



Resolution Cover Sheet

This form is mandatory and must accompany each resolution.

Name of District: _____

District Address: _____

Date of Election: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

2nd Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

2nd Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

Attorney for District: _____

Attorney Phone: _____ Attorney Email: _____

Type of Election (levy, bond, lid lift, sales tax, etc.): _____

Pass/Fail requirement for this measure as determined by your legal counsel: _____

Simple majority or marjority 50% +1 Supermajority or 60%

Applicable statutory reference as determined by legal counsel: _____

Validation requirement as determined by your legal counsel. The minimum number of voters "required" to turnout (cast a ballot) in an excess levy or bond election.

This issue requires validation: Yes No

This form must accompany each resolution filed with Lewis County Elections. The contact person or persons should have the authority to do so and be available to answer questions.

Lewis County Fire District No 5
Resolution 2022-07
Levy Lid Lift for August 2, 2022 Primary Election

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS FOR LEWIS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 5 PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT, AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE AUTHORITY ON AUGUST 2, 2022 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, OF A PROPOSITION RESTORING THE DISTRICT'S PROPERTY TAX LEVY RATE TO \$1.28 PER \$1000.00 OF TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION AND ESTABLISHING A LIMIT FACTOR OF SIX PERCENT SUBJECT TO OTHERWISE APPLICABLE STATUTORY LIMITATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING FIVE YEARS.

WHEREAS, it is the judgement 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 fire and emergency medical services be provided by the District; and

WHEREAS, the accelerated demands for, and increasing costs of, providing these services necessitate the continued expenditure of revenues for personnel, operations equipment and facilities at a level that cannot be sustained by the District's regular tax revenue levied at the current rate of \$0.58 per \$1000.00 of assessed valuation of taxable property within the District as constrained by the one percent limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010; and

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 2(a) of the Washington Constitution permits taxing districts to call for tax levies higher than statutory limitations; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners has determined that it is in the best interest of the District to ask for an increase in the levy amount collected not at the maximum rate of \$1.50/\$1000.00 of assessed valuation, but, at a lower amount of \$1.28/\$1000.00 of assessed valuation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Lewis County Fire District No. 5, Lewis 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 services vehicles and improve station and other capital facilities and to retain properly trained firefighters equipped with proper firefighting and emergency medical equipment.

SECTION 1. The District does not obtain sufficient revenue from its regular property tax levy to provide the necessary equipment, personnel, training and facilities to maintain its operational capabilities for fire and emergency medical responses and services.

SECTION 2. In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of providing adequate fire protection and emergency medical services as described in Section 1 of this resolution and to maintain reserve funds sufficient to assure the continuation 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 2022 for collection in 2023, 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 \$1.28 per \$1000.00 of assessed valuation subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits.

SECTION 3. In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of providing adequate fire protection and emergency medical services and maintain facilities as described

in Section 1 and to maintain reserve funds sufficient to assure the continuation of such services beyond 2023, the District has determined that the limit factor shall be six percent. Such percentage shall be used to determine the actual levy rate, subject to the maximum statutory rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation, in 2024-2028. The funds raised under this levy shall not supplant existing funds used for the purposes described in Section 1.

SECTION 4. The dollar amount levied in 2028 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.

SECTION 5. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their ratification or rejection, at a primary election on August 2, 2022, in conjunction with the state general election to be held on the same date, the question of whether or not the regular property tax levy of the District should be increased to \$1.28 per \$1,000.00 of true and assessed valuation in 2023 and be adjusted up to six percent for the following five years, subject to applicable statutory limitations. The Auditor of Lewis County, as ex-officio Supervisor of Elections, is hereby requested to call such special election, and to submit the following proposition at such election, in the form of a ballot title substantially as follows:

Name of Jurisdiction: Lewis County Fire District No.5
Proposition Number: Proposition No. 1
Short Title: Multiple Year Permanent Levy Lid Lift

Ballot Title: Lewis County Fire District No.5 Commissioners approved Resolution 2022-07 authorizing a levy lid increase to fund fire protection and emergency medical services. Beginning in 2023, this six-year levy will establish \$1.28 per \$1000 valuation for 2023 and set the limit factor increase for each of the succeeding five years at 106%. The 2028 levy amount will be used to calculate subsequent levies per 84.55 RCW.

Should this proposition be:

Approved___

Rejected___

SECTION 6. 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 7. 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 and legal counsel as the individuals to whom the County Auditor shall provide such notice.

SECTION 8. 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 objectives of this resolution.

SECTION 9. The Chief, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed, no later than, May 13, 2022, to provide 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 the resolution appear on the ballot before the voters at the August 2, 2022 election.

SECTION 10. The Secretary of the Board is hereby directed to deliver a certified copy of this resolution along with any other applicable election materials to the Auditor of Lewis County, Washington,

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Lewis County Fire District No 5, Lewis County, Washington, at an open public meeting of such Board on the 22nd Day of April, 2022.

APPROVED AND AUTHORIZED BY the following commissioners being present and voting:



Sam Patrick, Commissioner Chair



Sandra White, Fire Commissioner



Mike Goodwillie, Fire Commissioner

Attest:



Carmen Sundin, Secretary

**LEWIS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 5
PROPOSITION 1- PERMANENT LEVY LID LIFT**

ELECTION DATE: AUGUST 2, 2022 PRIMARY ELECTION

NAME OF JURISDICTION SUBMITTING MEASURE: LEWIS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO 5

CONTACT NAME: DAN MAHONEY, FIRE CHIEF

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: 360-789-3264

**PROPOSITION 1
LEWIS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO 5
AUTHORIZING RESTORATION OF A PERMANENT LEVY LID LIFT OF THE REGULAR
PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Lewis County Fire District No.5 Commissioners approved Resolution 2022-07 authorizing a levy lid increase to fund fire protection and emergency medical services. Beginning in 2023, this six-year levy will establish \$1.28 per \$1000 valuation for 2023 and set the limit factor increase for each of the succeeding five years at 106%. The 2028 levy amount will be used to calculate subsequent levies per 84.55 RCW.

Should this proposition be:

Approved___

Rejected___

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Lewis County Fire District 5 provides fire protection and emergency medical services to its citizens. In 2021, the District responded to 1291 calls for emergency medical care, fire suppression, and other emergencies. This is a 20% increase from 2019. While firefighters are responding to more calls, the statutorily approved rate has fallen from .74 cents per \$1000 of assessed value to .58 cents per \$1000 due to the 1% statutory limitation. This measure maintains the levy rate of \$1.28 per \$1000 of assessed value for 2023 and provide for a limit factor up to 6% in the succeeding five years. The amount levied in 2028 would be used to calculate future levy increase limits as provided by Chapter 84.55 RCW.

To meet increased demand for fire protection operations, Lewis County Fire District 5 needs additional revenue to serve the increasing number of homes and businesses.

This measure authorizes the District to restore its regular property tax levy rate to \$1.28 per \$1000 of assessed valuation for collection in 2023 and authorizes a limit factor of 106% for each subsequent year. The final year's levy dollar amount would be used to compute the

**LEWIS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 5
PROPOSITION 1- PERMANENT LEVY LID LIFT**

ELECTION DATE: AUGUST 2, 2022 PRIMARY ELECTION

NAME OF JURISDICTION SUBMITTING MEASURE: LEWIS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO 5

CONTACT NAME: DAN MAHONEY, FIRE CHIEF

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: 360-789-3264

limitations for subsequent levies under chapter 84.55 RCW. A taxpayer with the average home value of \$300,00 would anticipate an increased tax of \$17.34 per month if passed. Revenue raised by this measure provides sustainable funding for the District. Senior citizens or persons with disabilities may qualify for a state tax exemption per 84.36.381 RCW.



Lewis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

345 W. Main Street, 2nd Floor
Chehalis, WA 98532
Phone: (360) 740-1240
Fax: (360) 740-1497
TDD: (360) 740-1480

To: The Auditor's Office
From: Amber D. Smith, Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Subject: Approval of Ballot Language and Explanatory Statement
Date: May 5, 2022

Our office has reviewed the proposed levy for [Fire District No. 5](#). The ballot language and explanatory statement are impartial, written in clear and concise language, avoid the use of legal and technical terms whenever possible, and do not exceed statutory word limits.

Our office approves as to form.

Sincerely,

Amber D. Smith
Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Lewis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

It is the Mission of the Lewis County Prosecutor's Office to zealously seek justice in all criminal matters, consistently promote public confidence in the legal system, and diligently represent county government while adhering to the highest ethical and moral standards.