



# BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

## Agenda Request Form (ARF)

*Deliver completed ARF and finalized agenda item to the Clerk or Deputy Clerk of the Board at the Yakima County Commissioners' Office, Room 232.*

**Prepared by:** Dale A. Panattoni  
**Department:** Technology Services  
**Requested Agenda Date:** December 3, 2024  
**Presenting:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Board of County Commissioners Record Assigned*

#

**009 - 2024**

### Action Requested – Check Applicable Box:

☐ PASS RESOLUTION

☒ PASS ORDINANCE

☐ ISSUE PROCLAMATION

☐ EXECUTE or AMEND

AGREEMENT, CONTRACT, or GRANT

☐ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

### Document Title:

Proposal to the voters to implement a 2/10 of 1% sales tax, for seven years, to fund a county wide first responder radio system

### Background Information:

Ordinance 9-2024 is a proposal to be asked of the voters in the February 2025 special election as to whether or not a 2/10 of 1% sales tax should be imposed. The proceeds of this sales tax will fund a first responder radio system to replace the multiple radio systems currently being used by fire and law enforcement. This will increase radio coverage and encourage better communication between first responder agencies.

### Describe Fiscal Impact:

The budget for this project is currently at \$35million dollars. The sales tax, if approved, is projected to bring in approximately \$12million per year.

### Summary & Recommendation:

Dale A. Panattoni

Department Head/Elected Official Signature

[Signature]

Corporate Counsel Initial (for Agreements Only)

ORDINANCE NO. 9-2024

AN ORDINANCE of the Board of County Commissioners of Yakima County, 'Washington, relating to sales and use taxes; providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the County, at a special election to be held on February 11, 2025, of a proposition authorizing the imposition of a sales and use tax at the rate of two-tenths of one percent for emergency communication systems and facilities pursuant to Chapter 82.14. RCW; and setting forth the text of the ballot proposition.

WHEREAS, counties need additional funding sources for necessary emergency communication systems and facilities; and

WHEREAS, RCW 82.14.420 authorizes counties to submit a proposition to the voters of the county to impose a sales and use tax of two-tenths of one percent to be used solely for the purpose of providing funds for costs associated with financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, reequipping, and improvement of new county-wide emergency communication systems and facilities that will replace the current existing emergency communications systems; and

WHEREAS, RCW 82.14.420 requires that prior to submitting the tax authorization to the voters in a county that provides emergency communication services to a governmental agency pursuant to a contract, the parties to the contract must review and negotiate or affirm the terms of the contract; and

WHEREAS, Yakima County, the cities of Yakima, Sunnyside, Moxee, Toppenish, Union Gap, Grandview, Mabton, Selah, Naches, Granger, Wapato, Zillah, Tieton and Harrah, and the Grandview Fire District, Granger Fire District, Mabton Fire District, Sunnyside Fire District, Toppenish Fire District, Wapato Fire District, Yakima Fire District, Zillah Fire District, and Yakima County Fire Protection Districts Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 contract with Yakima Consortium for Regional Public Safety (YAKCORPS) for emergency communication services; and

WHEREAS, YAKCORPS, and all the parties have affirmed the terms of Interlocal Agreement Yakima Consortium for Regional Public Safety as Amended May 2023; and

WHEREAS, the YAKCORPS Executive Board of Directors voted to request the Yakima County Board of County Commissioners to place a measure on the February 2024 ballot to fix and impose an emergency communications sales and use tax of two-tenths of one percent; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Yakima County finds that it is in the best interests of the citizens of Yakima County, and necessary for the public health, safety and welfare that a proposition imposing a two-tenths of one percent sales and use tax for emergency communication systems and facilities be submitted to the voters of Yakima County at the special election on February 11, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF YAKIMA COUNTY, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Calling of Election. The Board of County Commissioners find that it is in the best interests of the County to submit to the qualified voters of the County, at a special election to be held on February 11, 2025, a proposition authorizing the County to impose an additional

two-tenths of one percent sales and use tax of the selling price in the case of sales tax, or value of the article used, in case of a use tax, to be expended solely for costs associated with financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, reequipping, and improvement of emergency communication systems and facilities.

Section 2. Ballot Proposition. The Auditor of Yakima County, Washington (the "Auditor"); as *ex officio* supervisor of elections, is hereby requested to call and conduct a special election in the County, in the manner provided by law, to be held on February 11, 2025, for the purpose of submitting to the voters of the County, a proposition in substantially the following form:

PROPOSITION NO.1

**YAKIMA COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION  
SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES**

The Board of County Commissioners of Yakima County adopted Ordinance No. 9-2024 concerning a proposition to help fund both Yakima County and participating municipalities and fire districts emergency communication systems and facilities. This ballot proposition, if approved, will authorize the imposition and collection within Yakima County of a sales and use tax equal to two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) for a seven (7) year period, commencing in July 2025, and continuing through June 2032, to provide funds for costs associated with financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, reequipping, and improvement of new county-wide emergency communication systems and facilities replacing current existing emergency communications systems;

Should this proposition be:

- ☐ Approved  
☐ Rejected


Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be effective as of the last date shown below.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board is directed to provide a copy of this resolution to the Yakima County Auditor, YAKCORPS, each municipality and each fire district and fire protection district in Yakima County set forth above.

DONE: DEC 03 2024



Attest:


  
Julie Lawrence, Clerk of the Board

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

  
Amanda McKinney, Chair

  
LaDon Linde, Commissioner

EXCUSED

  
Kyle Curtis, Commissioner  
*Constituting the Board of County Commissioners  
For Yakima County, Washington*