



Special Election - Proposition No. 1
Submitted by Valley Regional Fire Authority
King and Pierce Counties, Washington
FIRE STATION CONSTRUCTION BONDS



Official Ballot Title:

The Governing Board of the Valley Regional Fire Authority passed Resolution 33 concerning financing certain fire facility and equipment improvements. This proposition would authorize the Authority to acquire, construct and equip a new fire station; renovate existing facilities; purchase a new ladder truck; and make related capital improvements. To accomplish this, it would authorize the Authority to issue no more than \$19.8 million of general obligation bonds maturing within (20) years and to levy annual excess property taxes to pay and retire such bonds, all as provided in Resolution 33. Should this proposition be approved?

Explanatory Statement:

The Board of Governance of the Valley Regional Fire Authority has determined that it is in the best interest of the Authority to acquire, construct and equip a new fire station in the Lakeland community, renovate two existing fire stations in south Auburn and on Lea Hill, purchase a new ladder truck, and make related capital improvements. The Authority does not currently have sufficient funds available and is therefore seeking voter approval for the issuance and sale of not to exceed \$19,800,000 of general obligation bonds of the Authority to pay the costs of the project. The bonded indebtedness shall be repaid by a voter-approved annual property tax levy, at a rate of approximately 17 ½ cents per thousand of assessed valuation. This means that a taxpayer owning a home valued at \$300,000 would pay approximately \$52.50 in extra taxes per year if this measure is approved.

Statement For:

Proposition One is the beginning of fulfilling the promise of providing the best fire and emergency medical services available to every citizen in the Valley Regional Fire Authority. When the citizens in Algona, Auburn, and Pacific voted to create the VRFA, part of the plan was to build a fire station in the Lakeland area. This measure will build the Lakeland station and remodel both the south Auburn and Lea Hill stations, which will increase emergency response capabilities. The next phase will strategically locate stations within the north Auburn and Algona-Pacific communities and establish an emergency operations center for a regional response to large-scale emergencies. With this fire fighting and emergency services plan of overlapping response areas, units will be available more quickly and, where minutes count, citizens will receive the best services for their dollar. We ask you to join us in voting Yes!

Committee Members: Laura Higdon, Richard "Dick" Kammeyer, Robert "Bob" Baggett

Statement Against:

No statement was submitted against this issue.

This space is available each election for citizens and/or committees opposing measures to publish a "Statement Against". For information, contact the Pierce County Auditor's Office at (253) 798-VOTE (8683).