

**CENTRAL PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE**

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-01**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF CENTRAL PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE FIRE DISTRICT, AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE FIRE DISTRICT ON AUGUST 2, 2022, OF A PROPOSITION REAUTHORIZING A LEVY OF A REGULAR PROPERTY TAX FOR EMS (EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIFTY CENTS (50¢) PER THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) OF THE TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION, AS AUTHORIZED IN RCW 84.52.069, EACH YEAR FOR SIX CONSECUTIVE YEARS, TO BE LEVIED IN 2022 AND COLLECTED IN 2023 AND EACH YEAR OF THE FIVE SUCCEEDING YEARS. SAID LEVY SHALL PROVIDE FUNDS REQUIRED BY THE FIRE DISTRICT FOR THE CONTINUED PROVISION OF BASIC AND ADVANCED EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INCLUDING PERSONNEL COSTS, TRAINING FOR SUCH PERSONNEL, AND RELATED EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND VEHICLES.**

WHEREAS, Central Pierce Fire & Rescue has heretofore received approval by qualified electors of an EMS levy as a regular property tax in an amount equal to \$0.50 per thousand dollars of assessed value of property to be used only for the provision of emergency medical services, including personnel costs, training for such personnel and related equipment, supplies, vehicles and structures needed for such services, for a six-year period; and

WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the nation, in Pierce County and in the Fire District; and

WHEREAS, the delivery of paramedic services in Pierce County has greatly enhanced the survival rate of victims of cardiac arrest and the initiation of cardiopulmonary resuscitation by bystanders or emergency medical technicians has doubled hospital discharge rates; and

WHEREAS, it is the judgment of the Board of Commissioners of Central Pierce Fire & Rescue that it is essential and necessary for the protection of the health and life of the residents of the Fire District to continue providing 24-hour advanced life support (paramedic) staffing within the district. Such services necessitate the expenditure of revenues for maintenance, operations, equipment and personnel in excess of those moneys provided by the District's regular tax levy, for collection over the next six years beginning in 2023; and

WHEREAS, the subsequent approval of a six-year levy, as in this case, must be specifically authorized by a majority of the registered voters of the District authorizing the levies at a general or special election with no "validation" requirement;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS FOR CENTRAL PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** To continue to meet the need for high quality emergency medical services, including advanced life support (paramedic) services, and to meet the emergency medical needs arising from accelerated growth within the community, to satisfy personnel and equipment needs, to raise revenues adequate to pay costs attributable to providing adequate emergency medical services, and to maintain reserve funds, the Fire District shall levy in 2022, for collection each year for six consecutive years beginning in 2023, a general tax on taxable property in the District in an amount of up to \$0.50 per \$1,000 of true and fair assessed valuation of property within the District.

**Section 2.** Pursuant to the authorization in RCW 84.52.069, as amended, this levy is a regular property tax levy unaffected by the \$5.90 limitation imposed by RCW 84.52.043 and is not subject to the limitation of RCW 84.55.010 for the first levy imposed, pursuant to RCW 84.52.069(9), but is subject thereto for the remaining five levies.

**Section 3.** This six-year levy must be approved by a simple majority of the registered voters of the Fire District approving the proposition authorizing the levies, without the need for "validation", because this reauthorization represents the subsequent approval of a previously voter-approved EMS levy, pursuant to RCW 84.52.069(2).

**Section 4.** There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the Fire District for their ratification or rejection, at an election on August 2, 2022, the proposition hereinafter set forth. The Board of Commissioners of Central Pierce Fire & Rescue does hereby declare that the auditor of Pierce County, as ex officio Supervisor of Elections, is hereby requested to call said election and to submit the following proposition at said election in the form of a ballot title substantially as follows:


**PROPOSITION ONE**

**CENTRAL PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE  
REAUTHORIZING EMS LEVY**

Shall Central Pierce Fire & Rescue be reauthorized to continue imposing regular property tax levies of fifty cents (50¢) or less per thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of assessed valuation each year for six consecutive years to continue providing basic and advanced (paramedic) emergency medical services?

\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** THAT RESOLUTION NO. 22-01 MOVED AND PASSED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS FOR CENTRAL PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE ON THE 25<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2022 OF WHICH ALL COMMISSIONERS WERE NOTIFIED AND AT WHICH 4 WERE PRESENT AND VOTING.

  
Chairman

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner

Attest:

  
District Secretary

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
ERIC T. QUINN, WSBA #47354  
Attorney for District

**FINAL**

**Central Pierce Fire & Rescue  
Special Election – Proposition No. 1  
Re-authorizing EMS Levy**

**Official Ballot Title:** Will Central Pierce Fire & Rescue be re-authorized to impose regular property tax levies of fifty cents (\$0.50) or less per thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of assessed valuation for each of six consecutive years to continue providing basic and advanced (paramedic) emergency medical services?

Yes...[  ]

No ...[  ]

# Central Pierce Fire & Rescue Explanatory Statement Proposition 1

## Explanatory Statement:

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) levy has been in place throughout the District since the 1980s. *Re-authorization* of the EMS Levy will continue funding paramedic emergency medical services throughout the District, which also includes the City of Puyallup. Approximately 72% of the District's calls for service are EMS-related. Revenue raised by the EMS Levy would be used for personnel, training, equipment, and supplies, and provide sustainable funding for emergency medical purposes.

The EMS Levy also funds the EMS Transport Program which pays for citizens of the District to be transported to area hospitals by fire department ambulance, with no out of pocket expenses to District residents.

Passage of Proposition No. 1 will *continue the current EMS Levy* for an additional six years at the current rate of .50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. At this rate, the owner of a home assessed at \$400,000 pays \$200 per year to ensure timely paramedic emergency medical service and ambulance transportation to area hospitals, at no cost to District residents.

Explanatory Statement Approved by Eric Quinn, Attorney at Law