

City of Fircrest



Special Election - Proposition No. 1 - Submitted by the City of Fircrest EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE AND SERVICES

Ballot Title: Shall the City of Fircrest's authority to impose regular property tax levies of up to fifty cents or less per thousand dollars of assessed valuation for emergency medical care and services be renewed for six consecutive years?

Explanatory Statement: In 1991 and again in 1996, City of Fircrest voters approved a six-year levy for emergency medical services (EMS). If approved, the EMS Levy will continue at the current rate for the next six years. The money from this Levy helps to offset the costs of emergency medical services provided by the Fire Department.

All monies collected from the EMS Levy are used to pay for Advanced Life Support Services (ALS) and Basic Life Support Services (BLS) in the City of Fircrest. The Levy pays for a full-time paramedic in the fire station, emergency medical technicians, heart monitor, miscellaneous ALS and BLS equipment, and covers all direct advanced life support transportation costs provided by the Fire Department for Fircrest residents – except for exclusions disallowed by the U.S. Government.

If approved for the next six years, the current rate of 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value would continue. As a homeowner in Fircrest, if you own a home valued at \$100,000, you would pay \$50 per year for this service.

Passage of this new levy would continue the current level of service provided by the Fire Department at the same rate as the current levy.

Statement For:

By law, all monies collected from your Fircrest EMS Levy must be used to provide EMS.

Fircrest currently receives a high level of EMS services, which meets or exceeds the standards and protocols established by the Pierce County Medical Program Director. Your local station is staffed around the clock by a minimum of two Fire Fighter/Emergency Medical Technicians and one full-time Fire Fighter/Paramedic.

Emergency ambulance transport services to area hospitals are provided to you through a contract with Tacoma Fire Department. Any balance due after insurance benefits are paid are covered by the EMS Levy Revenue. The cost to Fircrest Taxpayers for your EMS Levy to help fund these services is about \$50 per year for a home valued at \$100,000. Your vote in favor of the renewal of the six-year EMS Levy will ensure continuation of these excellent services.

Committee Members Include: Dean Edwards, Greg Nellist, Dave Burns

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.