

VOTER INFORMATION

South Bay Fire District 8

Proposition 1

on the November 6 Ballot



Chief Brian VanCamp

Thank you for taking time to become better informed about South Bay Fire District 8 and our property tax levy restoration Proposal.

Our team of emergency responders are committed to providing prompt and effective service throughout the District. Our Board of Fire Commissioners and staff have worked hard over the past year developing plans to better meet our service mission and goals. The proposed levy restoration ballot measure will provide additional funding to help us maintain our current capabilities and improve service in the coming years. Details of our planning process are available on the District web site at www.southbayfire.com.

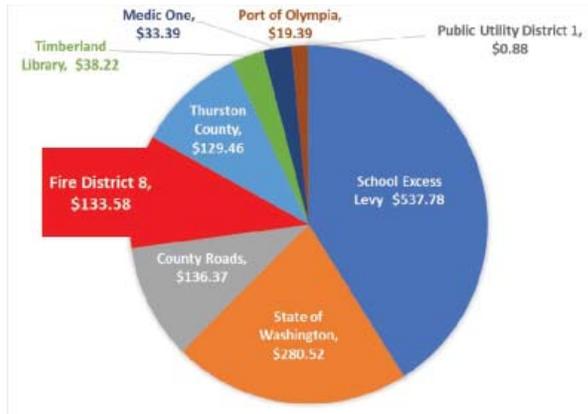
I welcome the opportunity to answer any questions you may have about our organization, plans, and the upcoming ballot measure. Please join us for our open house on _____. If you need any further information, feel free to contact me by phone at 360-491-5320 or email vancamp@southbayfire.com.

Brian VanCamp, Fire Chief



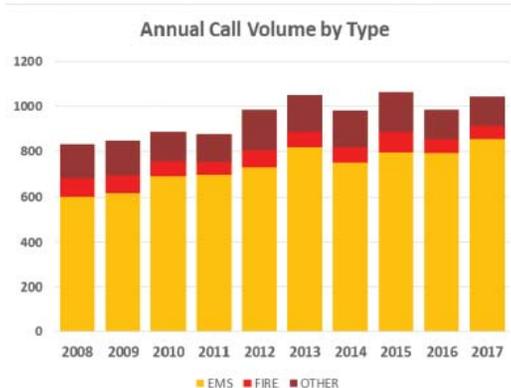
What Does Your Bill Look Like?

The table below represents the average 2018 property tax bill for an owner of real property assessed at \$100,000.



How Many Call Do We Respond To?

For the past ten years, FD8 (plus FD7 prior to 2014) responded to an average of 956 calls per year. On average, 77% of these calls are for emergency medical services. This represents an average of 735 calls per year, increasing at an annual rate of 4% per year. "Other" types of calls are service calls (e.g. wires down, burn complaints, false alarms, etc.).



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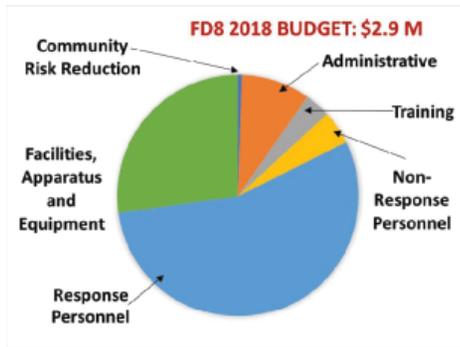


LEVY RESTORATION PROPOSAL



WWW.SOUTHBAYFIRE.COM

How Levy Dollars are Used



Our greatest cost (55%) is for response staffing, including 70 volunteers and nine career responders. The primary goal is to provide round-the-clock staffing at the South Bay and North Olympia firestations while responding to over 1,000 calls per year.

The District's second largest cost (27%) is its facilities, apparatus and equipment. This cost also includes set-aside funding to periodically replace apparatus and equipment without asking voters for additional tax dollars. For example, in 2015, the District used these funds to replace an old pumper costing over \$450,000.



The District has reduced its administrative costs, including Board expenses, accounting and human resources. Currently at about 9%, this is less than an average of 12% of the pre-merger (2014) fire districts 7 and 8.

Why a Levy Restoration Now?

South Bay Fire District 8 is restricted to a **1% increase** in its property tax levy each year (adjusted with annual new construction values).

On average, costs have been **increasing over 5%** every year. Dollars from a restored levy are needed to help maintain current services, as well as improve them, so we can provide more consistent, round-the-clock coverage by:

- Adding career and volunteer staffing at the North Olympia firestation;



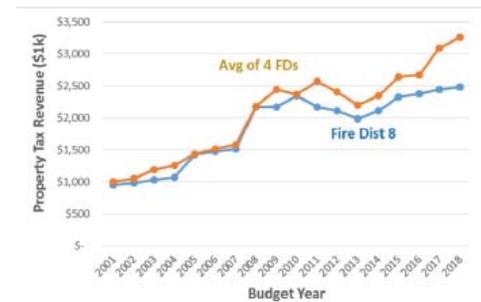
- Supporting competitive compensation for our current career and volunteer responders;
- Replacing old apparatus. We have three 20+ year old pumpers that will need to be replaced soon; and
- Increased investment in training and leadership development to help us attract and retain high quality responders



How the Levy Restoration Works

Without a Levy restoration, tax revenue growth is capped at 1%. Since being set at \$1.50 per thousand dollars of assessed value in 2015, our tax rate has been reduced to \$1.34 as property values have increased. The proposal lifts the levy back to \$1.50 and authorizes up to a 6% increase for each of the next 5 years, **but never more than \$1.50.**

Fire District 8 taxes have not increased as fast as other comparable fire agencies.



The average tax rate of the four most comparable fire departments in Thurston County in 2018 is \$1.66.

OPEN HOUSE!

Join us on _____ at 3506
Shincke Rd. NE Olympia from 10 am - 1:00
pm to learn more about this proposition.
Or visit us on our website at:

[WWW.SOUTHBAYFIRE.COM](http://www.southbayfire.com)

