

**Notice of District Measure Election
SCAPPOOSE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, November 7, 2006, a measure election will be held in Scappoose Rural Fire Protection District, Columbia and Multnomah County, Oregon.

The following shall be the ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the district's voters on this date: November 7, 2006

CAPTION (10 words)

5-153 FIVE-YEAR LOCAL OPTION LEVY FOR PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT.

QUESTION (20 words)

Shall the Scappoose Fire District impose .94¢ per \$1,000 assessed value for 5-years for personnel and equipment beginning 2007-2008? *This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.*

SUMMARY (175 words)

A "yes" vote on this levy would retain the current paid firefighter/paramedics, allow for additional paid firefighter/medical positions and provide funds for fire and ambulance equipment. The District's goal is to have 3 paid personnel on duty 24-hours per day to respond to fire and medical emergencies. The District currently has 2 paid personnel on duty. Many emergencies require volunteers to respond to the station prior to answering your emergency call for help. When seconds count, this time waiting for volunteers is critical.

The tax rate is inadequate to properly ensure fire and ambulance service. Due to the continuing growth in the community, emergency alarms have increased significantly and have become extremely demanding for our volunteer force to provide consistent coverage for fire and ambulance emergencies.

This levy will begin after the expiration of the current levy. The increase from the current \$0.66 levy to the \$0.94 levy on a home with an assessed value of \$150,000 (The market value for that same house is roughly \$200,000) would be \$42 per year for 5 years. *The proposed rate will raise approximately \$752,347 in 2007/08, \$782,441 in 2008/09, \$813,739 in 2009/10, \$846,288 in 2010/11 and \$880,140 in 2011/12. The estimated tax cost for this measure is an estimate only based on the best information available from the county assessor at the time of the estimate.*

The following authorized district official hereby certifies the above ballot title is true and complete.

Dennis J. Marceaux
Dennis Marceaux, President
Board of Directors

8-10-06
Date

ATTEST:

David P. Sorenson
David Sorenson, Secretary/Treasurer
Board of Directors

BY _____
COLUMBIA CO. CLERK
DEF.

August 10, 2006
Date

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR COUNTY VOTERS' PAMPHLET

AUG 15 8 46 AM '07

Ballot Title Caption
FIVE-YEAR LOCAL OPTION TAX FOR PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT

COLUMBIA CO. CLERK
BY _____ DEF

Measure Number: 5-153

Word Total (500 Max): 500

Scappoose Rural Fire District provides fire and ambulance service to 12,000 citizens in Scappoose, Chapman, Holbrook, and Warren. The District is seeking renewal of a 5-year local option levy expiring June 30, 2007. This increases the levy rate from \$0.66 per thousand to \$0.94 per thousand of assessed valuation upon renewal July 1, 2007.

The primary use of the levy is to retain the current paid personnel covered by the outgoing 5-year levy and add additional paid personnel to cover the continuing increase in fire and medical alarms. Additional funds will be used to purchase and upgrade lifesaving fire and medical equipment.

Due to the increased number of alarms, the District's plan to maintain an adequate level of service using volunteer and paid Firefighters and medical personnel is increasingly being compromised. Growth of the community and the increase in emergency calls along with a decline in volunteers has put emergency response time at risk. The District responded to 1246 emergency incidents in 2005 and 70% were medically related. If a transport is required, it typically takes 2 hours from the time of the call until the ambulance returns to the fire station. Transport time is very demanding on volunteers. The levy will retain the Firefighter/Paramedics hired under the current levy and hire additional paid Firefighter/Paramedics thereby improving 24-hour coverage and emergency response times.

Without the levy, the tax rate is not adequate to properly ensure the current level of fire and ambulance service. Many emergencies, especially overlapping emergencies, will require volunteer response to the station before answering the alarm. The renewed levy provides 3 on-duty personnel 24-hours a day, allowing immediate fire or medical response. We will then rely on the available volunteers to assist with additional emergency calls for help.

What happens if the levy fails?

As the alarms increase, residents will likely see delays in response to their emergency. The tax rate cannot fund paid on-duty Firefighter/Paramedics 24-hours a day and the District would be unable to operate the ambulance. Volunteers are not always available to respond to your emergency call for help and there will not be enough on-duty personnel to adequately respond to emergencies. Overlapping alarms will become even more difficult. The current local option levy expires in June 2007 which funds the second paid Firefighter/Paramedic on 24-hour shifts. If the levy fails, there would only be funding for a daytime Firefighter/Paramedic on duty.

If the levy passes, the additional revenue would be used to:

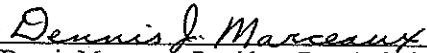
- Retain the current paid Firefighter/Paramedics
- Hire more paid Firefighter/Paramedics to staff one ambulance or one engine company
- Purchase and upgrade lifesaving fire and medical equipment
- Purchase equipment to support emergency operations

What will it cost me?

Actual Scappoose Fire District homes sold in the last year will pay an additional:

- Assessed Value \$135,370 – Selling Price \$225,000 – \$37.90/year or \$3.16 per month
- Assessed Value \$143,980 – Selling Price \$242,000 – \$40.31/year or \$3.36 per month
- Assessed Value \$262,670 – Selling Price \$299,000 – \$73.55/year or \$6.13 per month

Person responsible for the content of the Explanatory Statement:


Dennis Marceaux, President, Board of Directors
Scappoose Rural Fire Protection District