

# Yelm Fire District

## Proposition No. 1 - Levy Lid Lift

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Yelm Fire District adopted Resolution No. 2007-04, concerning a proposition relating to its regular property tax levy. The proposition would restore its regular property tax levy for maintenance and operations to an amount not to exceed \$1.50 per one thousand dollars of assessed value for collection in 2008 and to authorize setting the limit factor at 106% (but not to exceed a rate of \$1.50) for each of the five succeeding years as provided in Resolution No. 2007-04.

### Should this proposition be:

Approved

Rejected

### Explanatory Statement:

Yelm Fire District, serving the citizens of the Yelm and surrounding areas, is placing a multi-year lid lift proposition on the August 21st, 2007 ballot. This proposition will authorize the property tax levy rate to remain at \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for 2008, coupled with annual increases of up to 6% in each of the five subsequent years – not to exceed the \$1.50 limit. The proposition is presented to allow voters to override the limitation imposed by Initiative 747, 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 voters approved on September 19th, 2000.

This proposition meets the requirement of Initiative 747, that any revenue increase greater than 1%, over the previous year, be approved by the voters. The Washington State Legislature has passed legislation that allows junior taxing districts to include fire districts to propose multi-year lid lifts to voters.

Approval of this proposition would allow the fire district to maintain the current level of services. Rejection of this proposition would necessitate cutbacks in services and increased response times.

*Explanatory statement prepared by: Charles H Houser III, Valz, Houser, Kogut & Barnes P.S. Attorneys at Law*

### Statement For:

#### **How Long Can You Wait?**

The increasing call volume in Yelm Fire District is leading to more and longer delays for our family and friends to receive aid. We need to recruit and retain more career firefighters and volunteers and provide them with equipment and training to do their job. . . save your life! By increasing the number of responders, the department can reduce the amount of time our loved ones have to wait for the care they need.

In 2006 the EMT/Firefighters responded to 2,240 medical calls; 131 fire calls; and 214 accidents. That is an increase of 11% over the last year. Calls are increasing faster than district taxes. \$36,091 doesn't buy much gas. (These dollars are the 1% tax increase allowed by law over 2006.) Gas prices go up every day.

#### **What Does it Mean for the Citizens if You Fail the Levy Again?**

It will take longer for the Firefighters to answer your call. Minutes mean lives! Did you know we ran out of responders 22% of the time the first quarter of 2007? Your chance to survive cardiac arrest goes down 7-10% every minute after collapse. This could be someone you love. It will put your fire department further behind in providing you with the service you deserve.

Every year over 100 firefighters die in the line of duty. We must provide our firefighters with backup and training.

*Please support your fire department by getting involved, and by voting yes. Secondscount.org (360) 236-0923.*

*Thank you for your support!*

*Statement in favor prepared by: Steven Slater, Kristine Kelly, and Tony Brosco*

### Statement Against:

No one could be found to write a statement against the Yelm Fire District Proposition No. 1, Levy Lid Lift.