

**Notice of Receipt of Ballot Title
Publish pursuant to ORS 250.275(5)(a)**

**State of Oregon)
County of Clatsop)**

Notice is hereby given that a ballot title for an initiative petition has been prepared by the City Attorney and has been filed with the Elections Officer of City of Astoria, Oregon on March 13, 2026. The City Attorney has determined this initiative complies with Article IV, Section 1 of the Oregon Constitution.

An elector may file a petition for review of this ballot title in Clatsop County Circuit Court no later than 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 24th, the seventh business day after the title is filed with the City Elections Official under ORS 250.195. An elector filing a petition with the circuit court must also file written notice of that filing with the City of Astoria Elections Official, Finance Department, 1095 Duane Street, Astoria OR 97103, no later than 5 p.m. the next business day following the day the petition is filed.

Caption: Astoria excise tax on residential units vacant most of year; revenues fund housing programs.

Question: Shall Astoria impose excise tax on residential units vacant most of year to fund housing programs?

Summary: Amends Astoria Municipal Code to impose a Vacant Residential Unit Excise Tax on certain residential units with fewer than 183 days of “qualifying use” during a calendar year. Qualifying use includes occupancy as a principal residence, long-term residential rental occupancy, active offering for long-term rental occupancy, operation as a licensed short-term rental, or qualifying use of an accessory dwelling unit on the same tax lot.
Tax applies per residential unit and per calendar year. Tax rate is \$3,000 for the first year taxable vacancy conduct occurs and \$6,000 for each consecutive year thereafter. Tax takes effect January 1, 2027. Owners must file annual declarations regarding residential unit use.
Measure provides vacancy exclusion periods, including certain medical care, military service, disaster damage, emergency conditions, probate following owner death, and permitted rehabilitation. Certain nonprofit and governmental property owners are exempt. Owners may apply for financial hardship exemption.
Revenues are deposited into a Community Housing Fund and may be used for affordable or workforce housing programs, housing assistance, tenant services, and administration and enforcement of the tax

**Hilary Norton
Elections Official & Finance Director
Astoria, Oregon**

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