



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Board of Fire Commissioners passes fire levy lid lift resolution

Proposal will appear on the November 7, 2023, general election ballot

Monroe, Wash. – The Board of Fire Commissioners for Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue (SRFR) passed a resolution to place a fire levy lid lift on the November 7, 2023, general election ballot. The lid lift would fund station improvements and staffing that are needed to maintain the quality and level of emergency services important to the community.

“We’ve identified projects that will improve service reliability and allow for quicker response times across our district,” Fire Chief Kevin O’Brien said. “We must also ensure adequate staffing levels to respond to calls for service.”

The fire district completed a Capital Facilities Plan, a Community Risk Assessment, and a Standards of Cover report that outlines where improvements are needed to maintain the quality and level of emergency services the community requires. The fire district also went through a rigorous process of earning agency accreditation from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. This process ensures continuous improvement to better serve residents and businesses in the fire district. This is the highest level of achievement possible for a fire district and SRFR became the first accredited agency in Snohomish County.

If approved by voters, the lid lift will fund:

- Filling open positions for emergency personnel to improve service reliability across the district
- Rebuilding Station 81 in Lake Stevens and relocating Station 32 in Monroe to allow for quicker response times in the area
- Replacing reduced funding due to changes in how the federal government reimburses fire districts for Medicare and Medicaid patients

The fire district is asking voters for a fire levy lid lift of \$0.36 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. This would return the fire levy rate to \$1.50 per \$1,000 and cost an additional \$216 per year or \$18 per month for the owner of a \$600,00 home (considered average).

Learn more at www.srfr.org.

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Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue serves 160,000 residents in the cities of Lake Stevens, Monroe, and unincorporated southeast Snohomish County. SRFR responds to an average of 16,000 emergency calls a



year with highly trained personnel and state-of-the-art rescue programs. SRFR became the first accredited agency in Snohomish County by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International, which is the highest level of achievement possible for a fire agency. More information about SRFR can be found at www.srfr.org.

