

**SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
RESOLUTION NO. 22-03**

**RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT AN EMS LEVY
(Primary Election Ballot)**

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 THE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON AUGUST 2, 2022, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROPERTY TAX LEVY AT A RATE NOT TO EXCEED \$.50 PER \$1,000.00 OF TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION FOR A PERIOD OF SIX CONSECUTIVE YEARS TO BE LEVIED BEGINNING IN 2022 AND ENDING IN 2027 AND TO BE COLLECTED EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

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 emergency medical services (EMS) be provided by the District. The District currently funds these services with an EMS levy last approved by the voters in 2016 that will expire on December 31, 2022 if not renewed.

Approximately 73% of the District's calls are for emergency medical services and the Board has determined that an EMS Levy is necessary to support maintenance and operations necessary to provide adequate EMS services. Continued provision of emergency medical services will require the expenditure of revenues for maintenance, operations, equipment and personnel in excess of those which can be provided by the District's regular fire levy;

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 provide emergency medical services, it is necessary that the District perform the following functions:

1.1 Obtain, operate and maintain emergency medical vehicles and facilities manned by properly trained emergency medical technicians, paramedics and/or other medically trained personnel.

1.2 Manage the emergency medical service delivery system.

1.3 Obtain consumable medical supplies and medical appliances to equip such emergency vehicles, personnel, and facilities.

1.4 Maintain and/or improve existing response levels to EMS emergencies with qualified personnel when available.

Section 2. In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of providing life protection services and facilities as described in Section 1 and to maintain current levels of funding for emergency medical service maintenance, operations and reserves the District shall renew its

expiring EMS levy and levy each year for a period of six consecutive years beginning in 2022 and collect each year for a period of six consecutive years, beginning in 2023, a general tax on taxable property within the District, in addition to the fire levy for maintenance and operation costs, in an amount not to exceed \$.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation of such property.

Section 3. In accordance with RCW 84.52.069 the funds raised by such levy shall be used only for the provision of emergency medical services, including related maintenance and operation costs, personnel costs, service contract costs, training for such personnel, and related equipment, supplies, vehicles and structures needed for the provision of emergency medical services.

Section 4. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their ratification or rejection, at the primary election on August 2, 2022 the question of whether or not such levy for emergency medical services shall be renewed for a period of six consecutive years with collection beginning in 2023. 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:

PROPOSITION

Spokane County Fire Protection District No. 4 Renewal of Emergency Medical Services Property Tax Levy.

The Board of Commissioners of Spokane County Fire Protection District No. 4 adopted Resolution 22-03 concerning a proposition to renew its six-year Emergency Medical Services property tax levy.

Will Spokane County Fire Protection District No. 4 be authorized to continue to fund emergency medical services for its citizens by renewing a regular property tax levy of \$.50 or less per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation (last approved by the voters in 2016) for a period of six consecutive years to be collected beginning in 2023?

Yes
No

Section 5. In accordance with RCW 84.52.069(2), the ballot measure shall require approval of a simple majority of the voters.

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 Election Departments 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 13, 2022, 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 2, 2022 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, Spokane County, Washington, at a regular open public meeting of such Board on this 9th day of May, 2022, the following commissioners being present and voting:



Jack D. Hensley, Board Chair



Roger Krieger, Commissioner



James R. Lahde, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Lena Mack, District Secretary

Election Date: August 2, 2022

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

PROPOSITION NO. 1
(Emergency Medical Services Tax Levy Continuation)
(175 words)

BALLOT ISSUE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

In 2016 Spokane County Fire District No. 4 voters approved a 6-year \$0.50 Emergency Medical Service “EMS” Levy. The 2016 EMS levy will expire at the end of this year unless the voters approve this measure. If approved by the voters, this measure will authorize your fire district to continue its EMS property tax levy at a rate not to exceed \$0.50 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation for an additional six years.

Approximately 73% of the District’s calls are for emergency medical services and your fire district board of commissioners have determined that an EMS Levy is necessary to support maintenance and operations necessary to provide adequate EMS services. Approval of the levy will enable the District to maintain the level of emergency medical services currently provided on a continuing basis including basic, intermediate and advanced life support services.

If the levy is approved, the maximum tax per \$100,000 assessed valuation would not exceed \$50.00 each year or approximately \$4.17 per month for emergency medical services.

Prepared by: Brian K. Snure
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For/Against Committee Member Appointment Form

Name of District: Spokane County Fire District 4
District Contact Name: Bill Neckels, Fire Chief
Email Address: billn@scfd4.org Phone: 509-467-4500

Jurisdiction’s responsibility:

- 1. Email completed form to pamphlet@spokanecounty.org by the resolution submittal deadline.
- 2. Provide committee members with statement submission requirements and deadlines. Committees are solely responsible for submitting voters’ pamphlet statements to the Elections Division.

Deadlines are on page 13 of these administrative rules. Questions? Contact the Elections Office at pamphlet@spokanecounty.org or call 509.477.2320.

Information for inclusion in voters’ pamphlet:

“For” Committee (1-3 members):

Committee Name: SCFD4 Citizens Advisory Committee
Phone: 509-467-4500 Email: _____ Web: _____
Committee Member #1: Linda Knapp Email: _____
Committee Member #2: Pete Blackwell Email: _____
Committee Member #3: Dick Ziehnert Email: _____

“Against” Committee (1-3 members):

Committee Name: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____ Web: _____
Committee Member #1: _____ Email: _____
Committee Member #2: _____ Email: _____
Committee Member #3: _____ Email: _____