

**CITY OF MARYSVILLE AGENDA BILL**  
**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FOR ACTION**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE:**

AGENDA ITEM: Amendment to MMC 3.63.030 (3)(a) Low-Income Senior Citizen	
PREPARED BY: John Nield, Financial Operations Manager	DIRECTOR APPROVAL:
DEPARTMENT: Finance	
ATTACHMENTS: Draft Ordinance Updating the definition of Low-Income Senior Citizen for reduced utility rates.	
BUDGET CODE:	AMOUNT:

**SUMMARY:**

In 2019 the city change the income level to qualify for the low-income disabled citizen rate to the HUD Very Low Income Level for the Seattle/Tacoma/Bellevue area. At that time the HUD level was below the threshold used for the low-income senior citizen discount and changing would have disqualified current eligible senior citizens. For 2020 the HUD Very Low Income Level has increased making it possible to use this index for both the low-income disabled and senior citizen rates.

The proposed code amendment would change the income threshold from RCW 84.36.381(2)(a) to use the very low income level for the Seattle/Tacoma/Bellevue area as established and amended by survey from time to time by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. The definition of income level will bring the city's low-income senior citizen income consistent the city's low-income disabled citizen income.

<p><b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b> Staff recommends that City Council adopt the proposed Ordinance amending MMC 3.63.030 (3)(a) Low-Income Senior Citizen.</p>
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CITY OF MARYSVILLE  
Marysville, Washington

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARYSVILLE,  
WASHINGTON, AMENDING SECTION 3.63.030 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE  
REGARDING LOW-INCOME DISABLED CITIZENS' ELIGIBILITY FOR  
UTILITY RATE RELIEF.**

WHEREAS, the City is authorized by RCW 74.38.070 to offer reduced utility rates to low-income citizens and has done so since 2004; and

WHEREAS, the income criteria identified in the municipal code to determine eligibility for utility rate relief for low-income senior residents is different from the eligibility of low-income disabled residents for utility rate relief;  
and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development sets income limits to determine eligibility for assisted housing programs and many nearby jurisdictions use the "very low income" level to determine eligibility for utility rate relief; and

WHEREAS, public health and welfare would be enhanced by the City using the "very low income" level set by HUD to determine eligibility for utility rate relief.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARYSVILLE,  
WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 3.63.030 of the municipal code is amended as set forth in Exhibit A.

SECTION 2. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality thereof shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this ordinance.

SECTION 3. Upon approval by the city attorney, the city clerk or the code reviser are authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including scrivener's errors or clerical mistakes; references to other local, state, or federal laws, rules, or regulations; or numbering or referencing of ordinances or their sections and subsections.

SECTION 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective five days after the date of its publication by summary.

PASSED by the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

CITY OF MARYSVILLE

By \_\_\_\_\_  
JON NEHRING, MAYOR

Attest:

By \_\_\_\_\_  
TINA BROCK, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Approved as to form:

By \_\_\_\_\_  
JON WALKER, CITY ATTORNEY

Date of publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Effective Date (5 days after publication): \_\_\_\_\_

# EXHIBIT A

## **3.63.030 Eligibility for senior citizen low-income and/or disabled low-income rate.**

The occupant of a single-family dwelling unit, duplex, multifamily complex or mobile home park shall be eligible for the rate reduction under the following conditions:

- (1) The dwelling unit must be occupied by the person claiming eligibility as his or her principal place of residence.
- (2) The person claiming the rate must be the head of the household for the dwelling unit in question.
- (3) The person claiming eligibility for the senior citizen rate must qualify in one of the following categories:
  - (a) Low-Income Senior Citizen. “Low-income senior citizen” means a person who is 62 years of age or older and whose total income including that of his or her spouse or co-tenant does not exceed the amount specified in ~~RCW 84.36.381(5)(a)~~, as now or hereafter amended for the “very low income” level set most recently by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan area
  - (b) Low-Income Disabled Citizen. “Low-income disabled citizen” means a person whose income, including that of his or her spouse or co-tenant, does not exceed the amount specified for the “very low income” level set most recently by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan area and:
    - (i) A person qualifying for special parking privileges under RCW 46.19.010(1);
    - (ii) A blind person as defined in RCW 74.18.020; or
    - (iii) A disabled, handicapped or incapacitated person as defined under any other existing state or federal program.