

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DOUGLAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Submission of a Proposition Renewal to the Voters of Douglas County Authorizing Continued Funding of RiverCom Emergency Communication Systems and Facilities Sales and Use Tax, Pursuant to RCW 82.14.420) **Resolution CE No. 25-30**
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WHEREAS, Douglas County has previously entered into an agreement with Chelan County, the City of East Wenatchee, and City of Wenatchee that provides for the joint ownership and operation of RiverCom, a regional multi-jurisdictional 911 answering point and emergency public safety communications service, under the authority of RCW Chapter 39.34; and

WHEREAS, RiverCom intends to address its long-term funding needs for critical emergency communication systems and facilities to effectively and efficiently provide emergency communications in both Chelan and Douglas Counties; and

WHEREAS, RCW 82.14.420 authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to submit a proposition to Douglas County voters for an increase in the sales and use tax under RCW Chapter 82.08 and RCW 82.12 equal to two-tenths of one percent of the selling price in the case of sales tax, or the value of the article used, in the case of a use tax; and

WHEREAS, Douglas County has collected a one-tenth of one percent sales and use tax provided under RCW 82.14.420 since January 1, 2010, and intends to seek an additional one-tenth of one percent for the allowable two-tenths of one percent sales tax; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 82.14.420(5), Douglas County will review and adopt the *Emergency Communications Systems and Facilities Funding Agreement* concurrently with the adoption of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, the increase in the sales and use tax initiative, if approved by voters in both counties, shall continue indefinitely.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, as follows:


1. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the submission of a proposition to the voters of Douglas County as provided under RCW 82.12.420, for an increase of 1/10th of 1% to the sales and use tax, under RCW Chapter 82.08 and RCW Chapter 82.12, to provide ongoing funding for the costs associated with financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, reequipping, and improvement of regional emergency communications systems and facilities, and conditioned upon the imposition of the same tax in Chelan County.
2. If approved, the sales and use tax shall have no sunset clause and be collected in perpetuity.
3. The Auditor is directed to place the proposition to increase the sales and use tax on the ballot for the election to be held February 10th, 2026.

4. The Prosecuting Attorney is directed to draft a ballot title and submit it to the Auditor.

Adopted in open session this 30th day of September 2025, at the Douglas County Courthouse, Waterville, Washington.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DOUGLAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON





Marc S. Straub, Chair

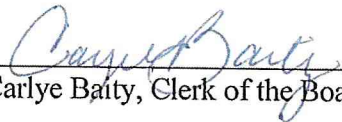


Dan Sutton, Vice Chair



Randy Agnew, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Carlye Barty, Clerk of the Board

Approved as to form:



Jim Mitchell, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
WSBA #31031

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

DOUGLAS AND CHELAN COUNTIES – RIVERCOM 911 SALES AND USE TAX

911 emergency communication services in Chelan and Douglas Counties are provided through RiverCom 911, a regional multi-jurisdictional 911 public safety agency. RiverCom serves approximately 130,000 residents, plus visitors during peak employment and tourist times, and responds to approximately 67,500 911 public safety incidents annually. RiverCom is in need of additional long-term funding to continue providing emergency communication services to the growing regional population and to help offset inflationary pressures on operating expenses. RiverCom has also identified critical infrastructure needs essential to its operations, including adding radio towers and upgrading radio systems to better monitor high-risk emergency response operations, adding administrative and training space to better fit the needs of its growing operations, investing in technology to prevent cybersecurity attacks, and making other improvements essential to its operations in both counties.

Proposition 1 authorizes the County to impose an additional sales and use tax of 0.1% (the equivalent of one cent on a \$10 purchase) to fund costs associated with regional emergency communication systems and facilities infrastructure. The sales tax would be paid by all retail sales consumers, including non-resident visitors. Imposition of the new tax is conditioned upon imposition of the same tax in Chelan County