



CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Monday, June 22, 2026 at 6:00 PM

**Meeting Location: In Person and Virtual / Zoom
17425 Ballinger Way NE Lake Forest Park, WA 98155**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTENDING THIS MEETING VIRTUALLY:

Join Zoom Webinar: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86320384126>
Call into Webinar: 253-215-8782 | **Webinar ID:** 863 2038 4126

The City Council is providing opportunities for public comment by submitting a written comment or by attending in person to provide oral public comment.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE WITH ORAL COMMENTS:

If you are attending the meeting in person, there is a sign in sheet located near the entrance to the Council Chambers. Simply fill the form out and the Mayor will call your name at the appropriate time. Oral comments are limited to 3:00 minutes per speaker. Oral comments are not being accepted via Zoom.

The meeting is being recorded.

HOW TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS:

Written comments will be submitted to Council if received by 5:00 p.m. on the date of the meeting; otherwise, they will be provided to the City Council the next day. The City Clerk will read your name and subject matter into the record during Public Comments.

As allowed by law, the Council may add and take action on items not listed on the agenda. For up-to-date information on agendas, please visit the City's website at www.cityoflfp.gov

Meetings are shown on the city's website and on Comcast channel 21 for subscribers within the Lake Forest Park city limits.

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The Committee will not be accepting online public comments. Comments are limited to a three (3) minute time limit.

This is an opportunity for the public to address the Committee on any item within its purview or control.

- Oral public comments are only accepted in person to ensure the orderly conduct of the meeting.
- Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes.
- Councilmembers may not respond during public comments, but may ask staff to follow up, if appropriate.
- Public comments may not be used to promote or oppose candidates for public office or ballot measures.
- The Deputy Mayor or presiding officer may interrupt comments that violate these instructions, are unrelated to the Council's purview or control, or otherwise hinder the orderly conduct of the meeting.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Overview of the Open Public Meeting Act; possible updates to the Governance Manual
- B. Draft letter to King County Metro about proposed changes to bus route 372
- C. Resolution 26-2084/Providing for a ballot measure to be submitted to the qualified electors of the city at the General Election to be held on November 3, 2026, in conjunction with the State General Election, of a proposition authorizing the city to levy regular property taxes in an amount in excess of the limitations provided in chapter 84.55 RCW for police and public safety services beginning in 2027

4. ADJOURN

FUTURE SCHEDULE

- Thursday, June 25, 2026, 7:00 p.m. City Council Regular Meeting – *hybrid meeting (City Hall and via Zoom)*
- Friday, July 3, 2026 Independence Day (*observed*) – City Hall closed
- Thursday, July 9, 2026, 6:00 p.m. City Council Work Session – *hybrid meeting (City Hall and via Zoom)*
- Thursday, July 9, 2026, 7:00 p.m. City Council Regular Meeting – *hybrid meeting (City Hall and via Zoom)*
- Thursday, July 16, 2026, 6:00 p.m. Budget & Finance Committee Meeting – *hybrid meeting (City Hall and via Zoom)*
- Monday, July 20, 2026, 6:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole Meeting – *hybrid meeting (City Hall and via Zoom)*
- Thursday, July 23, 2026, 7:00 p.m. City Council Regular Meeting – *hybrid meeting (City Hall and via Zoom)*

Any person requiring a disability accommodation should contact city hall at 206-368-5440 by 4:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting for more information.

Mayor
Tom French

17425 Ballinger Way NE
Lake Forest Park, WA 98155-5556
Phone: 206-368-5440
Fax: 206-364-6521
Email: cityhall@cityofLFP.gov
www.cityofLFP.gov



Councilmembers
Tracy Furutani
Larry Goldman
Paula Goode
Matt Muilenburg
Josh Rosenau
Semra Riddle
Ellyn Saunders

June ____, 2026

King County Metro

Dear King County Metro,

We the undersigned are elected officials or community activists writing to express concern that the upcoming changes to Metro route 372 and Sound Transit route 522 will substantially worsen transit options for people living in our communities.

To be clear, we are avid transit supporters (see the attached proclamation of Ride Transit Month) and want to see Metro design a system that complements Sound Transit and serves the community. Our concern is that when taking Metro and Sound Transit's changes in aggregate, service will suffer. Compared to today's service levels on the Bothell Way (SR522) corridor, Metro and ST's proposals will cut frequency in half and will remove all bus service that travels between Lake City and Lake Forest Park/Kenmore/Bothell (Northshore communities). On top of that, Metro and Sound Transit are NOT planning a transfer stop between new routes 72 and S3, so passengers looking to travel between Lake City and Northshore will have to endure detours that add time and require crossing busy roads multiple times. To put it bluntly, this will cause current transit riders to switch to driving, which is something that none of us want to happen.

In addition, much of the SR522 corridor has become a food and pharmacy desert with the recent closure of at least four pharmacies and/or grocery stores along SR522 between 125th Street and LFP Town Center. These transit changes will make it harder for residents to reach the remaining stores such as Safeway in LFP or Ostrom's pharmacy in Kenmore. We have heard directly from constituents who don't have cars and currently rely on transit for routine errands that will no longer be able to do that once the current bus service is lost. Microtransit options such as Metro Flex aren't a solution because these constituents don't live in the Flex service area. Are those constituents simply supposed start taking Uber to get their groceries and prescriptions?

We want to be constructive, so we are offering a specific proposal. We can think of Shoreline South Link station, Northshore, and Lake City as the three points of a triangle. Three points require three routes to fully connect them. In Metro's proposal, routes 65 and 72 will both connect Lake City and Shoreline South, duplicating service. Sound Transit's route 522 will connect Northshore and Shoreline. It would make sense to maintain the 372 between Lake City and Northshore to connect the missing leg while not duplicating route 65. This would ensure that these local neighborhoods maintain their connectivity and vibrancy. Other solutions might involve a bus connecting Northshore communities and Lake City to the new Pinehurst station when it opens, or other routing that overlaps lines along Bothell Way to allow riders to make transfers between lines at the same bus stop. Children, seniors, and people with disabilities or grocery carts should not be asked to cross busy thoroughfares in the dark or the rain simply to continue their transit trips in the same direction.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal, and for your work to continue to connect our communities together.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]

RESOLUTION NO. 26-2084

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK, WASHINGTON, PROVIDING FOR A BALLOT PROPOSITION TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY AT THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON **NOVEMBER 3, 2026**, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE GENERAL ELECTION, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO LEVY REGULAR PROPERTY TAXES IN AN AMOUNT IN EXCESS OF THE LIMITATIONS PROVIDED IN CHAPTER 84.55 RCW FOR POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES BEGINNING IN 2027; SETTING FORTH THE BALLOT TITLE; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

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WHEREAS, the City of Lake Forest Park is committed to providing essential public safety services, including police protection, 911 dispatch, jail services, criminal justice services such as prosecution and public defense, and mental health crisis response alternatives (together "Public Safety Services"); and

WHEREAS, residents of Lake Forest Park prioritized police and public safety services as their top priority for City spending; and

WHEREAS, the City's regular property tax levy rate is currently **\$0.66919** per \$1,000 of assessed valuation; which is **\$2.66141** per \$1000 of assessed value less than what is statutorily authorized; and

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WHEREAS, chapter 84.55 RCW limits the amount of the City's regular property tax levy to a 1% increase per year ("Levy Lid"), which was **\$35,141 in 2026**; and

WHEREAS, the cost of providing Public Safety Services has increased significantly over the past four years (See attachment A.) from the 2023–2024 biennium to the adopted 2025–2026 budget, driven by rising costs for police, equipment for their safety, 911 dispatch services; jail services; prosecution; public defense; and mental health and crisis intervention programs in addition to a 24% increase in inflation over those same four years; and

WHEREAS, the City cut over \$455,000 in proposed spending in the 2025–2026 budget and is operating without sufficient staff to perform necessary city functions; and

WHEREAS, the City has diligently pursued contracts beneficial to the City for jail and 911 dispatch services, but providers for these services have fixed costs out of the City's control; and

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WHEREAS, the City has allocated traffic safety camera revenue to public safety expenses to the extent allowed by state statute; and

WHEREAS, the City relied on approximately \$880,000 in one-time funding to balance the 2025–2026 biennial budget, which is not sustainable long-term without a revenue enhancement or a reduction in services; and

WHEREAS, to address continued cost escalation, the City has had to amend the 2025-2026 adopted budget to account for additional, necessary operational costs in both 2025 and 2026; and

WHEREAS, maintaining Public Safety Services requires the expenditure of permanent and regular (i.e., sustainable) revenue in excess of the current Levy Lid; and

WHEREAS, RCW 84.55.050 provides for the levy of regular property taxes in an amount exceeding the Levy Lid (a “Levy Lid Lift”) if the increased levy is authorized by a ballot proposition approved by a majority of the voters at a general election held within the taxing district; and

WHEREAS, approval of a Levy Lid Lift ballot proposition would help maintain current levels of Public Safety Services;

WHEREAS, to fund Public Safety Services as described in this resolution and continue that funding for a period of six years, the City Council finds that it is in the City’s best interest to present a ballot proposition to the City’s voters to increase the City’s regular property tax levy above the 1% Levy Lid limitation; and

WHEREAS, when the Levy Lid Lift expires in six years, the Levy will decrease to what it would have been if the Levy Lid Lift never existed and the City had only taken the annual 1% increase; and

WHEREAS, the Levy Lid Lift proposed would authorize an increase of approximately \$1,247,153 million in the City’s regular property tax levy by an increase of approximately \$0.22 per 1,000 of assessed valuation, to a maximum rate of \$0.88919/\$1,000, in 2027, as allowed by Chapter 84.55 RCW; and increase the annual levy in the amount of the rate of inflation (Seattle region CPI-U) for 2028-2032; and until said Levy Lid Lift expires.

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WHEREAS, the approximately \$1,247,153 million in additional levy funds, calculated from an assumed city-wide 2027 assessed value increase of 6-percent, will only be used to pay for Public Safety Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Lake Forest Park, as follows:

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Section 1. Findings and Determinations. The City Council (the "City Council") of City of Lake Forest Park, Washington (the "City"), takes note of the foregoing recitals and incorporates them into this resolution as findings and determinations of the City Council.

Section 2. Ballot Proposition Authorized. The City Council hereby finds that the best interests of the residents of Lake Forest Park requires the submission to the qualified voters of the City, at the general election to be held on **November 3, 2026**, of a proposition authorizing a multi-year Levy Lid Lift to support Public Safety Services.

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Section 3. Levy Rate and Duration. If approved by a majority of voters, the City shall be authorized to temporarily levy an additional regular property tax in the amount of **\$0.22 per \$1,000** of assessed valuation for levy in 2026 and collection in 2027.

This levy shall be:

- Collected annually for six (6) consecutive years, from 2027 through 2032; and
- Increased each year in January by the annual percentage growth in the June-to-June Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U).

Section 4. Use of Levy Proceeds. The additional revenue generated by this levy shall be used exclusively for **maintaining services levels of** Public Safety Services, including but not limited to:

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- Police staffing, training, and safety equipment;
- 911 dispatch;
- Emergency management services;
- Jail services;
- Prosecution and public defense; and
- Crisis intervention and mental health diversion programs.

Section 5. Exemption for Low-Income Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons. As provided under RCW 84.36.381, low-income senior citizens, disabled veterans, and other disabled persons who qualify shall be exempt from the Levy Lid Lift authorized by this resolution to the extent allowed by law. It is the intent of the City to ensure that this levy does not impose an undue burden on vulnerable residents living on fixed incomes.

Section 6. Calling of Election. The Director of Elections of King County, Washington, as *ex officio* Supervisor of Elections (the "Director of Elections"), is requested to call and conduct a special election, in the manner provided by law, to be held in the City on **November 3, 2026** (the "**General Election**"), for the purpose of submitting to the City's voters, for their approval or rejection, the proposition authorizing the City to increase its regular property tax levy in 2026 for collection in 2027 by an amount greater than otherwise permitted under chapter 84.55 RCW and to use the dollar amount of such levy for the purpose of computing the limitations for the City's subsequent

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five levies under chapter 84.55 RCW adjusted by the rate of inflation (Seattle region CPI-U).

Section 7. Form of Ballot Title. Pursuant to RCW 29A.36.071, the City Attorney of the City has prepared the concise description of the aforesaid proposition for the ballot title in substantially the following form:

City of Lake Forest Park
Proposition No. 1
Public Safety Services Levy Lid Lift

The City Council of the City of Lake Forest Park adopted Resolution No. 26-~~XXXX~~2084 to fund Public Safety Services.

This proposition would fund Public Safety Services per the Resolution including police services, safety equipment, 911 dispatch, emergency management services, jail services, and mental health crisis response by temporarily setting the maximum total regular levy rate at **\$0.88919/\$1000** for collection in 2027, with annual increases for five years based on inflation (Seattle region CPI-U). Qualifying low-income seniors, disabled veterans, and other disabled persons are exempt under RCW 84.36.381.

Should this proposition be approved?

- YES
- NO

Section 8. Authorization to Deliver Resolution to Director of Elections and Perform Other Necessary Duties. The chief administrative officer of the City (the "City Administrator") or his designee is authorized and directed to: (a) present a certified copy of this resolution to the Director of Elections no later than **August 4, 2026** and (b) perform such other duties as are necessary or required by law to submit to the City's voters at the General Election, for their approval or rejection, the proposition authorizing the City to increase its regular property tax levy in 2026 for collection in 2027 by an amount greater than otherwise permitted under chapter 84.55 RCW and to use the dollar amount of such levy for the purpose of computing the limitations for the City's subsequent levies under chapter 84.55 RCW for the succeeding five years.

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Section 9. Notices Relating to Ballot Title. For purposes of receiving notice of the exact language of the ballot title required by RCW 29A.36.080, the City Council hereby designates (a) the City Administrator (Phillip Hill), telephone: 206-368-5440; email: phill@cityofflp.com; and (b) the City Attorney (Kim Adams Pratt), telephone: 425-201-5111; email: Kim@MadronaLaw.com. The City Administrator is authorized to approve changes to the ballot title, as determined necessary.

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Section 10. General Authorization and Ratification of Prior Acts. This resolution may be executed by the Mayor or Deputy Mayor of the City, and attested by the City Clerk in tangible medium, manual, facsimile or electronic form under any security procedure or platform, and notwithstanding any other City ordinance, resolution, rule, policy or procedure, or in any other manner evidencing its adoption. The Mayor, City Administrator, City Attorney, Finance Director of the City, and other appropriate officers of the City are individually authorized and directed to take such actions and to create, accept, execute, send, use and rely upon such documents, records and signatures (including in tangible medium, manual, facsimile or electronic form, under any security procedure or platform, and notwithstanding any other City ordinance, resolution, rule, policy or procedure) as in their judgment may be necessary or desirable to effectuate the provisions of this resolution. All actions taken prior to the effective date of this resolution in furtherance of and not inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution are ratified and confirmed in all respects.

Section 11. Severability. If a court of competent jurisdiction, all appeals having been exhausted or all appeal periods having run, holds any provision of this resolution invalid or unenforceable, then the offending provision is null and void, is separate and severable from the remaining provisions of this resolution and in no way affects the validity of the other provisions of this resolution or of the levy or collection of the regular property taxes as so authorized herein.

Section 12. Effective Date. This resolution takes effect upon its adoption.

Section 13. Corrections. The City Clerk is authorized to make necessary corrections to this resolution, including the correction of scrivener's errors, references, ordinance or resolution numbering, and ballot title formatting as required by King County Elections.

PASSED BY A MAJORITY VOTE of the members of the Lake Forest Park City Council this __ day of _____, 2026.

APPROVED:

Tom French
Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

Mathew McLean
City Clerk

Resolution No. 26-2084

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FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK:
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:
RESOLUTION NO.: 26-2084

DRAFT