

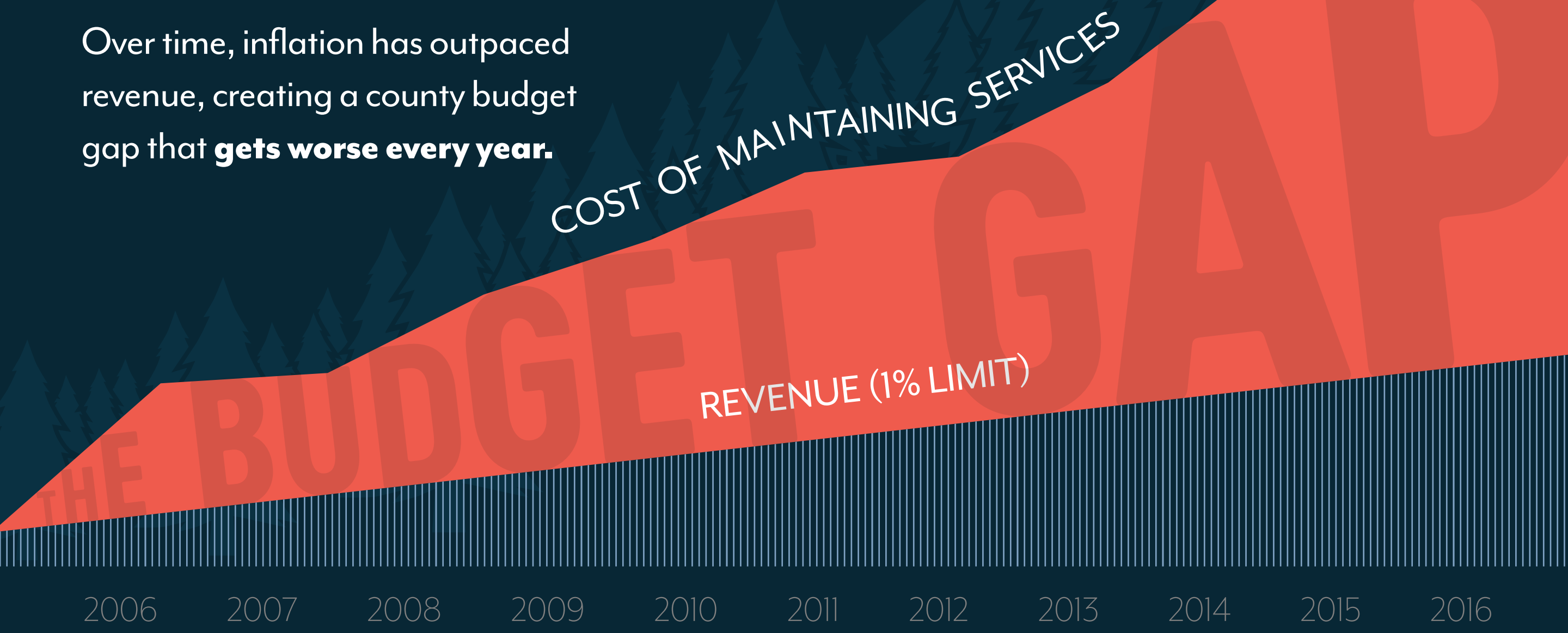
# WASHINGTON COMMUNITIES IN CRISIS

A financial crisis is putting millions of Washingtonians' safety at risk.

## THE SITUATION

Counties and cities are responsible for law enforcement, criminal justice, and public safety services. But, for the last decade, Washington counties and cities have faced a 1% cap on the annual revenue increases they can receive.

Over time, inflation has outpaced revenue, creating a county budget gap that **gets worse every year.**



## THE IMPACT

To fund public safety, counties and cities have had to use road funds, tap into reserves, and cut employees. Even with these cuts, it is getting increasingly harder every year to fund public safety.

Fewer deputies on the road

Cuts to law enforcement training

Delayed public safety response times

Caps on inmates booked into county jails

Overcrowding in jails

Road fund diversion to law enforcement

Dangerous roads and bridges

**\$37 million**

DIVERTED ROAD FUND DOLLARS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

**118**

OR 5% FEWER COMMISSIONED OFFICERS THAN FIVE YEARS AGO

**603**

STRUCTURALLY DEFICIENT OR FUNCTIONALLY OBSOLETE COUNTY BRIDGES (2015)

**9**

COUNTY JAILS OPERATING WITH AN AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION HIGHER THAN THE FACILITY WAS DESIGNED FOR

FEWER INMATES ARE COMPLETING THEIR SENTENCES

## THE RESULT

Washington State is less safe than it was a decade ago—and **it's only going to get worse.**

## THE SOLUTION

We're asking the Legislature to replace the 1% property revenue cap, giving counties and cities local authority so we can account for inflation and population growth.

**Keep communities strong. Empower local decisions.**