

**VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY
KING AND PIERCE COUNTIES, WASHINGTON**

RESOLUTION NO. 156

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Governance of the VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY, King and Pierce Counties, Washington, relating to regular property taxes; providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the Authority at a special election held on February 11, 2020, of a proposition authorizing the Authority to levy regular property taxes in excess of the limitations of chapter 84.55 RCW; setting forth the text of the ballot proposition; directing proper Authority officials to take necessary actions; and providing for other properly related matters.

BE IT RESOLVED BY the Board of Governance of VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY, KING AND PIERCE COUNTIES, Washington, as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. The Board of Governance (the "Board") of Valley Regional Fire Authority, King and Pierce Counties, Washington (the "Authority"), hereby makes the following findings and determinations:

(a) The Board has determined that it is essential, in order to provide the required level of fire protection services to its residents, that the Authority ask the voters to restore the regular property tax levy rate of the Authority to the level originally approved by the voters when the Authority was created.

(b) The Board has determined that, without the restoration of this levy, the revenues that will be available to the Authority in the future will be insufficient to provide the level of service residents desire, and has therefore determined that it is in the interests of the Authority and its residents to submit this levy lid lift proposition to the voters for their approval or rejection.

Section 2. Calling of Election. The Board of Governance finds that it is in the best interests of the Authority to submit to the qualified voters of the Authority, at a special election on February 11, 2020, a proposition authorizing the Board to increase the Authority's regular property tax levy for collection in 2021, by an amount greater than otherwise permitted under chapter 84.55 RCW, in order to restore the levy rate originally authorized when the Authority was created. If this proposition is approved, the Board will be authorized to adopt, in accordance with its regular budget process, an increased regular property tax as described in Section 3.

Section 3. Purpose and Description of Ballot Proposition. The Board seeks voter approval under RCW 84.55.050(1) for a levy lid lift to restore the regular levy of the Authority to the rate approved by the voters upon creation of the Authority. The proposition would restore the maximum regular levy rate to \$1.00 per \$1,000 of assessed value for collection in 2021. The dollar

amount of the maximum allowable levy under chapter 84.55 RCW for collection in 2021 will be used to compute the limitations on subsequent levies under chapter 84.55 RCW.

Section 4. Ballot Proposition. The Director of Records and Elections of King County and the Pierce County Auditor (together, the “County Elections Officials”), as *ex officio* supervisors of elections within the Authority, are hereby requested to call and conduct a special election within the Authority, in the manner provided by law, to be held on the date identified in Section 2, for the purpose of submitting to the voters of the Authority, a proposition in substantially the following form:

**VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY
King and Pierce Counties, Washington**

Proposition 1

**Levy Lid Lift
to Restore the Regular Property Tax Levy**

The Board of Governance has adopted Resolution No. 156 concerning restoring the regular property tax levy to its original rate.

If approved, this proposition would authorize restoration of the regular property levy rate of \$1.00/\$1,000 assessed value for collection in 2021, as described in the Resolution. The increased levy would be used to sustain fire protection and emergency medical services within the Authority. The highest lawful levy permitted for collection in 2021 will be used to calculate subsequent levy limits.

Should this proposition be: Approved? Rejected?

Section 5. Notices Relating to Ballot Proposition. For purposes of receiving notice of the exact language of the ballot proposition required by RCW 29A.36.080, the Board of Governance hereby designates: (a) Mark Horaski, Chief Financial Officer (Mark.Horaski@vrfa.org); and (b) special counsel to the Authority Alice Ostdiek, Stradling Yocca Carlson and Rauth, PC (AOstdiek@sycr.com) as the individuals to whom such notice should be provided.

Section 6. Authorization to Deliver Resolution and Perform Other Necessary Duties. The Administrative Services Director (or his designee) is authorized and directed, no later than December 13, 2019, to certify a copy of this Resolution to the Auditors and to perform such other duties as are necessary or required by law to the end that the proposition described herein should appear on the ballot at the special election identified in Section 2 of this Resolution.

Section 7. Local Voters' Pamphlet Authorized. The preparation and distribution of a local voters' pamphlet providing information on this ballot proposition is hereby authorized. The pamphlet shall include arguments advocating approval and disapproval of the ballot proposition. In accordance with RCW 29A.32.280, committees to prepare arguments advocating approval and disapproval of the measure shall be appointed by motion of the Board of Governance not later than 45 days before the publication of the pamphlet. Each committee shall be composed of not more than three persons, and the committee advocating approval shall be composed of persons known to favor the ballot proposition and the committee advocating disapproval shall be composed of persons known to oppose the ballot proposition. .


Section 8. Severability. If any provision of this Resolution shall be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, then such provision shall be null and void and shall be separable from the remaining provisions and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions, or of the levy or collection of the taxes authorized herein.

Section 9. Effective Date. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.


Adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Governance of the Valley Regional Fire

Authority this 10 day of December, 2019.


VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY


LEANNE GUIER
Governing Board Chair

ATTEST:


Louise Bartol
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Alice Ostdiek
Counsel for the Authority