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STEVENS COUNTY
Fire Protection District 1
PO Box 246
Clayton, WA 99110
(509) 262-9660
www.scfpd1.com

Questions about our plan to improve emergency services?





We have the answers.

What's on my ballot?

Stevens County Fire Protection District 1 is asking voters to approve a 17.5 cent lid lift for fire district operations and a \$6.5 million bond for facilities. The lid lift will fund one additional firefighter and a reserve account to replace equipment and apparatus. The bond will replace our two busiest fire stations at Loon Lake and Suncrest, which are too costly to renovate.

Why is my fire district asking for this?

Call volumes have increased 21% in the past year, and we've lost 20% of our volunteer firefighters due to age or work commitments. We are struggling to recruit new volunteers because our equipment and facilities are past their usable lives and lack basic safety features for firefighters.

How does this impact our emergency response?

We are short-handed during daytime hours, when call volumes are highest. Our two main fire stations lack sleeping quarters, which means volunteer firefighters have to respond from home or work. This can delay our emergency response time by five minutes on average.

What safety features are missing for our firefighters?

Our stations lack decontamination units for firefighters to wash off smoke, soot and other carcinogens when returning from a call. Also, there are no ventilation systems to move exhaust fumes away from personnel inside buildings.

How will the lid lift and bond improve emergency services?

These projects are expected to improve emergency response times, firefighter health and safety, as well as help us recruit more volunteers. Fire districts that have made similar improvements have seen lower insurance premiums for homeowners, as well.

How much will it cost?

The lid lift is 17.5 cents per 1,000 of assessed property value and a 20-year bond is estimated at 35 cents per \$1,000 based on current market rates. This means that property owners could expect to pay 52.5 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value, or \$8.75 per month (\$105 per year) for the owner of a \$200,000 home. For example:

Assessed Property Value	Amount Per Month	Amount Per Year
\$100,000	\$4.38	\$52.50
\$200,000	\$8.75	\$105.00
\$300,000	\$13.13	\$157.50
\$400,000	\$17.50	\$210.00

Please note that property taxes paid to the fire district are deductible on your federal income taxes, which reduces the overall amount you pay.

Where can I find more information?

Please visit our web site www.scfpd1.com/about/proposed-funding-measures/ or contact Fire Chief Mike Bucy directly at mbucy@scfpd1.com or (509) 262-9660.