

City of Buckley

Special Election - Proposition No. 1
Submitted by the City of Buckley
AUTHORIZING PROPERTY TAX LEVIES FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Official Ballot Title: Shall the City of Buckley be authorized to impose regular property tax levies of \$0.50 or less per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation for each of six consecutive years, beginning in 2004, to provide funding for emergency medical services?

Explanatory Statement: The Buckley City Council has passed a resolution requesting an election to re-authorize for six years an EMS property tax levy not to exceed fifty cents per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation. In the past, the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) levy has been approved by the voters at the rate of thirty-nine cents per \$1,000.00. This reauthorization would include an increase of \$20 dollars on a \$175,000 home in order to keep pace with the growing rate of calls for emergency medical services in our community.

The reauthorization of this EMS levy would provide necessary funds to be used for personnel, training, equipment, supplies, and facilities. Law requires that revenue generated by this levy shall only be used for EMS.

Approximately 65% of calls for service are EMS calls. The regular funding does not adequately fund emergency medical services. Growth has greatly increased demand for services. Since the last EMS levy was approved in 1998, the number of calls for service has increased by approximately 10% annually.

Statement For:

Residents of the City of Buckley depend upon the Buckley Fire Department to provide life-saving emergency medical services (EMS). The fire department responded to 648 calls for service in 2003, an annual increase of over 10% from the 393 calls in 1998 when the voters last approved a six-year EMS levy.

To continue providing emergency medical services, the Buckley Fire Department needs your help. The City of Buckley is asking voters to re-authorize the expiring EMS levy for six years. A "Yes" vote will allow the Buckley Fire Department to meet the rising costs of operating the EMS program while maintaining the present level of high quality medical care and meeting the growing demand for services. For pennies a day, we can be secure in knowing that fast, professional help is on the way for our family, friends, and neighbors.

Please vote "**Yes for EMS**".

Committee Members Include: Devon Boyle, Larry Rucshner, Bob Olson

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.