

City of Puyallup

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

Official Ballot Title: Shall the City of Puyallup be authorized to impose regular property tax levies of fifty cents (\$0.50) or less per one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of assessed valuation for each of six consecutive years to provide funding for emergency medical services?

Explanatory Statement: If approved by voters, Proposition No. 1 would reauthorize the City of Puyallup's current Emergency Medical Service ("EMS") tax levy for six (6) more years, from 2005 through 2010. As required by law, all funds generated from the EMS levy are used to help fund emergency medical services in the City of Puyallup, including personnel costs, training, equipment, supplies, vehicles, as well as enhanced paramedic and critical care transport services. The total cost for the City's emergency medical service system is approximately \$3,800,000 per year. The EMS levy partially funds the system, generating approximately \$1,400,000 per year. The EMS levy is a regular property tax in an amount equal to fifty cents (\$0.50) per thousand dollars (\$1,000) of assessed valuation on taxable property within the city, meaning the owner of a home valued at \$170,000 is expected to pay \$85 per year with the passage of this proposition.

Statement For:

The Puyallup Firefighters Local 726 strongly endorses and supports the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy of .50 per \$1000 of assessed valuation. This is not a new tax, but rather a continuation of the EMS Levy that expires at the end of 2004. The cost of this levy for the average home is currently \$95 a year.

Puyallup Fire and Rescue (PF&R) uses the EMS Levy to support critical services such as the paramedic unit stationed on Pioneer, and the paramedic staffed engine stationed on Shaw Road. Funds from the EMS Levy also help pay for Emergency Medical Technicians, automatic defibrillators and emergency medical aid equipment on all PF&R apparatus as well as initial and continuing EMS education. This funding will allow PF&R to continue providing vital services of transporting critical patients to the hospital and maintaining the level of professional emergency medical services that Puyallup citizens enjoy and expect.

Committee Members Include: Cliff Iotte, Adam Jackson, Dennis Lawson

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.