

2011 REPORT TO CLARK COUNTY CITIZENS

OFFICE OF THE CLARK COUNTY
TREASURER

INTEGRITY

ACCURACY

RELIABILITY

ACCOUNTABILITY



ABOUT THE TREASURER'S OFFICE

- The Treasurer acts as the “government bank” for not only the county but for schools, libraries, ports and fire districts and other entities of local government.
- Tax Service staff receipts, disburses, and accounts for all funds collected through property and real estate excise tax, court fees, state collections and other revenues.
- Finance staff issues refunds for tax adjustments authorized by the County Assessor or courts and provides cash management, investment and debt management for those we serve.

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WHO WE SERVE

- ◆ 9 Cities and towns
- ◆ 11 School Districts
- ◆ 3 Ports
- ◆ 10 Fire Districts
- ◆ 5 Utility Districts
- ◆ 4 Cemetery Districts
- ◆ The Fort Vancouver Library
- ◆ Clark County Government
- ◆ Washington State Departments of Revenue, Natural Resources and the Gambling Commission

We serve the above as either treasurer, ex-officio treasurer, tax collector, investment pool manager or through remittance processing services.

OUR MISSION

THE CLARK COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE IS COMMITTED TO ENSURING EFFECTIVE TREASURY MANAGEMENT OF THE PUBLIC'S RESOURCES BY MUTUALLY RESPECTING THE NEEDS OF EACH OF ITS CUSTOMERS.

RESOURCES SERVING CUSTOMERS

Office Staffing	Actual 1980	Actual 2010	Actual 2011
Tax Service Dept.	13	14	14
Finance Dept.	5	8	8
Administration	2	3	3
Total Full Time Equivalent (FTE's)	20	25	25



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www.facebook.com/ClarkCoWaTreasurer

2011 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & HAPPENINGS

- * In the wake of slow economic times for Clark County, the Treasurer’s Office assisted taxing districts in evaluating their debt structure. Similar to consumers refinancing loans to take advantage of lower interest rates, this refunding activity saves taxpayers money. Our preparation of historical collections rates, assessed home value trends and other factors influencing cash flow helps districts make decisions that best fulfill their goals and needs.
- * Efforts continued in Phase II of the Property Assessment and Collection System (PACS) (see inset on page 3) - a system that replaces 30-year-old software previously in use.
- * Began preparations for a major county-wide upgrade to Oracle 12, the county’s financial management system.
- * Initiated plans to enhance the Treasurer’s Financial Web Portal for taxing districts and will go live with the improvements in late 2012.
- * Created social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter to improve communication with citizens.
- * Successful implementation of electronic Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) workflow to improve efficiency in processing documents.

Financial Reports The Treasurer’s Office issues monthly cash basis financial statements to county fund managers and to districts for which we serve as ex-officio Treasurer. These are posted monthly to the Treasurer’s Office web portal. The Treasurer’s Office also prepares the county’s annual statements on revenue, investment, and debt information as well as various disclosure notices that are included in the Clark County Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). Complete financial information can be found at www.clark.wa.gov/auditor/financial/index.html.

**2011 OFFICE TRANSACTIONS
TAX SERVICE**

Tax Payments via Online Payment Sources	7,527
Tax Payments in Office	34,096
Tax Payments via Remittance Center	114,975
Tax Payments via Automated Mortgage Files	140,139
Real Estate Excise Transactions	13,163
Tax Statements Generated	347,512
Refunds Generated	1,863
Property Tax Adjustments	8,674
Miscellaneous Receipts Completed	9,273
Customer Correspondence & Telephone Calls	23,901

EMPLOYEE ACHIEVEMENTS



CONGRATULATIONS TO JOHN PAYNE, DEPUTY TREASURER, FOR BEING APPOINTED TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA!



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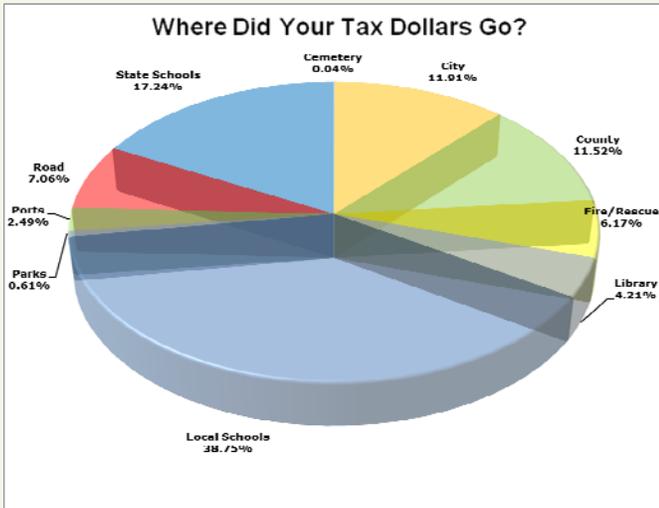
We have partnered with DOXO to provide paperless billing

www.doxo.com/ClarkCounty

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THE PUBLIC'S MONEY



Congratulations to Steve Dahlberg in Finance for completion of the Certified Public Funds Investment Manager Accreditation Program!



INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO



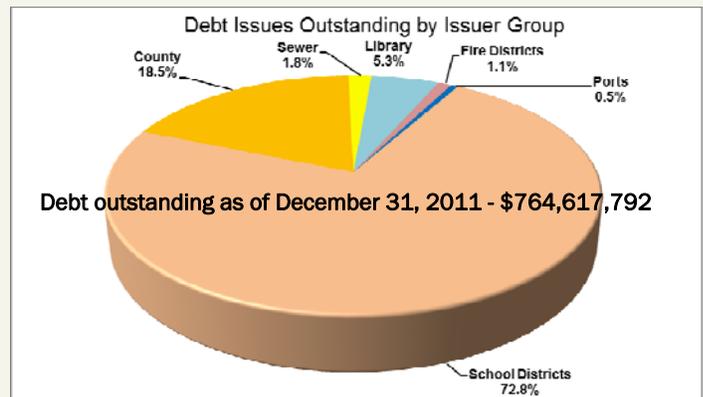
TAXING DISTRICT NEWS

- * Evergreen School District issued \$35,705,000 in refunding bonds in 2011, which saved taxpayers \$2,721,478.
- * Vancouver School District issued \$361,000 in bonds for energy efficient equipment.
- * Battle Ground School District issued \$875,000 in bonds to pay the costs of improving the energy efficiency of school district buildings and installing systems and components to use renewable and/or inexhaustible energy resources.

WHAT IS PACS?

PACS is the Treasurer's Tax Collection Software. Phase One was implemented by Clark County in 2009. The Tax Collection software is integrated with the software used by the Assessor linking appraisal and levy activity under one software platform. The ability to manage tax collections efficiently and accurately is critical. This system creates bills, posts, and distributes payments among the numerous taxing districts. We use this system to create notices, process refunds, and provide excellent and accurate customer service to both taxpayers and districts.

DEBT MANAGEMENT



TREASURER'S OFFICE BUDGET

Office Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual
	2007-2008	2009-2010	2011-2012
Tax Service Dept.	\$2,249,774	\$2,366,439	\$2,469,205
Finance Dept.	\$1,415,137	\$938,125	\$907,635
Administration	\$1,146,584	\$1,263,620	\$1,102,921
Office Total	\$4,811,494	\$4,568,184	\$4,497,61
% Change from previous period		-5.06%	-1.94%

LOOKING FORWARD

GOALS FOR 2012

- * Complete the (final) Phase II of the Property Assessment and Collection System (PACs) contract.
- * Increase partnerships and foster an engaged, informed community through encouraging customer feedback and improving our communication.
- * Complete Phase III of the Treasury Web Portal for taxing districts.
- * Revise the Treasurer’s Office Debt Service and Compliance Policy into a more comprehensive document.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK—FUTURE CHALLENGES

In 2011 all levels of government continued to face the challenge of maintaining the cost of services while revenues were falling behind in a weak economy. Clark County unemployment at the end of December remained high at 9.2% compared to 8.6% for the state of Washington.

Sales and use tax is 9% of the County Governmental Revenues. Since 2008, the reduction in sales tax revenues has had a major impact on the county budget, and as a result, the county overall has had to reduce

its work force. Sales tax revenue for all of 2011 was up 4.5% from 2010. (Source Clark County Budget Office)

Property tax payments are 32% of the County Governmental Revenues and are a major revenue source for local governments. The collection rate for 2011 was a little higher at 97.5% compared to 97.2% for 2010.



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU



This “Report to Our Citizens” provides basic financial and treasury services information. The report is modeled after the Association of Governmental Accountants

(AGA) *citizen-centric based reports* in a specific four page format. This AGA-recommended reporting format makes governments more accountable to their citizens and informs the public about government activities.

Did you find this report informative? Would you like to see other information? Please let us know by contacting the Clark



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**DOUG LASHER
 CLARK COUNTY TREASURER**

Clark County Washington

