

# Fire Protection District No. 1 – Grand Mound-Rochester

## Proposition No. 1

### Levy Lid Lift

#### Official Ballot Title:

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 1 adopted Resolution No. 2004-1, concerning a proposition to increase the regular property tax rate. This proposition would authorize the District to increase its regular property tax levy rate to \$1.50 per one thousand dollars of assessed value to be levied in 2004 and collected in 2005 as provided in Resolution No. 2004-1. Should this proposition be:



Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Rejected \_\_\_\_\_

#### Statement For:

##### Let us Help You! Restore our funding . . .

Thurston County Fire District #1, Grand Mound – Rochester, generates 81% of its revenue from a tax levy based on the assessed value of the property in our district. The area covered by the district has seen unusually rapid growth, but the district services have been unable to keep up with the growth due to the 1% limitation established by Initiative 747.

##### Current staffing is at stake . . .

In 2004, it is projected that our District will respond to over 1,500 emergency calls for service. Our department has six career fire personnel. We also operate a SPRINT paramedic unit under contract with Fire District #11 and Thurston County Medic One. Our volunteers continue to be the backbone of our service and the fire district's goal is to assure the citizens of our community that we will have minimum manning of at least two firefighters for emergency response at any given time.

##### What the money will be used for . . .

The current rate is \$1.31/per thousand assessed value. The restored levy rate would be \$1.50/per thousand assessed value. This is an increase of \$0.19 or \$19.00 for a home valued at \$100,000. Funds generated from the "lid lift" will be used to maintain current staffing levels for emergency responses and fund programs such as preventative maintenance for vehicles, facilities repairs, and on-going training for personnel.

##### Continue your support . . .

Your district needs your help. Restore funding to a fair level and maintain the service level and programs we currently have. We will be there for you when you need us, please support us now.

*Voters' Pamphlet Statement prepared by: Grand Mound – Rochester Firefighter's Association – Deborah A. Slem, Secretary.*

#### No Statement Against:

No one could be found to write a statement against the Fire District No. 1 - Grand Mound-Rochester - Levy Lid Lift.

#### Explanatory Statement:

The Grand Mound – Rochester Fire Department, a junior taxing district located in Thurston County, is placing a lid lift proposition on the September 2004 ballot. This proposition will authorize the property tax levy rate to remain at \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The proposition is presented to provide voters the opportunity to exceed the limitation imposed by statute, which would otherwise limit total property tax revenue to 101% of the previous year's revenue, regardless of the authorized dollar rate limitation of \$1.50, which the voters first approved in September 1997.

This proposition meets the requirement of Initiative 747, which mandates that any increase in revenue of more than 1%, over the previous year, be approved by the voters.

Approval of this proposition would allow the maintaining of the current level of services. Rejection of this proposition would lead to the loss of approximately \$98,000 in projected tax revenue, which would necessitate some reductions in services, potentially including cancellation of future emergency equipment purchases, possible layoff of personnel, potential elimination of special services, and similar cutbacks.

*Explanatory Statement prepared by: Joseph F. Quinn.*