

**WHATCOM COUNTY
TREASURER'S OFFICE**

County Courthouse
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STEVEN N. OLIVER
TREASURER

For Immediate Release

Date: March 30, 2020
Contact: Steve Oliver, Whatcom County Treasurer
Phone: 360-778-5165

Whatcom County Treasurer extends payment deadline for individual property taxpayers to June 1

Whatcom County Treasurer Steve Oliver signed an order today extending the first half property tax due date until June 1 for individual and commercial taxpayers that pay their property taxes themselves. Participants of the County Treasurer's Autopay program shall have their enrolled accounts debited on June 1. Mortgage companies, banks, and other financial institution and intermediaries that pay property taxes on behalf of their lending or leasing customers will be expected to pay those property taxes by April 30. Individual taxpayers that pay their property taxes on or before June 1 will not be charged any additional interest.

"These are unprecedented times that have created individual homeowner and small business uncertainty that nobody would have imagined just a short time ago. We want to provide individual taxpayer relief and keep local government operating as all levels of government respond to the pandemic emergency. I'm also making a special appeal to everyone's community spirit. If you can pay your property taxes before the original April 30 deadline, please do so," said Treasurer Oliver.

The County Treasurer also announced other assistance that will be available including:

- Payment plans for property taxes on small businesses and primary residences where extraordinary circumstances exist. Please contact the Treasurer's Office at 360-778-5160 for more information.
- Property tax foreclosure shall be suspended for one year until 2021. Property taxes are only subject to property tax foreclosure after they are three years delinquent. The Treasurer's Office will be in contact with property owners that would have been subject to property tax foreclosure this year with additional information.

"The property tax system is built to provide stable, long-term revenues for state and local government. It's not made to turn on a dime by design and we should not expect to solve all of the community financial distress through it. The state and federal governments are rapidly deploying significant relief resources into our community. I

pledge to work alongside the rest of our local leaders to seek additional resources for our entire community,” added Treasurer Oliver.

Property Tax Payment Options:

- The County Treasurer’s Office is currently closed to the public. If you have paid by cash previously, you will need to get a cashier’s check or money order and mail your payment using the address below. DO NOT put cash in the drop boxes.
- By mail using the return envelope enclosed with your tax statement, or
Whatcom County Treasurer
PO BOX 34873
Seattle, WA 98124
- Payment drop boxes are located curbside at the north rotunda entrance of the County Courthouse or outside the County Treasurer’s Office door inside the County Courthouse.
- Pay Online or by Phone at www.whatcomcounty.us/treasurer or toll-free at 1-855-461-9815
E-check payments are FREE through June 1
Credit/Debit Card 2.35% fee

Whatcom County Treasurer Contact Information:

Phone: (360) 778-5160

Email: treasurer@whatcomcounty.us

Website: www.whatcomcounty.us/treasurer