

North Kitsap Fire & Rescue Proposition No. 1

Emergency Medical Service Property Tax Levy

Official Ballot Title

Shall North Kitsap Fire & Rescue be authorized to continue to impose regular property tax levies of fifty (50) cents or less per thousand dollars of assessed valuation for each of six (6) consecutive years for emergency medical care and services? (Pursuant to RCW 84.52.069; District Resolution 2007-11)

Yes
No

Explanatory Statement (Prepared by the Attorney for the North Kitsap Fire & Rescue District, as prescribed by law.)

The law as it presently exists: RCW 84.52.069 provides that, with voter approval, a fire district may impose property tax levies in addition to the fire services levy for emergency medical care or services, including related costs for personnel, equipment, supplies, vehicles and structures needed for the provision of emergency medical care or services. The additional property tax levies may be in an amount to, but may not exceed, fifty cents (\$0.50) per thousand dollars of assessed value of property in the taxing district. This tax may be imposed either (a) each year for six consecutive years, (b) each year for ten consecutive years, or (c) permanently. A tax levy under this section must be authorized by a 60% "super-majority" of approving voters.

The effect of the proposed measure, if it becomes law: North Kitsap Fire & Rescue adopted Resolution No. 2007-11, which includes a proposition to be submitted to the qualified voters of the district for approval or rejection of additional property tax levies to fund emergency medical services. If the measure is approved, then North Kitsap Fire & Rescue will levy additional property taxes in the amount of \$0.50 or less per \$1,000 of assessed property value for each of the years 2008 through 2013. The revenue collected by this levy may only be used for emergency medical care or services, and related costs.

Statement For the Measure

Vote Yes for EMS! North Kitsap Fire & Rescue (NKF&R) is asking voters to renew its emergency medical services levy for another six years. This is not a new tax but simply authorizes continuation of the existing levy that has been in place for 22 years.

Continued Service Depends on Continued Funding. Without your approval of this levy, NKF&R cannot maintain our community's current level of emergency medical services. The levy pays for first response to medical incidents (which are about two-thirds of the department's total responses) and provides most of the funding for ambulances as well as medical equipment, supplies, responder salaries and training. These life-saving resources are especially important in the communities served by NKF&R. Given the great distances to hospitals, lives literally depend on the quick response of our quality emergency medical personnel.

Preserve our rapid response times and excellent emergency medical services.

Vote Yes for EMS!

Statement prepared by: Patrick Pearson, Commissioner NKF&R, Chairperson; Stephen Neupert, Commissioner NKF&R; and Paul Nichol, Fire Chief NKF&R, committee members. Further questions may be addressed by emailing patrick051@centurytel.net or by calling (360) 297.7077.

Statement Against the Measure

No statement against the measure was submitted.