



Snohomish County FIRE DISTRICT 7

Earning Trust Through Action

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Snohomish County Fire District 7 Hosting Public Meeting on Fire Levy Lid Lift

Monroe, Wash. – Snohomish County Fire District 7 is hosting a public meeting to answer questions about its fire levy lid lift which is on the August 6 Primary Election ballot. Community members with questions are invited and encouraged to attend.

The meeting will be on Wednesday, July 24, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Station 71 (8010 180th St SE, Snohomish, WA 98296). Fire Chief Gary Meek and members of the Board of Fire Commissioners will be in attendance.

Fire District 7's fire levy has fallen from the voter-approved rate of \$1.50 to \$1.36/\$1,000. If approved by voters, the fire levy rate would return to \$1.50/\$1,000. This is called a fire levy "lid lift." The lid lift would cost the owner of a \$450,000 home \$ 5.25 per month (\$63 per year). It would last for six years and can never exceed the voter-approved rate of \$1.50/\$1,000.

Funding will be used to maintain emergency service levels. This includes funding personnel, training, facilities and apparatus maintenance (such as fire engines and ambulances), equipment, and medical supplies.

Levy rates fall as property values rise to limit a fire district to roughly the same amount of revenue per year, plus a one percent increase allowed by law. The one percent is not keeping up with rising call volumes or even inflation, which is 2.3 percent for the area.

The fire levy provides most of the funding to provide emergency services for residents and businesses in Fire District 7. The fire district also provides emergency services to the City of Mill Creek on a contract basis. Mill Creek residents will not see the fire levy lid lift on their election ballot because of this contract relationship.

More information about the fire levy lid lift can be found on Fire District 7's web site at www.snofire7.org. Chief Gary Meek also is available to answer questions at gmeek@snofire7.org or (360) 794-7666.

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Snohomish County Fire District 7 provides fire and life safety services to over 118,500 people over 98.5 square miles in central and east Snohomish County, including the communities of Clearview, Maltby, Mill Creek and Monroe. In 2018 our emergency personnel responded to more than 11,000 emergency calls. Through taxpayer support, Fire District 7 has built one of the most advanced emergency response

systems in Snohomish County with highly-trained personnel, facilities, apparatus, and rescue programs. We appreciate your support and are grateful for the opportunity to serve our community.

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www.snofire7.org