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## Statement of Washington County Board Related to First Half Property Tax Payments

The Washington County Board of Commissioners will consider a resolution at its next meeting on Tuesday, April 28, to provide additional time to pay the first half property taxes without penalty for certain property owners. As set by state law, the due date for the first half of annual property tax payments for most property owners is May 15.

All property owners who are able to pay their first half property taxes by the due date are encouraged to do so to help support the county, school, and city response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Board of Commissioners understands that many small businesses and homeowners have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the related Stay at Home Minnesota order and business closures. In order to provide additional time to pay for those most impacted, the board will be considering allowing an additional 60-day extension to pay the first half property taxes without penalty, as follows:

- **Non-escrow** properties of the following classifications would be eligible for waiver of penalty on a late payment that was received on or prior to July 15, 2020:
  - Commercial/Industrial properties with 2020 total tax due of \$50,000 or less
  - Residential properties
  - Agricultural/Rural Vacant Land properties

Residential properties would include both homesteaded properties and non-homesteaded properties.

Property tax payments made by lending companies, banks, or mortgage companies of funds collected via escrow payments from property owners are not eligible for this extension and are expected to be made on or prior to the May 15, 2020 deadline.

The County Commissioners hope this provides some relief for small businesses that have been closed since the middle of March and for those homeowners who have been furloughed, laid off, or have had hours reduced because of the COVID-19 response.

If property owners have questions about whether their property qualifies for the extension of payment to July 15, 2020, they should call 651-430-6175 or email [taxes@co.washington.mn.us](mailto:taxes@co.washington.mn.us).

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