

Fire Protection District No. 4 (Rainier) Proposition No. 1

Creation of Regional Fire Protection Service Authority

The Regional Fire Protection Service Authority Planning Committee has submitted to the City of Yelm, Yelm Fire District #2 and Thurston County Fire District #4 (Rainier) a Regional Fire Service Protection Authority Plan to create and fund a Regional Fire Protection Service Authority under RCW 52.26. If this Plan is approved, it will create a regional authority for fire protection and emergency medical services funded by a regular property tax, not to exceed \$1.50 per one thousand dollars of assessed value.

Should the Plan for a Regional Fire Protection Service Authority be approved:

- Yes
 No

Explanatory Statement:

This proposition would establish a regional fire protection service authority known as S.E. Thurston Regional Fire Authority (SETRFA). SETRFA would replace Yelm Fire District #2 and Thurston County Fire District #4 – Rainier, in providing fire protection and emergency medical services to those areas, including the City of Yelm. SETRFA will maintain necessary emergency services and efficiently consolidate the administrative, training and operational functions of the two fire districts into one agency governed by an elected nine member board with equal representation on the board of commissioners. Taxes levied by the SETRFA (limited at \$1.50 per \$1,000 assessed value) will replace taxes currently levied by the individual fire districts.

Statement prepared by: Charles H. Houser III, Valz, Houser, Kogut & Barnes P.S. Attorney at Law

Statement For:

Approving Proposition One will formally consolidate the fire and medical response services for Thurston County Fire District #4 (Rainier), Yelm Fire District #2 and the City of Yelm. This is *not* a tax increase for fire district citizens.

This provides a common sense approach to keeping costs down by combining the equipment and staff of both fire districts with the resources of the City. Cities and Fire Districts around the state are finding Regional Fire Authorities the most cost efficient way to provide essential services.

All citizens will then have an equal voice in their fire department. The Regional Fire Authority will equalize funding to help prevent the reduction in personnel and response times.

Please vote *yes* with us to keep our families well protected.

Statement prepared by: Citizens for Fire Protection - Thurston County Fire District #4 (Rainier) - Mike Sommer, Tracy Carli, Fran Morehead

Statement Against:

Fire Protection District No. 4 (Rainier) has indicated they could not find anyone to write a statement against this proposition.

