

**KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 27
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-2
RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF LEVY
GENERAL ELECTION**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 27 PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON NOVEMBER 7, 2023, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING A LEVY OF A PROPERTY TAX NOT TO EXCEED \$1.50 PER \$1,000.00 OF TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION AND ESTABLISHING A LIMIT FACTOR BASED ON THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SUBJECT TO OTHERWISE APPLICABLE STATUTORY LIMITATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING FIVE YEARS.

Background: WHEREAS, it is the judgment of the Board of Commissioners of the District that it is essential and necessary for the protection of the health and life of the residents of the District that the fire and emergency medical services be provided by the District.

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners has determined that the accelerated demands for, and increasing costs of, providing services will necessitate the expenditure of revenues for improved fire protection operations, replacing apparatus and equipment, firefighter recruitment and training and maintaining emergency medical service levels in excess of those which can be provided by the District's regular tax revenue levied at the current rate of approximately \$.78 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation of taxable property within the District as limited by the 101% limitation, not to exceed 1% maximum increase per year.

WHEREAS, The District currently has a maintenance and operations levy of approximately \$.31 per thousand of assessed valuation of taxable property. The fourth and final year of that levy will not be levied if the voters approve this ballot measure.

WHEREAS, The District experiences annual cost increases affecting its operations that reflect standard inflationary indices and that consistently exceed the statutory 101% limitation on tax levy increases.

WHEREAS, The District believes that it is reasonable to adopt a growth factor for years 2-6 of the levy lid lift period designed to allow the District to keep pace with inflation and has identified the greater of three percent or the annual CPI-U for Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue as reported in June each year as an appropriate measure of inflation in King County.

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners has determined that it is in the best interest of the District that the maximum allowable 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.

RESOLUTION: NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 27, King County, Washington as follows:

Section 1. In order to meet call volumes, maintain the level of fire protection, prevention, emergency medical services and the protection of life and property in the District, it is necessary for the District to operate and maintain emergency fire and medical service vehicles and improve station and other capital facilities and to retain properly trained firefighters equipped with proper firefighting and emergency medical equipment.

Section 2. In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of maintaining and providing the services described in Section 1 and to assure the continuation and improvement of such services the District shall, in accordance with RCW 84.55.050, remove the limitation on regular property taxes imposed by RCW 84.55.010, and levy beginning in 2023 and collect beginning in 2024, 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.

Section 3. The amount levied in 2028 and collected in 2029 shall serve as the District's tax levy base for purposes of applying the limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 in subsequent years.

Section 4. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their ratification or rejection, at an election on November 7, 2023, in conjunction with the state General election to be held on the same date, the question of whether or not the regular property tax levy of the District should be established at \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of true and assessed valuation, and be adjusted by the greater of 3% or the annual CPI-U for Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue as reported in June each year subject to otherwise applicable statutory limitations. The Board of Commissioners hereby requests the auditor of King County, as ex-officio Supervisor of Elections, to call such election, and to submit the following proposition at such election, in the form of a ballot title substantially as follows:

Name of Jurisdiction: King County Fire Protection District No. 27
Proposition #: Proposition No. 1
Short Title: Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services.

Ballot Title: The Board of King County Fire Protection District No. 27 adopted Resolution No. 2023-2 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations.

This proposition would authorize the District to establish its 2023 property tax levy at \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation with annual adjustments for the five succeeding years based on the greater of three percent or the annual CPI-U for Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue as reported in June each year subject to statutory limits. The maximum allowable levy in the final year shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations.

Should this proposition be:

Approved

Rejected

Section 5. Pursuant to RCW 84.55.050(1), the measure requires a simple majority vote to be approved.

Section 6. The Board of Commissioners finds and declares that it is in the best interest of the District to have information regarding the ballot measure included in the local voters' pamphlet. Furthermore, that the appropriate costs thereof shall be paid for by the District. The Board of

Commissioners further authorizes and directs the Fire Chief to provide such information to the County Elections department for inclusion and to take other actions as necessary to that end.

Section 7. 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.

Section 8. 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.

Section 9. The Fire 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.

Section 10. The Fire Chief, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed, no later than August 1, 2023, to provide to the County Auditor a certified copy of this resolution and the proper District officials are authorized to perform such other duties or take such other actions as are necessary or required by law to the end that the proposition described in this resolution appear on the ballot before the voters at the November 7, 2023 election.

Section 11. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution.

Section 12. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

Section 13. This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

ADOPTED, by the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 27 at an open public meeting of such Board on the 11th day of July 2023, the following Commissioners being present and voting:



Attest:

Melinda Wall
Melinda Wall, Board Secretary

Daniel Meredith
Daniel Meredith, Chairman

Lilly Hansen
Lilly Hansen, Commissioner

Kristopher Belfield
Kristopher Belfield, Commissioner