



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Bond for community center requires 60 percent supermajority plus voter-turnout requirement**

*If approved, bond would help city leverage state grants to further reduce cost for taxpayers*

Enumclaw, Wash. – The city is asking voters for a bond to build a new multigenerational community center that will provide a safe environment for children, teens, young families, and seniors to connect with friends and access programs and services. The bond needs a 60 percent supermajority to pass plus it must “validate” to take effect.

The validation requirement means that 40 percent of ballots from last year’s general election must be returned for the measure to take effect. If that threshold is not met, it won’t matter if the measure passes with 60 percent of the vote. The measure will not take effect because not enough people turned out to vote.

In other words, voter turnout matters.

If voters approve the bond, it will help the city leverage state grants and private donations to further reduce the cost for taxpayers. This includes a \$1 million state grant the city has applied for in addition to another \$3.35 million in city funds and grants identified for the project. This funding is contingent on the bond passing.

The bond will appear on the April 23, 2024, special election ballot.

**Why is the city asking for a bond?**

The city is growing with young families joining longtime residents, and the community center will offer sports and learning opportunities, space for community events, art performances and festivals, and a new senior center.

The city cannot finance the community center entirely through its general fund without making significant cuts to other city services, such as police, fire, planning, parks, streets, and sidewalks. Most community centers are funded through voter-approved bonds.

The community center will also be home to a new senior center. The city’s senior population has outgrown the current senior center building, which isn’t big enough for seniors to exercise safely, attend classes or enjoy meals together. The current building was built almost 100 years ago and was never

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intended to serve as a community center. The building needs major repairs and the estimated cost to renovate the building exceeds the value of the building.

The bond is projected to cost \$0.30 per \$1,000 of assessed property value and would cost the owner of a \$500,000 home \$12.50 per month or \$150 per year.

Learn more at [www.cityofenumclaw.net](http://www.cityofenumclaw.net).

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*The Mountain Starts Here! The city of Enumclaw, Wash., population 13,000 is the gateway to Mount Rainier National Park located less than an hour south of Seattle. Enumclaw is a full-service city providing police, planning, economic development, parks, and some utilities. The city's vision is to keep residents for generations by caring for youth, adults and seniors through excellent public service and programs. Enumclaw operates on a balanced budget and has passed all independent audits by the state.*