

2022 LEVY LID LIFT

ENUMCALW FIRE DEPARTMENT  
KING COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON  
RESOLUTION #2022-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF ENUMCLAW FIRE DEPARTMENT (KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #28), KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT A PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON AUGUST 2, 2022, OF A PROPOSITION RESTORING THE DISTRICT'S REGULAR PROPERTY TAX TO AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1.50 PER \$1,000.00 OF TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION FOR COLLECTION IN 2023 AND ESTABLISHING A LIMIT FACTOR OF SIX PERCENT FOR THE FOLLOWING FIVE YEARS SUBJECT TO OTHERWISE APPLICABLE STATUTORY LIMITATIONS.

**WHEREAS**, it is the judgment of the Board of Fire Commissioners (the "Board") of the Enumclaw Fire Department, also known as King County Fire District #28, (the "District") that it is essential and necessary for the protection of the health and life safety of the residents of the District that fire and emergency medical services be provided by the District. The accelerated demands for, and the increasing cost of, providing these services will necessitate the expenditure of revenues for wages, maintenance, apparatus and equipment in excess of what is provided by the District's regular tax revenue levied at the current rate of approximately \$1.368 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation of taxable property within the District as limited by the 101% limitation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has determined that the 1% limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 will not be sufficient to provide for the expected cost increases required to maintain and increase the level of services provided by the District; and

**WHEREAS**, inflation is currently at 8% and driving up costs for emergency services; and

**WHEREAS**, a regular property tax rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, applicable to all taxable property located in the district may be lawfully levied within the limits prescribed by RCW 84.55 as amended,

**WHEREAS**, the District previously levied at the \$1.50 rate in 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, if this proposition fails the District anticipates there will be an increase to response times; and

**WHEREAS**, the electorate should be given the opportunity to decide whether the authorized rate of up to \$1.50 per \$1,000 should be levied, waiving the 1% limit of RCW 84.55, commonly referred to as "lifting the lid".

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**WHEREAS**, the Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the District that the maximum allowable levy in the sixth year of the levy authorized by this Resolution serve as the levy base for purposes of applying the limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 in subsequent years.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Enumclaw Fire Department as follows:

1. Purpose and Calling of Election. The Board finds that it is in the best interests of the District to submit to the voters of the District, at the primary election on August 2, 2022, a proposition authorizing the District to restore its regular property tax levy for collection in 2023 not to exceed \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation for the purpose of funding staff positions and increases in costs to maintain existing service levels, including but not limited to wages, benefits, apparatus, maintenance, and related equipment and training expenses, and to cover increases in the costs of services that cannot be covered by existing funds. 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 2.

2. Description of Ballot Measure. To fulfill this purpose, the Board seeks voter approval under RCW 84.55.050(2) to remove the limitation on regular property taxes imposed by RCW 84.55.010, and levy beginning in 2022 and collect beginning in 2023, pursuant to RCW 52.16.130, RCW 52.16.140 and RCW 52.16.160, a general tax on taxable property within the District at a rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits, as follows:

A. The proposed increase is estimated to result in an incremental increase in the regular property tax rate of approximately \$0.132 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value, for a total estimated levy rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value for collection in 2023.

B. The District's maximum allowable regular tax levy in each of the following five years (2024 through 2028) shall be computed by using the prior year's highest allowable levy and applying a limit factor equal to 106% to calculate the limitations under chapter 84.55 RCW, subject to the statutory rate limitation of \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value. As required by RCW 84.55.050(2), during the six-year period, the funds raised under the levy shall not supplant existing funds used for the purposes described in this resolution. For purposes of this resolution, "existing funds" means the actual operating expenditures for the calendar year in which the ballot measure is approved by voters. Actual operating expenditures excludes lost federal funds, lost or expired state grants or loans, extraordinary events not likely to reoccur, changes in contract provisions beyond the control of the taxing district receiving the services, and major nonrecurring capital expenditures.

C. The dollar amount of the Board's 2027 levy for collection in 2028 shall be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies provided for under chapter 84.55.010 RCW and any resulting increase may be used for any proper District purpose.

3. Ballot Title. The Director of Records and Elections of King County, Washington, as *ex officio* supervisor of elections, is hereby requested to submit to the voters of the District, a proposition in the following form, pursuant to RCW 29A.36.071:

**PROPOSITION NO. 1**

**ENUMCLAW FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**RESTORING PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

The Board of Commissioners of Enumclaw Fire Department adopted Resolution No. 2022-01 to finance fire protection and emergency medical services. This proposition authorizes Enumclaw Fire Department to restore its regular property tax levy to \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation for collection in 2023 and establishes a limit factor of six percent for the following five years to maintain fire protection, emergency medical services and provide for firefighter and public safety. The maximum allowable levy made in 2027 for collection in 2028 shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations.

Should this Proposition be:

Approved..... [ ]

Rejected..... [ ]

4. Pursuant to RCW 84.55.050(1), the measure requires a simple majority vote to be approved.

5. Authorization and Ratification. The Secretary to the Board of Commissioners is authorized and directed, no later than May 13, 2022, to certify a copy of this resolution to the proper County officials and to perform such other duties as are necessary or required by law to the end that the proposition should appear on the ballot as described in this resolution. All actions taken prior to the effective date of this resolution and in furtherance of these objectives are hereby ratified and confirmed.

6. Local Voters' Pamphlet Authorized. The preparation and distribution of a local voters' pamphlet providing information on this ballot measure is hereby authorized. The pamphlet shall include arguments advocating approval and disapproval of the ballot measure. 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 not later than May 13, 2022. 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 title and the committee advocating disapproval shall be composed of persons known to oppose the ballot title. The Board hereby assigns to the Fire Chief or designee the task of appointing members to a committee to advocate voters' approval of the proposition and to a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' rejection of the proposition.

7. Notice. For purposes of receiving notice of any matters related to the ballot title, as provided in RCW 29A.36.080, the Board hereby designates the Fire Chief as the individual to whom the County Auditor shall provide such notice.

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8. Revisions. The Chief is authorized to implement such administrative procedures as may be necessary to carry out the directives of this resolution, including modifying the text of the ballot title and any other text, language and/or descriptions relative thereto necessary to conform such ballot title, text, language and/or descriptions to the intent of the parties, consistent with the objectives of this resolution

9. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage, as provided by law.

ADOPTED at a meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Enumclaw Fire Department, King County Fire District #28, Enumclaw, Washington, at a regular open public meeting of such Board on this 16th day of March, 2022, the following commissioners being present and voting:

APPROVED:



Amy Trachte (Mar 22, 2022 15:16 PDT)

Amy Trachte, Chairperson



Eric Heintzinger (Mar 17, 2022 11:42 PDT)

Eric Heintzinger, Vice Chairperson



Jim Zoll (Mar 17, 2022 11:24 PDT)

Jim Zoll, Commissioner



Angie Stubblefield (Mar 21, 2022 20:12 PDT)

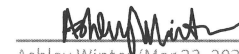
Angela Stubblefield, Commissioner



Jenny Jones (Mar 17, 2022 18:25 PDT)

Jenny Jones, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Ashley Winter (Mar 23, 2022 06:30 PDT)

Ashley Winter, District Secretary