

Fire Protection District No. 1 (Grand Mound - Rochester)

Proposition No. 1 - Levy Lid Lift

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire Protection District No. 1, Thurston County, Washington, (Grand Mound - Rochester Fire) adopted Resolution No. 2008-01 concerning a proposition to restore the District's regular property tax levy. The proposition would authorize the District to restore its regular property tax levy to an amount not to exceed \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value for collection in 2009 for maintenance, and operations costs. The levy amount will be used to calculate subsequent levy limits.

Should this proposition be:

Approved

Rejected

Explanatory Statement:

Revenue from the regular levy is used for delivering Emergency 911- Rescue, Emergency Medical, Fire and other Services to the residents of the District.

Restoring the levy will help improve response times over the sixty-six square mile District by authorizing funding necessary to provide for 24-hour staffing at the Albany Street station in Rochester. It will also help fund the District's share of a Transport Paramedic Unit, will offset other increasing costs and replace outdated equipment.

The voters have previously authorized a levy of \$1.50 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. This proposition seeks to restore that levy rate.

The Fire District has not restored the regular property tax levy since 2004. This proposition will only restore the rate to that level for one year. The District has been proactive in developing partnerships with neighboring Fire Districts to consolidate administrative and operational activities to reduce costs.

This Public Safety levy restoration proposition will cost a family with property valued at two hundred and fifty thousand dollars less than eleven dollars (\$10.83) per month.

Approved by: Joseph Quinn

Statement For:

Restoring the Maintenance & Operations Levy Will Fund Emergency Medical, Rescue and Fire Service Response

The Fire District has reduced costs to improve efficiency by consolidating administrative and operational function with other West Thurston Fire Districts. Even with these cost cutting measures, expenses continue to outpace revenue growth. The levy is the Fire Departments only source of revenue for funding maintenance and operational costs associated with responding to 911 emergency medical, rescue and fire incidents.

Funds Will Be Used to Staff the Albany Street Station 24 Hours a Day

Restoring the levy will help fund a staffed station closer to your home. Rescue, Emergency Medical and Fire Service Trained Professionals closer to home gives you or your family members a better chance of survival when you need 911 Emergency Medical, Rescue or Fire Services.

Restoring the Levy rate will provide funding to retrofit the Albany Street Station to allow for dorm rooms and hire staffing for 24 hour coverage; District residents will benefit by significantly faster primary and secondary emergency response times.

This Proposition Restores the Regular Maintenance & Operations Levy, This is Not a New Tax

The Fire District has not restored the maintenance & operations levy since 2004. The public safety improvements will cost a family .35 cents per day or less than eleven dollars per month (for \$250,000 of assessed home value). The District needs to replace its aging "JAWS of life", purchase updated emergency radio equipment and required safety upgrades of its self contained breathing apparatus for firefighters.

Your Yes Vote Will Help Fund a Paramedic Unit

Restoring the Levy rate will restore funding needed to maintain and upgrade the life saving non-transport Paramedic Unit to a transport Paramedic Unit. Rochester/Grand Mound and Littlerock Fire District residents share in 20% of the costs associated with the paramedic unit.

Statement Prepared by: Ken Carlson, Grand Mound – Rochester Firefighters Association

Statement Against:

Fire Protection District No. 1 (Grand Mound - Rochester) has indicated they could not find anyone to write a statement against this proposition.