

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 15, 2024
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City of Lake Stevens Earns WellCity Award for the 15th Year in a Row

Olympia, WA- The Association of Washington Cities (AWC) recently released a list of the cities, towns, and other local governments that have earned the distinguished WellCity designation. The City of Lake Stevens is among this year's recipients for the 15th year in a row. This recognition is bestowed to entities that meet the AWC Employee Benefit Trust's stringent WellCity standards and demonstrate a commitment to employee health.

WellCity recipients are all part of the AWC Employee Benefit Trust (Trust), Washington State's largest local government employee health benefit pool for cities, towns, and other local governments. The Trust provides health benefits to more than 270 public entities and more than 36,000 employees and family members across the state. Employers that meet the WellCity standards earn a 2% discount on their medical premiums.

"The WellCity program provides a 2% discount on premiums. And because WellCity members have lower medical and prescription drug costs, the program benefits all Trust members by moderating premium rates for the pool," said Deanna Dawson, AWC CEO. "Over 85% of employees in the Trust are covered by a WellCity – that is a 10% increase over last year!"

"The city is honored to receive the WellCity Award from AWC. It is a reminder of our dedication to healthy employees, a healthy workplace, and the overall wellbeing of our city," said Brett Gailey, Mayor.

A complete list of the cities and public entities that earned this year's award can be found at wacities.org/wellcity.

AWC serves its members through advocacy, education, and services. Founded in 1933, AWC is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan corporation that advocates on behalf of cities and towns and provides training and pooling programs such as the AWC Employee Benefit Trust. AWC created the AWC Employee Benefit Trust in 1969 to assist cities in meeting state-imposed medical coverage mandates for local law enforcement officers and fire fighters.

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The city of Lake Stevens, Wash. (pop. 41,260) is located 36 miles north of Seattle in Snohomish County. The city shares the name of the lake it surrounds and is nestled between the beautiful Cascade Range and Puget Sound. The city's vision is to be "one community around the lake" with a vibrant economy, modern infrastructure, and exceptional quality of life for residents and businesses alike. More information about Lake Stevens can be found at www.lakestevenswa.gov.