



December 21, 2017

To: Shelton Mason County Journal
IFiber One News Radio

From: Elisabeth (Lisa) Frazier, Mason County Treasurer

Melody Peterson, Mason County Assessor
Karen Herr, Mason County Auditor

RE: Press Release - Reduced Staffing and Service Levels

The Mason County Board of Commissioners have reduced 2018 budgets for many Mason County Departments by nearly 17% from their 2017 budgets. This has resulted in lay-offs and reduced hours for the staff of the Mason County Assessor, Auditor and Treasurer Offices and impacts services our offices provide to the public.

Having to reduce our service hours to the public is not a decision we made easily. Staff have volunteered to take shorter lunch periods, thus allowing us not to have to close during lunch time to better serve you.

Our new office hours will be 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. beginning January 2nd, 2018.

In addition, the Mason County Assessor's Office will be closed to the public on Fridays beginning January 5th, 2018.

Please be aware that less staff will be available at the front counter, to answer phones and in responding to emails as timely as we would like. Priorities have been set for each of our offices as mandated by State Statute, and may result in longer wait times.

For general property tax and assessment information, please access Tax Sifter on our Mason County Website at: <http://property.co.mason.wa.us/Taxsifter/Search/Results.aspx>

We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding and we hope that county resources will allow us to return to full staffing and increased public hours in the near future.