Proposition No. 1

Spokane County Fire Protection District No. 4

Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

The Board of Spokane County Fire Protection District No. 4 adopted Resolution No. 2021-003 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations.

This proposition authorizes the District to restore its regular property tax levy to $1.50 per $1,000 of assessed value to be assessed in 2021 and collected in 2022. The funds will maintain and improve fire protection, emergency medical services and facilities, replace apparatus and equipment, and provide for firefighter safety. The maximum allowable levy in 2021 shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations as provided by chapter 84.55 RCW.

Should this proposition be:

Approved

Rejected

Explanatory Statement

Spokane County Fire Protection District No. 4 provides emergency fire protection and medical services to its citizens. If approved by the voters, this proposition will authorize the District to restore its regular real property tax levy rate to $1.50 per $1,000 of assessed valuation in 2021 for collection in 2022 (the current levy is approximately $1.09 per $1,000 of assessed valuation). The dollar amount levied in 2021 shall serve as the District's tax levy base and in 2022, absent further voter approval, the tax levy will be subject to the statutory one percent limit.

The District's Board of Commissioners has determined that this proposition is necessary to maintain an effective level of services, fire fighter staffing, equipment and facilities in light of rising costs. Approval of this measure will allow the District to maintain the level of fire protection and emergency medical services provided to its citizens.
SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
RESOLUTION NO. 2021-003
RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF LEVY
PRIMARY ELECTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT NO. 4 PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT
AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON AUGUST 3, 2021, IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE STATE PRIMARY 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 SUBJECT TO OTHERWISE APPLICABLE STATUTORY LIMITATIONS.

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 $1.09 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 has previously levied at the full $1.50 rate in 2010.

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 Spokane
County Fire Protection District No. 4, Spokane County, Washington as follows:

Section 1. In order to meet increased 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 2021 and collect beginning in 2022,
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 2021 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.

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Section 4. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their ratification or rejection, at an election on August 3, 2021, in conjunction with the state primary election to be held on the same date, the question of whether or not the regular property tax levy of the District should be restored to $1.50 per $1,000.00 of true and assessed valuation, subject to otherwise applicable statutory limitations. The Board of Commissioners hereby requests the auditor of Spokane 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: Spokane County Fire Protection District No. 4  
Proposition #: Proposition No. 1  
Short Title: Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services.

Ballot Title: The Board of Spokane County Fire Protection District No. 4 adopted Resolution No. 2021-003 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations.

This proposition authorizes the District to restore its regular property tax levy to $1.50 per $1,000 of assessed value to be assessed in 2021 and collected in 2022. The funds will maintain and improve fire protection, emergency medical services and facilities, replace apparatus and equipment, and provide for firefighter safety. The maximum allowable levy in 2021 shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations as provided by chapter 84.55 RCW.

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 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 Chief, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed, no later than May 14, 2021, 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 August 3, 2021 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.

Adoption: ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Spokane County Fire Protection District No. 4 at an open public meeting of such Board on the 26th day of April 2021, the following Commissioners being present and voting:

James Lahde, Chairperson

Roger Krieger, Commissioner

Jack Hensley, Commissioner

Lena R Mack, District Secretary
Election Date: August, 3, 2021
Name of Jurisdiction Submitting Measure: Spokane County Fire Protection District No. 4
Contact Name: Bill Neckels, Fire Chief
Daytime Contact Phone Number: 509-467-4500

**Explanatory Statement:**

Spokane County Fire Protection District No. 4 provides emergency fire protection and medical services to its citizens. If approved by the voters, this proposition will authorize the District to restore its regular real property tax levy rate to $1.50 per $1,000 of assessed valuation in 2021 for collection in 2022 (the current levy is approximately $1.09 per $1,000 of assessed valuation). The dollar amount levied in 2021 shall serve as the District’s tax levy base and in 2022, absent further voter approval, the tax levy will be subject to the statutory one percent limit.

The District’s Board of Commissioners has determined that this proposition is necessary to maintain an effective level of services, fire fighter staffing, equipment and facilities in light of rising costs. Approval of this measure will allow the District to maintain the level of fire protection and emergency medical services provided to its citizens.

Prepared by: Brian K. Snure
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