



Resolution Cover Sheet

This form is mandatory and must accompany each resolution.

Name of District: Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 10

District Address: 12953 US HWY 12, PO BOX 270

Date of Election: August 6, 2024

Contact Person: Barbara Wright Title: District Secretary

Contact Phone: 360-494-4123 Email: lcfd10@lewiscounty.com

2nd Contact Person: Lonnie Goble Title: Fire Chief

2nd Contact Phone: 360-496-1013 Email: lcfd10@lewiscounty.com

Attorney for District: Brian Snure

Attorney Phone: 206-824-5630 Attorney Email: brian@snurelaw.com

Type of Election (levy, bond, lid lift, sales tax, etc.): Single Year Permanent Levy Lid Lift

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

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

Applicable statutory reference as determined by legal counsel: RCW 84.55.050(1)

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 may be used by persons who...

we have interested persons for Pro/con - to be submitted by 4 - May 3

County Elections. The county clerk is available to answer questions.

RECEIVED
 APR 24-2024
 LEWIS COUNTY
 PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

LEWIS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 10

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF LEVY
PRIMARY ELECTION**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LEWIS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 10 PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON AUGUST 6, 2024, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE LEVY OF A PROPERTY TAX NOT TO EXCEED \$1.28 PER \$1,000.00 OF TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION SUBJECT TO OTHERWISE APPLICABLE STATUTORY LIMITATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING FIVE YEARS.

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 capital facilities and firefighter safety, additional apparatus, maintenance and operations in excess of those which can be provided by the District's regular tax revenue levied at the current rate of approximately \$.33 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation of taxable property within the District as limited by the 101% limitation.

WHEREAS, The District has determined that the hiring of paramedics would allow the District to increase the services it provides.

WHEREAS, The District has not asked the voters for a tax levy adjustment for over 30 years..

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 Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 10 Lewis County, Washington as follows:

Section 1. It is necessary for the District to operate and maintain emergency fire and medical service vehicles, to acquire and improve station and other capital facilities and to retain properly trained personnel equipped with proper fire fighting and emergency medical equipment. The revenues generated by this lid lift will allow the District to hire paramedics and will allow the District to cover the gap between inflation and the statutory one percent limit on increases to the Districts' budget to fund apparatus replacement and facility upgrades and to provide for investments in firefighter safety all of which are necessary to maintain and improve the level of fire protection, prevention, emergency medical services and the protection of life and property in the District.

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 one percent limitation on regular property taxes imposed by RCW 84.55.010, and levy beginning in 2024 and collect beginning in 2025, 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 \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits.

Section 3. The amount levied in 2024 and collected in 2025 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 4. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their ratification or rejection, at an election on August 6, 2024, 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 \$1.28 per \$1,000.00 of true and assessed valuation in 2024, subject to otherwise applicable statutory limitations. The Board of Commissioners hereby requests the auditor of Lewis 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: Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 10
Proposition #: Proposition No. 1
Short Title: Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services.

Ballot Title: The Board of Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 10 adopted Resolution No. 2024-01 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations.

This proposition authorizes the District to establish its regular property tax levy at \$1.28 per \$1,000 of assessed value to be assessed in 2024 and collected in 2025. The funds will maintain and improve fire protection and emergency medical services, replace apparatus, equipment and facilities and allow for the hiring of paramedics. The maximum allowable levy in 2024 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 hereby assigns to the 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 Chief or designee as the individual to whom the County Auditor shall provide such notice.

Section 8 The Chief or designee 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 9. The Chief, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed, no later than May 3, 2024, 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 6, 2024 election.

Section 10. 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 11. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

Section 12. This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

Adoption: ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 10 at an open public meeting of such Board on the 22nd day of April 2024, the following Commissioners being present and voting:

Barbara J. Wright
Secretary

[Signature]
Commissioner

Shirley M. Rutter
Commissioner

[Signature]
Commissioner

Rick Herruf
Commissioner

Phil Lawrence
Commissioner

Election Date: August 6, 2024
Name of Jurisdiction Submitting Measure: Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 10
Contact Name: Lonnie Goble
Daytime Contact Phone Number: 360-494-4123

PROPOSITION NO. 1

BALLOT ISSUE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
(250 word limit)

Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 10 provides emergency fire protection and emergency medical services to its citizens. The District has not asked the voters to adjust its regular property tax levy in over thirty years. Due to the statutory 1% limitation on property tax increases, the Fire District's current levy has dropped to approximately \$.33 per thousand in 2023. The maximum regular levy rate for Washington fire districts is \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

If approved by the voters, this proposition will authorize the District to establish its levy rate at \$1.28 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for collection in 2025. The dollar amount levied in the 2024 year shall serve as the District's future tax levy base.

If approved by the voters, the revenues generated will allow the District to hire paramedics to directly provide advanced life support emergency medical services to the community.

The 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, rising demands and the continued growth of our community. Approval of this measure will allow the District to have paramedics on duty locally and will increase the level of emergency medical services provided to its citizens.

Prepared by: Brian K. Snure
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Lewis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Auditor's Office
FROM: David E. Bailey, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
RE: Approval of Ballot Language and Explanatory Statement / FPD10 Levy
DATE: May 5, 2024

Our office has reviewed the proposed levy for the Fire Protection District No. 10 to impose a "single year permanent levy lid lift." 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.

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.