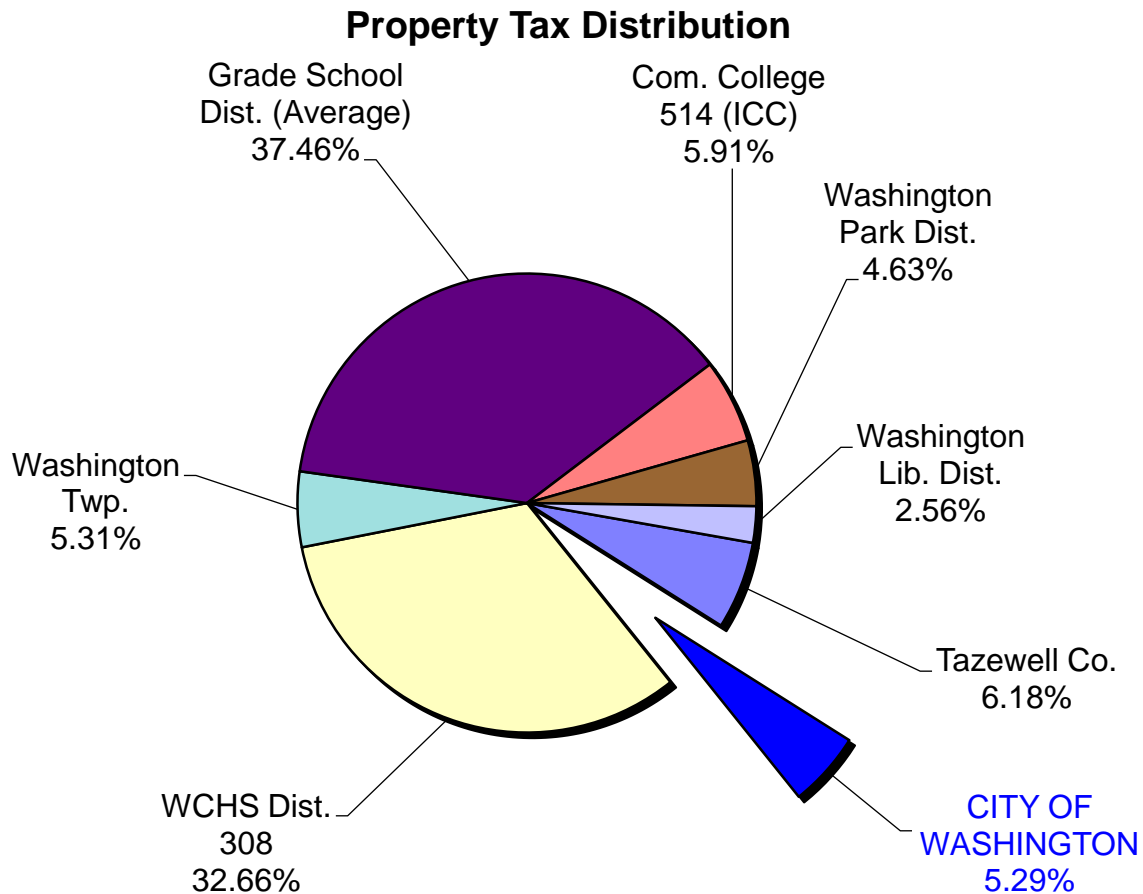


CITY TAX LEVY AND WHAT IT MEANS TO YOU!

In addition to all the hustle and bustle of the holidays, December also means it is time to prepare the annual tax levy. Property taxes are one revenue source the City uses to fund pensions and other special funds such as for civil defense. A portion of the levy is also used for various General fund purposes.

The proposed levy of \$1,647,675 represents an increase of 7.5% over the prior year levy amount. This increase will help to move toward restoring the general levy to the pre-Tornado 2013 levy, resulting in a general levy of \$336,075 compared to the 2013 levy of \$360,000.

The City's portion of property tax represents about 5% of the total tax bill. Other taxing bodies included on your bill depending on where you live are grade school, high school and community college as well as the county, township, library and park district. **The City levies only for the taxes indicated by Washington-Corp and has no control over the taxes levied by the other taxing bodies.**



Property taxes were decreased in 1997 in response to achieving Home Rule status. At that time, the property tax rate was \$.8020/\$100 assessed valuation although the rate had been as high as \$1.2619 in 1989. The estimated rate for the 2018 levy for taxes payable in 2019 is \$.47211 based on a projected Equalized Assessed Valuation of \$349,000,000 as provided by Tazewell County.

What does the proposed 7.5% increase mean to you? Based on the projected EAV as indicated above and assuming no changes in your individual assessed valuation, this increase would result in an **increase in the City portion of the property tax bill** (not the total bill) as follows: \$1,000 tax bill - \$3.96; \$2,000 tax bill - \$7.93; \$3,000 tax bill - \$11.89; \$4,000 tax bill - \$15.86; \$5,000 tax bill - \$19.82; \$7,500 tax bill - \$29.73; \$10,000 tax bill - \$39.64.

Property taxes are a small, but important part of revenue sources used to fund City operations, comprising 6.5% of all budgeted revenue for the 2018-19 fiscal year. Other revenue sources include sales tax, income tax, telecommunication tax, motor fuel tax, water and sewer fees, loans, grants and surplus balances. These funds make it possible to provide the services our community has come to enjoy.