality of life in Black Diamond.

The department is actively working with current business owners and commercial land owners and recruiting new businesses to Black Diamond.



The Economic Development Department would like to hear your ideas and comments as the City moves forward.

Stop by the Economic Development office located in the Community Development building at 24301 Roberts Drive or contact Andrew Williamson, Economic Development Director, at (360) 886-2560 extension 215 or [awilliamson@ci.blackdiamond.wa.us](mailto:awilliamson@ci.blackdiamond.wa.us).

## CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND



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253-631-0351  
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Website: [www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us](http://www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us)



## Black Diamond Police Department Community Programs and Events

The Black Diamond Police Department is comprised of eight Police Officers, Commander, two

Patrol Sergeants and a Chief of Police. On January 1, 2008, Chief Rick Luther retired as Chief of Police after serving the Black Diamond community for more than 31 years. Commander Jamey Kiblinger became Acting Chief after Chief Luther retired, until she was promoted on May 15, 2008, to Police Chief permanently.

For those of you who are unaware, The Black Diamond Police Department acquired its first narcotics detection K-9 in January 2007. Officer Kris

Chatterson was chosen to be the department's first K-9 handler and was paired up with a 1-year-old black Labrador Retriever named Sabre. Officer Chatterson and K-9 Sabre have been working the streets as a team now for a year and a half. The team currently has 541 K-9 applications, 2,974 finds of illegal drugs and/or currency that are contaminated with the odor of narcotics and 562 hours of narcotics detection K-9 training. Officer Chatterson and K-9 Sabre conduct safety talks and K-9 presentations for schools, day cares, Cub Scout and Girl Scout troops, various community



group meetings and special events. The Black Diamond Police Department will continue to participate in numerous community programs and events this year. These events and programs include: Block Watch, Business Watch, Operation Identification, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, Home Security Surveys, Residential Security Checks, D.A.R.E., Summer Safe KIDZ, Lake Sawyer Marine Patrol, McGruff Houses, A Night Before Halloween, National Night Out Against Crime and Bicycle Safety Week.

The Black Diamond Police Department want the citizens to know that it will continue to strive to make this

community a safe and enjoyable place to live, work and raise a family.

In the spring of 2008, the Black Diamond Community Center was fortunate enough to obtain a \$2,000 King County mini-grant to help support the K-9 program. In addition, in June King County Council Member Reagan Dunn and Wal-mart presented the Black Diamond Police Department K-9 program with a \$3,000 check to assist the K-9 program with various expenses.

If you haven't met your local police officers and fire-fighters, this will be the night. Police officers and fire-fighters will be at your disposal to answer any questions you may have and to provide you with crime and fire prevention tips.

On Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, neighborhoods throughout Black Diamond are being invited to join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for the "25<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out" crime and drug prevention event. National Night Out, sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the Black Diamond Police Department, will involve over 11,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases around the world. In all, more than 35 million people are expected to participate in "America's

## "America's Night Out Against Crime" August 5, 2008

Night Out Against Crime" on August 5<sup>th</sup>.

National Night Out is designed to: (1) Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; (2) Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime efforts; (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and

From 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. on August 5<sup>th</sup>, residents in neighborhoods throughout Black Diamond and across the nation, are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police.

fighting back.

Many neighborhoods throughout Black Diamond will be hosting a variety of special events such as block parties, cookouts, parades, visits from police, flashlight walks, contests, youth activities and anti-crime rallies.

The Black Diamond Police Department, Black Diamond Fire Department and the Black Diamond Community Center will also be hosting an enormous

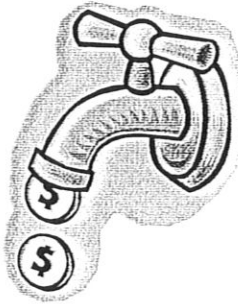
outdoor party at the Black Diamond Gym located directly across the street from the Police Department (25511 Lawson St). The festivities will begin at 5:00 p.m. on August 5<sup>th</sup> and will continue into the evening. Come join us for a free BBQ that will include hot dogs, chips, cookies and soda pop. While you are eating and socializing with other community members, your children can take a tour of the fire engine and police car that will be parked out front.

Black Diamond Police Officers will be cruising from neighborhood to neighborhood to attend each party. Don't forget to turn on your outside lights and get outdoors Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>.





## Utility Rate Increases for Water and Storm Drainage



The City will need to have a dedicated source of funds for the storm water utility activities. The state and federal requirements of the Clean Water Act will be increasing the City's work load in educating the public, monitoring and documenting the stormwater quality efforts of the City, adopting codes that meet state requirements, and bringing City practices into

compliance with the state law. The primary effort in maintaining the stormwater system has been funded through the sewer utility. Given that this effort is proposed to shift to the new stormwater utility, a rate increase in the sewer utility will not be necessary. A stormwater rate of \$13.00/month is being considered by the City Council. In the proposal, businesses will be assessed according to the comparable amount of impervious area to a single family home (2500 square feet). **Public Hearing for Stormwater Rates on November 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Council Chambers.**

The City's last water rate increase was \$4.80 per residential meter 10 years ago, a 57% rate increase to the base rate. Several options are under consideration:

- **Option A:** 27% rate increase for three years to our

current rate structure.

- **Option B:** 27% rate increase with addition of two more higher cost tiers encouraging conservation for three years.
- **Option C:** 15% rate increase for 3 years also with higher cost tiers encouraging conservation. With this option the cash reserves would drop by about \$200,000. Under this scenario the residential base rate would increase by \$2.33 along with the commodity charges for three years. **Public Hearing for Water Rate Increase on November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.**

Full copies of the Stormwater and Water Utility Rate Studies are available on the Black Diamond website and at the front counter of City Hall.



Daylight Savings Ends Nov. 2nd



### Black Diamond Municipal Code is now online

Great news! You can view the Municipal Code, the local laws covering everything from regulations for boating on Lake Sawyer to how to subdivide into multiple lots, online at [www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us](http://www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us). Click the Municipal Code link at the bottom of the homepage on the website to search the index.

MUNICIPAL CODE  
OF BLACK DIAMOND

## Marine services celebrates safe summer on Lake Sawyer



The officers of the Black Diamond Police Department's Marine Services Unit would like to thank all of our citizens and surrounding friends who used Lake Sawyer this year for yet another fun, safe boating season.

With your help, we were able to end the boating season without any major accidents. While boating safety is a year-round concern, marine patrol is typically heavier during the months of May through September when more people are out enjoying the beauty of our lake.

This year, the Police Department retired the 10-year-old police boat (Lake Sawyer 1) and introduced a new vessel

to many personal watercraft users and boaters on the lake. The new boat served the City well. This summer, Marine Services logged 575 hours on the lake and visually or "spot" inspected 805 vessels. Other statistics include:

Written vessel inspections:	106 vessels
Written warnings issued:	35 violations
Citations Issued:	35 violations

Again, thanks for helping keep Lake Sawyer the safest lake around. If you have any questions about our Marine Services Unit, please contact Sergeant Greg Goral, Marine Services Coordinator at (253) 631-1012.



## Where do your property taxes go?



With most folks just having paid their second half property tax bill, this is a timely question, as many homeowners are a bit mystified as to what these taxes actually fund. Here is the scoop:

Property taxes will bring in \$978,661 next year to Black Diamond and is our City's largest and most reliable tax revenue

source. Our tax rate includes both a regular levy and an excess public safety levy voted in by the people of Black Diamond. The excess public safety levy makes up 42% or \$411,037 of Black Diamond's total property taxes collected. Property taxes are calculated based on the value of property applied to specific rates set by each taxing district or jurisdiction. King County is in charge of assessing property values and in collecting these taxes.

In Black Diamond, depending on where the property is located, the largest portion goes to local school districts

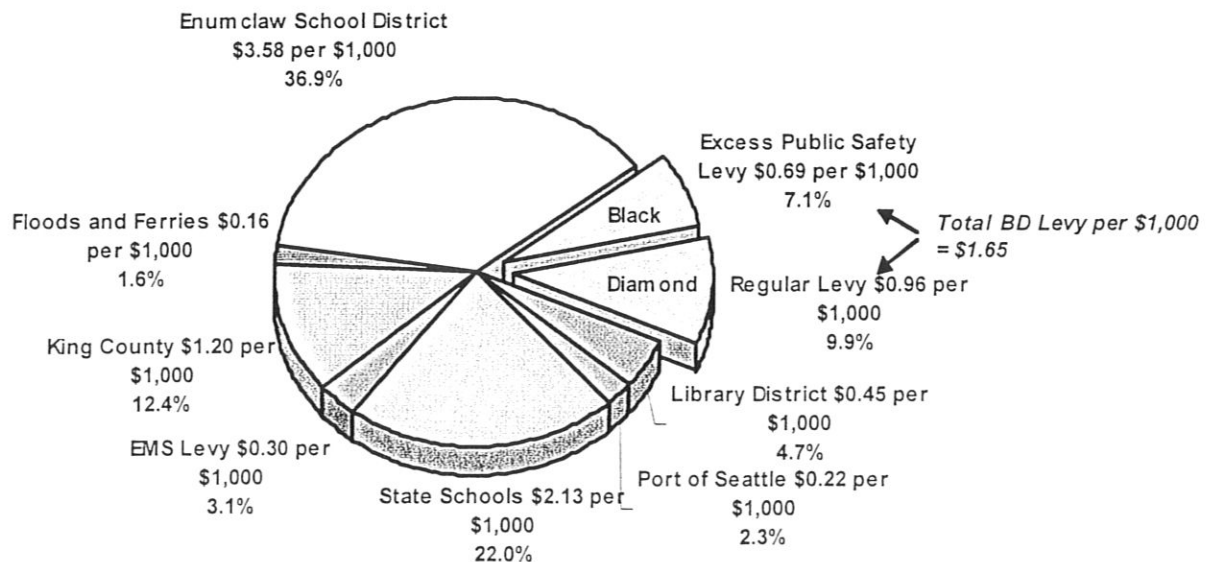
of Enumclaw, Tahoma or Kent and to the state of Washington for schools. The balance goes to cities, the Port of Seattle, libraries, emergency medical services and other special districts.

For example, property owners in the Enumclaw School District paid \$9.69 per \$1,000 in assessed valuation in 2008. Of this, \$1.65 was Black Diamond's portion. The City's tax rate has decreased 25% from \$2.03 in 2005 to \$1.52 per thousand in value for levy 2009. As property values have risen these past years, the rates have fallen in order for the City to stay within a 1% allowable dollar increase per year as set by state law.

If you have a home valued at \$300,000 you would have paid \$2,907 in property taxes this year, computed by the rate of \$9.69 times each \$1,000 in value, or  $9.69 \times 300$ . Of that total, Black Diamond received only \$495 or 17% (see pie chart). That amounts to less than \$45 per typical home per month to help pay for services such as local police and fire protection.

### 2008 Black Diamond Property Tax Distribution

Taxed amount is per each \$1,000 in assessed value



This graph reflects the core Black Diamond area, as not all properties within Black Diamond city limits pay the same levies due to different school and fire districts. The total rate with all jurisdictions combined is \$9.69 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

## Keep water bills low

Did you know that by ignoring those small dripping faucets or running toilets even leaving the hose on outside can cause your water consumption to increase? Below are a few tips to help you conserve water:

- ✖ Water lawn and garden in short intervals to prevent runoff. Try to only water every three to five days in the summer.
- ✖ Water lawn in early morning or late evening. Avoid watering in heat of day or when windy. Use drip systems instead of sprinklers.
- ✖ Use a broom, rather than a hose, to clean sidewalks and driveways.
- ✖ When washing your car, wash on lawn and use a hose with a shutoff nozzle.
- ✖ Place mulch around trees and plants to avoid excess evaporation.



- ✖ Collect rain water to water landscaping within yard and home.
- ✖ One inch per week is all your lawn needs. Watering less often produces a deeper, healthier root system. Overwatered lawns is the number one waste of our water resources.
- ✖ Runoff from over watered lawns washes away topsoil, fertilizers, and pesticides that pollute our waterways.
- ✖ Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk or street.
- ✖ Set automatic sprinklers to three times a week for 20 minutes in each zone.
- ✖ Report all significant water losses (broken pipes, open hydrants, errant sprinklers, etc.) to the property owner, local authorities or water department.

Remember, every drop counts.

## Black Diamond Police Department keeps crime low

So far this year, the City of Black Diamond crime statistics have remained fairly constant. There have not been any significant reductions or increases in crime in any particular area.

Crime does tend to increase in the summer as shown in the chart for May, as do calls for service on Lake Sawyer.

Black Diamond is fortunate enough to have a ratio of 2.85 officers per 1,000 citizens. Maple Valley has 0.65 per thousand and Covington has 0.68 per 1,000. The national average is 3.0 officers per 1,000 citizens.

What this translates to for the City of Black Diamond is a lower overall crime rate index. More visible to the public, are able to respond proactively versus reactively and thus reduce crime before it happens.

The crime rate is a calculation of the number of Part I Crimes divided by population in thousands. Part I Crimes is a category of crimes established by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). It includes criminal homicide (which includes murder and non-negligent manslaughter, but excludes deaths by negligence, attempts to kill, suicides, accidental deaths, justifiable homicide, and traffic fatalities), forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Maple Valley and Covington crime rates are 18.0 crimes per 1,000 and 20.4 crimes per 1,000 persons respectively. Black Diamond's crime rate is 9.2 crimes per 1,000 people. The average crime rate nationwide is 32 crimes per 1,000 people.

The Black Diamond Police Department is committed to community safety and continues to strive to provide quality, effective law enforcement.

### JANUARY-MAY 2009 CRIMES

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	TOTAL
<b>CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE</b>	173	206	193	212.5	275	<b>1059.5</b>
<b>MOST COMMON POLICE CALLS</b>	<b>JAN</b>	<b>FEB</b>	<b>MAR</b>	<b>APR</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
911 HANG UP	3	3	3	5	4	18
ALARM / RES & COMMERCIAL	7	7	13	12	9	48
ANIMAL PROBLEMS	0	1	1	4	1	7
BURGLARY	1	0	1	4	1	7
CIVIL DISPUTES	0	1	3	0	8	12
DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE	0	4	1	3	3	11
DUI COMPLAINTS	7	3	9	8	7	34
ILLEGAL DISCHARGE	2	0	0	1	0	3
JUVENILE DISTURBANCES	1	6	2	2	3	14
K-9 CALLS	1	2	3	0	2	8
MALICIOUS MISCHIEF	2	3	0	2	0	7
MARINE COMPLAINTS	0	0	0	0	7	7
MUSIC/NOISE	2	2	1	1	3	9
SUICIDAL SUBJECTS	1	1	1	0	1	4
SUSPICIOUS SUBJECT/ CIRCUMSTANCE	3	5	3	6	7	24
THEFT	2	6	8	3	3	22
UNWANTED SUBJECT	1	2	1	1	1	6
VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	4	1	6	3	3	17
WELFARE CHECKS	2	2	5	7	5	21
	<b>JAN</b>	<b>FEB</b>	<b>MAR</b>	<b>APR</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
CRIMINAL CITATIONS OTHER OFFENSES	20	37	17	14	16	104
CRIMINAL TRAFFIC CITATIONS	11	23	25	24	17	100
DUI CITATIONS	7	3	11	6	7	34
TRAFFIC CITATIONS	107	195	110	164	162	738
WRITTEN TRAFFIC WARNINGS	215	202	249	143	132	941

ORDINANCE NO. 764

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A PROPOSITION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 14, 2004 AUTHORIZING REPEAL OF THE EXISTING EXCESS LEVY AND AUTHORIZING A SIX YEAR TEMPORARY INCREASE OF THE CITY'S GENERAL PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN RCW 84.55.010 IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR FIRE, POLICE, AND EMERGENCY SERVICES OPERATIONS, IN THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$0.86 PER \$1,000.00 OF ASSESSED VALUATION FOR COLLECTION IN 2005 AND SETTING THE LIMIT FACTOR FOR EACH OF THE SUCCEEDING FIVE YEARS AT \$0.86 PER \$1,000.00 OF ASSESSED VALUATION, AS AUTHORIZED BY RCW 84.55.050(3)(B), AND DECLARING THIS ORDINANCE A PUBLIC EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AND THUS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

04 JUL 28 PM 3:56

WHEREAS, the City Council (the "Council") of the City of Black Diamond (the "City") has determined that the level of service for fire, police and emergency services that the City wishes to provide to its citizens cannot be met unless additional funds for operations, maintenance, equipment and facilities are made available through an increase in the levy rate; and

WHEREAS, the current temporary levy, adopted by the voters in 1999 for fire department equipment and operations, authorized a 7 year temporary rate increase of \$0.86 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation, with a cap of \$245,000.00; and

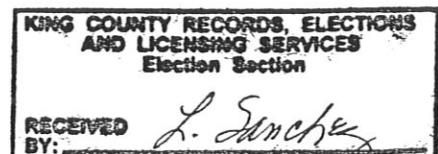
WHEREAS, with the cap in place, the current rate for the special levy is \$0.61 and will continue to decrease with the increase in property values and the addition of new construction; and

WHEREAS, it is the Council's intent that the levy rate for fire, police, and emergency services remain at \$0.86 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation for the next six years; and

WHEREAS; the citizens of the City shall be allowed to determine if they wish to provide the monies to fund the desired level of police, fire and emergency services; and

WHEREAS, RCW 84.55.050 authorizes the voters of the City to permit the levy of taxes in excess of the levy limitations established in RCW 84.55.010; and

WHEREAS, without the lifting of the levy limit as authorized by state statute the City will not be able to continue to provide the existing level of service during this period; and





WHEREAS, the conditions here and before set forth create an emergency which requires the holding of a special election in the City; now, therefore

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND, WASHINGTON  
DOES ORDAIN, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. It is hereby found and declared that an emergency exists requiring the submission to the qualified electors of the City the proposition of whether the City shall levy regular property taxes in excess of the limitation established in RCW 84.55.010 for their ratification or rejection at a special election to be held on September 14, 2004. The purpose of the election shall be to provide funding for fire, police, and emergency services operations. The King County Records and Elections Division as ex officio supervisor of elections in King County, Washington, is hereby requested to find the existence of such an emergency and to call and conduct such special election to be held within the City on such day and submit to the qualified electors of the City for their approval or rejection a proposition to repeal the existing excess levy and authorize the City's regular property tax levy to be increased by \$0.86 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation for collection in 2005, and authorize the City to increase its regular property tax levy in each of the succeeding five years by the limit factor of \$0.86 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation, as authorized by RCW 84.55.050(3)(b).

Section 2. Upon approval of the voters of the proposition herein set forth the City may use the proceeds of such levy to provide funding for fire, police, and emergency services operations, maintenance, equipment and facilities, at the desired level of service, and shall not use the proceeds to supplant existing funding sources.

Section 3. If approved, it is the intent of the City Council that this special levy would replace the previously approved special levy for Fire Department equipment and operations adopted by the voters in 1999 and would constitute the total special levy of the City.

Section 4. The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed, not less than 45 days prior to such election date, to certify the proposition to the King County Department of Records and Elections in substantially the following form:

**CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND**

**PROPOSITION NO. 1**

**FIRE, POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES  
REPLACEMENT TEMPORARY LEVY**

The City Council of the City of Black Diamond adopted Ordinance No. 764, concerning a proposition to finance public safety operations. The proposition repeals the existing excess levy and authorizes the City to increase

its regular property tax levy by the previously approved rate of \$0.86 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation, for collection in 2005; and authorizes the City to increase its regular property tax levy in each of the succeeding five years by the limit factor of \$0.86 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation, for fire, police and emergency services operations. Should this proposition be approved?

YES [ ]

NO [ ]


Section 5. Severability. If any provision of this Ordinance is determined to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provisions of this Ordinance shall remain in force and effect.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance is hereby designated as a Public Emergency Ordinance necessary for the protection of the public health, safety, public property or the public peace and shall be effective upon adoption. A summary of this ordinance may be published in lieu of publishing the Ordinance in its entirety.


Introduced the 22nd day of July, 2004.

Passed by the City Council on the 22 day of July, 2004.

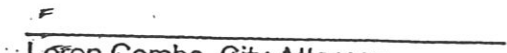
Approved by the Mayor on the 22 day of July, 2004.

  
Howard Botts, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Cris Kandior, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Loren Combs, City Attorney

Ordinance No. 764