

From: [Ginny Scantlebury](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] our comments regarding the B & O tax
Date: Monday, December 04, 2017 3:29:51 PM
Attachments: [Shoreline B & O tax 12 4 17.docx](#)

Please read the attached letter regarding the B & O tax.

Ginny and Roy Scantlebury

December 4, 2017

Shoreline City Council

Dear Council:

We have owned a small home business in Shoreline for over 30 years. During that time, the city has done nothing to help us or any other businesses that we know. About five years ago, you voted in a Shoreline business license tax. (You said at the time that you could keep better track of Shoreline businesses and find more ways to help them.) We still have received no help from the city. Now you are about ready to vote on ANOTHER tax against businesses – the B & O tax. Do you understand that every time you tax a business, they will pass this along to their customers in increased prices? Also, how many new businesses will locate in another city to avoid all these business taxes – especially the added B & O tax? The B & O tax is probably the worst tax of all because it is based on the gross profit a business makes – that means, after expenses, they may not have made any profit but they still have to pay on their gross profit.

The other reason we are so opposed to this new tax is that we understand that the City of Shoreline will be in the black until at least 2020. Why raise this tax now when you don't need the money? We also find it interesting that you made sure you will only be taxing businesses .002 of their gross because if it is any higher the citizens would be able to vote on this issue. Then they might learn more about the issue and you might lose.

How many medium and large sized businesses in Shoreline have you consulted with about the B & O tax? It seems to us that you would want to make them your partners, rather than figuring out to tax them again and again.

I hope you consider these ideas before voting on the B & O tax tonight?

Sincerely,

Ginny and Roy Scantlebury
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