

STATUTORY REFERENCES
FOR
WASHINGTON CITIES AND TOWNS

The statutory references listed below refer the code user to state statutes applicable to Washington cities and towns. They are up to date through July, 2004.

Incorporation Wash. Const. Art. XI § 10 and RCW Ch. 35.02	Penalties for ordinance violations in first class cities RCW 35.22.280(35); 35.21.163 and 35.21.165
Classification of municipalities RCW Chs. 35.01 and 35.06	Penalties for ordinance violations in second class cities RCW 35.23.440(29); 35.21.163 and 35.21.165
Annexations RCW Ch. 35.13	
Powers of first class cities RCW Ch. 35.22	Penalties for ordinance violations in towns RCW 35.27.370(14); 35.21.163 and 35.21.165
Powers of second class cities RCW Ch. 35.23	Civil infractions RCW Ch. 7.80
Powers of towns RCW Ch. 35.27	Elections RCW Title 29
Unclassified city powers RCW Ch. 35.30	Local government redistricting RCW Ch. 29.70
Miscellaneous powers of all cities and towns RCW Ch. 35.21	Campaign finances and disclosure RCW Ch. 42.17
Adoption of codes by reference RCW 35.21.180	Official newspaper RCW 35.21.875
Codification of ordinances RCW 35.21.500–35.21.570	

**Administration and
Personnel**

Commission form of
government
RCW Ch. 35.17

Council-manager plan
RCW Ch. 35.18

City council in second
class cities
RCW 35.23.181–35.23.310

Town council
RCW 35.27.270–35.27.330

Officers in second-class
cities
RCW 35.23.021–35.23.161

Officers in towns
RCW 35.27.070–35.27.250

Local government
whistleblower protection
RCW Ch. 42.41

Code of ethics for
officers
RCW Ch. 42.23

Open Public Meeting Act
RCW Ch. 42.30

Municipal courts
RCW Chs. 3.46, 3.50,
35.20

Planning commissions
RCW Ch. 35.63

Hearing examiner system
RCW 35A.63.170

Emergency management
RCW Ch. 38.52

Revenue and Finance

Budgets
RCW Chs. 35.32A, 35.33,
35.34

Bonds
RCW Chs. 35.36, 35.37,
35.41

Depositories
RCW Ch. 35.38

Investment of funds
RCW Ch. 35.39

Accident claims and funds
RCW Ch. 35.31

Validation and funding of
debts
RCW Ch. 35.40

Local improvements
RCW Ch. 35.43–35.56

Retail sales and use taxes
RCW Ch. 82.14

Leasehold excise tax
RCW Ch. 82.29A

Real estate excise tax
RCW Ch. 82.46

Tax on admissions
RCW 35.21.280

Property tax in first
class cities
RCW 35.22.280(2)

Property tax in second
class cities
RCW 35.23.440(46)

Property tax in towns
RCW 35.27.370(8)

Transient occupancy tax
RCW 67.28.180

Gambling taxes
RCW 9.46.110

State preemption of
certain tax fields
RCW 82.02.020

**Business Licenses
and Regulations**

First class city licenses
RCW 35.22.280(32) and
(33)

Second class city licenses
RCW 35.23.440(2)–(8)

Town licenses
RCW 35.27.370(9)

Uniform license fee or tax
rate
RCW 35.21.710 and
35.21.711

License fees or taxes on
telephone businesses
RCW 35.21.712–35.21.715

Ambulance business taxes
RCW 35.21.768

Freight carrier taxes
RCW 35.21.840–35.21.850

Gambling
RCW Ch. 9.46

Liquor
RCW 66.08.120 and
66.44.010

Cabarets
RCW 66.28.080

Cable television
RCW Ch. 35.99

Massage practitioners
RCW 35.21.692

Newspaper carriers
RCW 35.21.696

Animals

Power of second class
cities to regulate
RCW 35.23.440(11)

Power of towns to regulate
RCW 35.27.370(7)

Cruelty to animals
RCW Ch. 16.12

Dangerous dogs
RCW Ch. 16.08

Health and Safety

Generally
RCW Title 70

Local health boards and
officers
RCW Ch. 70.05

Garbage collection and disposal
 RCW 35.21.120 et seq. and
 RCW Ch. 35.67

Litter control
 RCW Ch. 70.92

Fireworks
 RCW Ch. 70.77

Curfew
 RCW 35.21.635

**Public Peace, Morals
 and Welfare**

Crimes and punishments
 RCW Title 9

Washington criminal code
 RCW Title 9A

Drunkenness and alcoholism
 RCW 70.96A.190

Discrimination
 RCW Ch. 49.60

Curfew
 RCW 35.21.635

Vehicles and Traffic

Motor vehicles
 RCW Title 46

Model traffic ordinance
 RCW Ch. 46.90

Abandoned vehicles
 RCW Ch. 46.52

**Streets, Sidewalks
 and Public Places**

Local improvements
 RCW Chs. 35.43–35.56

Park districts
 RCW Ch. 35.61

Street construction and maintenance
 RCW Chs. 35.72–35.79

Sidewalk construction
 RCW Chs. 35.68–35.70

Public Services

Municipal utilities
 RCW Ch. 35.92

Municipal Water and Sewer Facilities Act
 RCW Ch. 35.91

Sewer systems
 RCW Ch. 35.67

Water or sewer districts, assumption of jurisdiction
 RCW Ch. 35.13A

Buildings and Construction

State building code
 RCW Ch. 19.27

Unfit buildings
 RCW Ch. 35.80

Energy-related building standards
 RCW Ch. 19.27A

Electrical installation
and construction
RCW Chs. 19.28 and 19.29

Development impact fees
RCW 82.02.050 et seq.

Subdivisions

Subdivisions generally
RCW Ch. 58.17

Short plats and short
subdivisions
RCW 58.17.060

Hearing examiner system
RCW 58.17.330

Zoning

Generally
RCW 35.63.080 et seq.

Hearing examiner system
RCW 35.63.130

Growth management
RCW Ch. 36.70A

Judicial review of land
use decisions
RCW Ch. 36.70C