

5) How will the merger affect my taxes?

The merger will not affect taxes for DISTRICT 8 citizens. We will continue to pay \$1.50 per \$1000 of assessed value.

6) What is the tax rate for DISTRICT 7 citizens?

Their current rate is about \$1.34. On November 4th, DISTRICT 7 citizens will vote on a ballot measure to raise their tax rate to \$1.50, to match that of DISTRICT 8. In the same election, there will be another ballot issue asking DISTRICT 7 citizens for approval of the merger. The merger will occur only if both ballot measures pass.

7) Will I be able to influence this decision to merge?

The DISTRICT 8 Board has accepted DISTRICT 7's petition to merge. According to law, only the district which is merging into another district can vote. So DISTRICT 8 citizens do not vote on the merger. For more information about becoming involved in DISTRICT 8 decisions, see #9 below.

8) Where are we in the actual process of merging? What are the next steps?

If both ballot measures pass on November 4th, the two districts will merge into one district effective January 1, 2015. It will be called Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 8. North Olympia District 7 will no longer exist as a separate entity.

The new Board of Commissioners will initially be made up of the three commissioners from the current DISTRICT 8, plus the three commissioners from the current DISTRICT 7. If the merger is approved, in 2015, voters in the new combined DISTRICT 8 will be asked to approve a permanent a 5-Commissioner Board.

9) How can I get more information?

You can see more information on the DISTRICT 8 website: <http://southbayfire.com>, or call 360-491-5320.

The next meeting of the Citizen Advisory Group (CAG), will be on November 13 at 6pm at the South Bay station at 3506 Shincke Rd NE, Olympia. The DISTRICT 8 Board holds meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month, starting at 5:30pm, at the same location.