

Roy, Lacamas, McKenna Fire Protection District No. 17



Special Election - Proposition No. 1 - Submitted by Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 17
REGULAR TAX LEVY

Ballot Title: The Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire Protection District No. 17, Pierce County, Washington, adopted Resolution No. 07-07-02 concerning a proposition to finance maintenance and operation expenses. This proposition, if approved, will authorize the District to increase its regular tax levy from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation as allowed by RCW 52.16.130 and RCW 52.16.160, and notwithstanding the otherwise applicable limitations contained in RCW Chapter 84.55, with proceeds used to hire a fire chief and four firefighters, all as provided in Resolution No. 07-07-02. Should this proposition be approved or rejected?

Explanatory Statement: The Board of Commissioners of Fire Protection District 17 has adopted a Resolution requesting an election to authorize an increase in the regular property tax levy from \$1.00 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation to \$1.50.

RCW 52.16.160 allows an additional fifty cents (50¢) per thousand dollars of assessed value to carry out the purposes for which fire protection districts are created, to any fire district with at least one full time employee.

The Board believes the increase is necessary for the protection of public health, safety, life, property and general welfare in this district, and to maintain and increase the high standards of operations in fire protection and emergency medical services.

The funds raised if this measure passes would be used to fill the vacant position of Fire Chief and to hire four paid firefighters. The ultimate intent of the district is to provide Advanced Life Support (paramedic) services.

Statement For:

Pierce Fire District No. 17 needs your "yes" vote to stabilize funding for the permanent hiring of a Fire Chief and four firefighters. The revenue generated by the approval of this ballot issue will be used to cover the increasing cost of providing professional emergency responses for the community.

In 2001, we responded to 1,100 calls. That means your neighborhood emergency response volunteers answered an average of three calls per day. Because our rural population is rapidly increasing, we need more personnel for increased efficiency and better service to you.

Fire District 17 is equipped to provide Basic Life Support (BLS) transports, but rely on Central Pierce Fire & Rescue and Graham Fire and Rescue units for Advanced Life Support (ALS) transports. The average response time of and ALS response from Central Pierce into District 17 is 10.77 minutes. Your "yes" vote could significantly reduce that time by life-saving minutes.

Committee Members Include: Olivia Werner, Kathy Martin, Tim Rogich

Statement Against:

No statement was submitted against this issue.

This space is available each election for citizens and/or committees opposing measures to publish a Statement Against. For information, contact the Pierce County Auditor's Office at (253) 798-7430.