

SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 4, 2023 From: Fire Chief Kevin O'Brien (360) 794-7666 | kevin.obrien@srfr.org

Community invited to learn more about fire levy lid lift

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

Monroe, Wash. – Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue (SRFR) invites the community to learn more about the fire levy lid lift that will be on the November 7, 2023, general election ballot. The purpose of the lid lift is to improve and maintain the quality and level of emergency services the community requires.

Learn more at a Q&A session:

- Wednesday, October 18, at 6 p.m. at Fire Station 31, 163 Village Court in Monroe (in person)
- Monday, October 23, at 6 p.m. online via Zoom (find Zoom link at www.srfr.org)

Fire Chief Kevin O'Brien will deliver a brief presentation and answer any questions.

SRFR has identified improvements, however, revenue is not keeping up with the costs to provide service. If voters approve the lid lift, it would be used:

- To fill open positions for emergency and support services personnel to continue to provide a fast and reliable emergency response
- To help rebuild Station 81 in downtown Lake Stevens, relocate Station 32 in Monroe for a faster response, and expand Station 31's fleet services shop for the repair and maintenance of emergency apparatus
- To replace lost funding from changes in how the federal government reimburses fire districts for medical care and transport of 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 \$36 per year (\$3 per month) for every \$100,000 of assessed property value.

Learn more at <u>www.srfr.org</u>.

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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