

# Public service announcement for Seattle area taxpayers: Some transit taxes can be itemized and deducted

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If you itemize your taxes, [there are some taxes you can claim on Schedule A line 7](#) that you may not be aware of.

- Seattle monorail tax (“Monorail”)
- Sound Transit tax (“RTA Tax”)

These taxes are special because they are based on the value of the vehicle and therefore qualify as a “personal property tax” from the IRS’s point of view. While you’re on Schedule A, don’t forget to [claim your deduction for state sales tax on line 5](#). You can look up the local sales tax rate for any Washington address by using [this handy web form on the State of Washington Department of Revenue site](#). If you prefer doing it the slow way, you can [download all the local sales tax rates](#). If you live in King County<sup>†</sup>, for example, the local rate is 1.9%, or 2.3% if you live in an RTA area. (That’s in addition to the state-wide 6.5% rate.)

## **Nitpicker’s corner**

<sup>†</sup>That’s King County, Washington, USA of course. I would have thought that was clear from context (it’s the county that Seattle is a member of, and I’ve been talking about the state of Washington the whole time), but I can never tell with you folks.

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