

Spokane County Fire District 3

Proposition No. 1 - EMS Levy

Additional Questions & Answers



How much revenue will the EMS Levy Generate?

The total dollar amount generated will be determined by the 2022 Assessed Valuation (AV) of the district, which we don't get from the Assessor until next fall. However, based upon the 2021 AV we can make a projection that it should generate around \$1.88 million.

How many firefighters will be hired if the EMS Levy is successful?

We will be hiring 15-18 fire fighters. Our needs assessment identified 18 as ideal. This number is based upon the number of fire fighters needed to staff two additional fire stations around the clock.

Which additional stations will have around the clock staffing?

Station 31 located in Cheney and Station 36 located in Spangle have been determined to be the best areas for additional staffing.

How were these stations identified?

Geospatial Analysis was conducted using computer software to evaluate approximately 7,000 emergency calls that occurred within the fire district over the last 3 years. The computer software evaluates each individual emergency based upon location, road miles, and speed limits to determine which areas or stations will provide the greatest benefit to reduce overall response times for the entire fire district. These two stations were found to provide the greatest benefit.

Hasn't your budget increased over the last several years given the growth in the area and increasing Assessed Values (AV)? Why are you requesting additional funding?

Yes, the fire district's budget has increased annually over the last several years. The fire district volunteers continue to be the foundation of our department, but the current workload is outpacing our primarily volunteer workforce. The number of volunteer fire fighters has not increased proportionally with the rate of increasing emergency calls. The fire department is now proposing additional full time career fire fighters to work collaboratively with our volunteer fire fighters to help manage this ever-increasing workload. The transition from a primarily volunteer department to a combination volunteer and career department has increased costs associated with it. This, combined with increased operational costs and inflation are all contributing factors.

How can I get more information?

Fire District 3 is hosting a Community Forum meeting on June 22nd, at our training center located at 10 S Presley Drive in Cheney starting at 6:00 PM. Also, feel free to contact us at (509) 235-6645 or via email at scfd3@scfd3.org.

What are some other ways to support emergency services?

Volunteer applications can be found on the Employment page of our website under Current Opportunities.