

Friday Five

Your weekly Thurston County update



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#1 - Thurston County Historic Commission is Accepting Applications for the 2024 Heritage Grant Program



The Thurston County Historic Commission is accepting applications for the 2024 Heritage Grant Program from now until August 31, 2023. This year, awards of \$5,000 will be given to six non-profit organizations. These funds provide resources which assist in the collection, preservation, and interpretation of Thurston County's heritage. Eligible projects include those which manage collections, complete small capital projects, preserve historic assets, investigate heritage sites, educate the public, and provide professional development. County staff must receive applications by August 31, 2023 for consideration. You can find the application, guidelines, and contact information on the website at: <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/historic-commission>.

#2 - Thurston County Implements New Online Ordering Form for Washington State Birth and Death Certificates

New Vital Records Online Order Form

LIVE NOW!



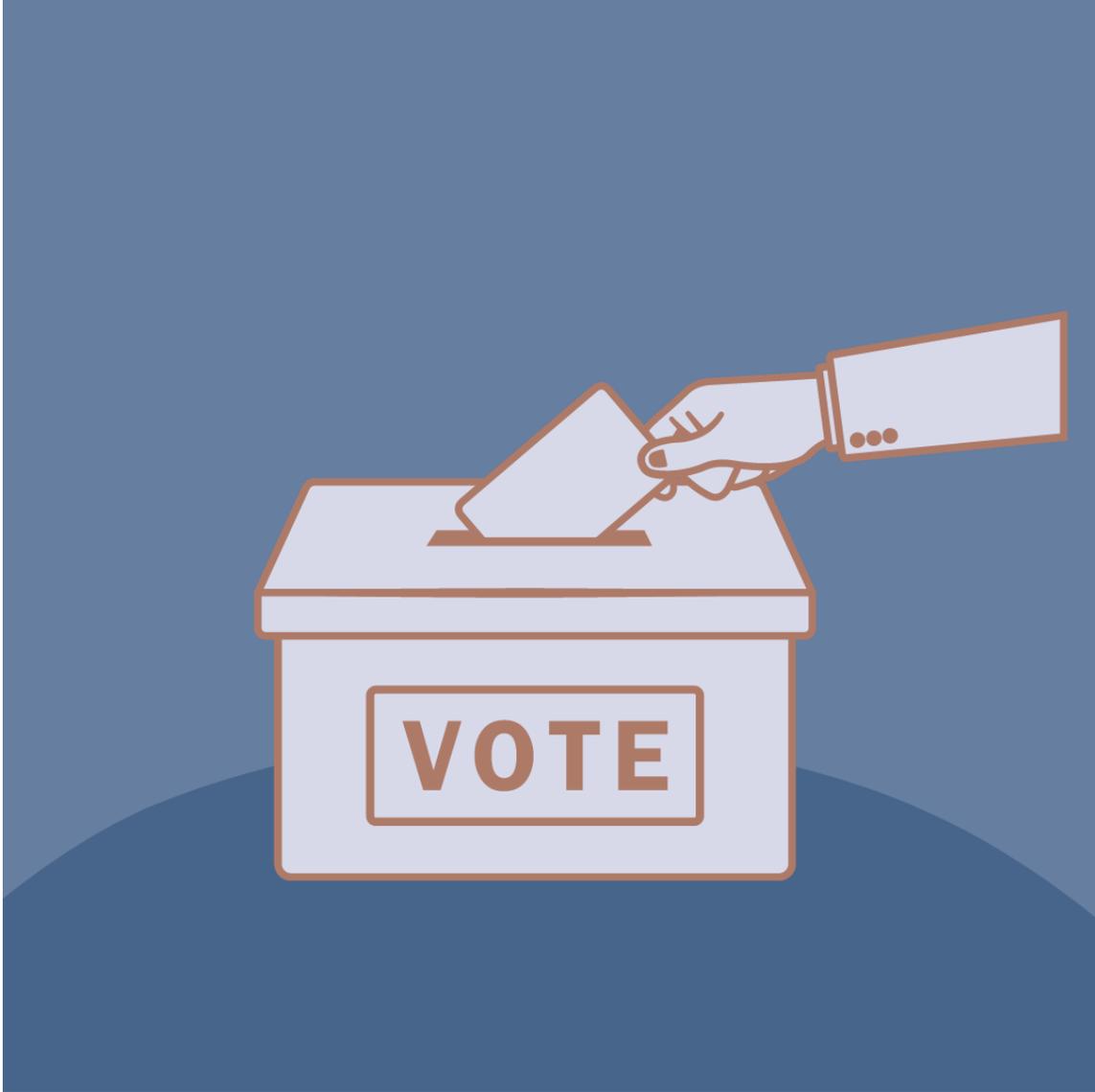
Thurston County Public Health and Social Services has implemented a newly created online ordering option for purchasing Washington State birth and death certificates.

As of August 1, 2023, qualified applicants have a fast, easy, secure, and affordable way to request certified copies of Washington State birth and death certificates. The online ordering process ensures compliance with state laws, accelerates turnaround times, increases security, and streamlines vital records ordering in Thurston County.

In addition to the new online ordering option, customers can still mail in their requests or come in person for same-day service to the Public Health and Social Services office located at 412 Lilly Road NE Olympia, WA 98506. The lobby is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For more information or to order your certificates online visit the [Vital Records webpage](#).

#3 - Board of County Commissioners Vote to Include a Public Safety Tax on the Ballot for the General Election



On July 27, 2023, the Thurston County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) voted to include a resolution on the upcoming general election ballot for a public safety tax resulting in an increase in sales tax of two-tenths of one percent to be dedicated to supporting public safety in the county. The measure notes the distribution of 75% of the revenue generated to support law enforcement and 25% in associated prosecution services, public defense, and elections security infrastructure.

“Thurston County Sheriff’s Office funding has proven unable to meet the demands of our community. With just 56 funded patrol deputies for an unincorporated population of more than 150,000 citizens, our resources have been stretched thin for decades. Our patrol division is overwhelmed with 9-1-1 calls on a daily basis and routinely respond to 9-1-1 calls alone, resulting in high call response times, increased crime, and increased risk to both the public and the employee,” said Thurston County Sheriff, Derek Sanders. “The public safety tax will fund at least 28 additional patrol deputies to ensure every district has two deputies working at all times. This funding will allow our deputies to regularly have backup on 9-1-1 calls, or thoroughly investigate crimes, and meet the expectations of our community as a full service Sheriff’s Office.”

For more information, visit the [County News](#) webpage.

#4 - Thurston County and Cities Share Annual Plans for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Thurston County and the Cities of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater each released an annual Jurisdiction Work Program for near-term implementation of the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan (TCMP). The four jurisdictions have worked together since 2018 on the creation of the TCMP, which aims to reduce community-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 45% by 2030 and 85% by 2050, relative to a 2015 baseline.

“I am very happy to mark this important evolution in our regional process to address our imminent climate crisis,” said Lisa Parshley, Olympia City Councilmember and Chair of the Thurston Climate Mitigation Collaborative (TCMC) Executive Committee. “The foundation created will help guide our region’s work over the next two decades.”

The Work Programs document the climate mitigation activities each jurisdiction intends to implement during the coming year. The goals are to raise public awareness of local government actions and provide accountability on progress toward achieving regional climate goals.

To read the full news release, visit the [County News](#) webpage.

For more information on the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan, visit ThurstonClimatePlan.com.

#5 - Board of Health Recognizes August as National Immunization Month



On August 8, The Thurston County Board of Health proclaimed August National Immunization Month. Representatives from Thurston County Public Health spoke about the important role vaccines play in reducing and preventing disease. They also shared information about several upcoming [back-to-school immunization clinics](#) beginning this month.

You can watch the full proclamation on the county's [YouTube channel](#).

Stay current on upcoming public hearings, meetings, and work sessions by bookmarking the [Board of County Commissioners' master calendar](#)! Please call the Board of County Commissioners office at (360) 786-5440 if you're having problems viewing the calendar.

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