

**SOUTH KING FIRE
RESOLUTION NO. 648**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS FOR SOUTH KING FIRE, HEREBY KNOWN AS THE DISTRICT, DECLARING THE INTENT TO IMPOSE A VOTER- AUTHORIZED BENEFIT CHARGE EACH YEAR FOR SIX (6) YEARS AND CALLING FOR AN ELECTION WITHIN THE DISTRICT OF A PROPOSITION TO ESTABLISH THE VOTER-AUTHORIZED BENEFIT CHARGE ON PERSONAL PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS TO REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE DISTRICT FOR UP TO SIX YEARS.

WHEREAS, the District is authorized by Chapter 52.18 RCW to establish, impose and collect a Benefit Charge on personal property and improvements to real property located within the District, and

WHEREAS, the District proposes to receive voter approval to so establish and impose a Benefit Charge; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners has determined that its regular property tax levies and income from excess levies and other sources, will not be sufficient to cover the operating costs of the District, in order to maintain a satisfactory level of service by the District to its citizens and residents; and

WHEREAS, the District's level of service provided for fire and emergency medical services may actually have to be reduced unless the Benefit Charge is established; and

WHEREAS, the Benefit Charge will be reasonably proportioned to the measurable benefits that each property receives from the services by the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that if the benefit charge is established pursuant to voter approval, the District cannot collect the "third fifty cents" allowed by RCW 52.16.160 as long as the benefit charge is in force; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that the benefit charges collected in the District cannot exceed 60% of the District's operating budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Benefit Charge. It is the declared intent of the District to establish a voter-authorized benefit charge on personal property and improvements to real property located within South King Fire, to be paid by the owners of such property.

Section 2. Amount of Benefit Charge. The amount of the Benefit Charge for each year, and for each property, shall be set in the year preceding imposition of the charge,

after a public hearing to review and establish the amount of the benefit charges for the subsequent year, pursuant to RCW 52.18.060 and RCW 84.55.120.

Section 3. Effective Date. The Benefit Charge, if approved, would be fixed and imposed on the affected properties, effective in 2025, if authorized by the voters.

Section 4. Notice of the Benefit Charge. Pursuant to RCW 52.18.060 and 52.18.070, property owners will be notified in writing of the benefit charge proposed to be assessed on their property, and the amounts thereof, subsequent to the public hearing referred to in section 2 above, and prior to the formation or convening of a benefit charge review board by the Commissioners. Such review board shall be convened and available for a two week period, to hear and decide written complaints from aggrieved property owners who, in their opinion, have been charged improperly.

Section 5. Election. Pursuant to RCW 52.18.050, there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their approval or rejection, at the primary election to be held on August 6, 2024, the question whether to approve a voter-authorized benefit charge for fire protection district purposes, as authorized by law. The Secretary of the District is authorized and directed to request the Auditor of King County to call said election, the ballot title for which is to be precisely as prescribed by RCW 52.18.050, as follows:

BALLOT TITLE

PROPOSITION NO. 1

SOUTH KING FIRE – AUTHORIZING FIRE BENEFIT CHARGE

Shall South King Fire be authorized to impose benefit charges each year for six years, not to exceed an amount equal to sixty percent of its operating budget, and be prohibited from imposing an additional property tax under RCW 52.16.160?


_____YES _____NO

Section 6. With respect to this election, the District shall participate in the publication of information in the Local Voters' Pamphlet, including but not limited to an explanatory statement reviewed and approved by the District's attorney, a Statement For, and a Statement Against, pursuant to Chapter 29A.32 of the Revised Code of Washington. The Fire Chief is hereby delegated authority to effectuate this provision.


Section 7. The Secretary to the Board of Fire Commissioners is hereby directed to deliver a certified copy of this resolution to the Manager of Records and Elections of King County, Washington, as ex officio County Supervisors of Elections for the District, no later than May 3, 2024.

Section 9. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption, and should any provision of this Resolution be declared invalid, that shall not impact the remaining provisions of this Resolution.

ADOPTED by the Board of Fire Commissioners of South King Fire at a regular open public meeting of such Board on the 25th day of April 2024, with the following commissioners being present and voting.


CHAIR BARUSO


VICE CHAIR VADINO


COMMISSIONER GATES

COMMISSIONER FULLER


COMMISSIONER BURRUS

ATTEST:


Board Secretary

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