



**CENTRAL KITSAP**  
*FIRE & RESCUE*

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# 2024 Fire Levy Lid Lift



# Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue is asking voters for a fire levy lid lift in the August primary election to hire more firefighters and improve emergency services.

## How are we funded?

We pay for daily operations through a fire levy capped at \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. In 2019, voters approved a levy rate of \$1.50. Since then, the rate has dropped to \$1.34.

## What will be on my ballot?

We are asking voters for a \$0.16 lid lift, which would reset the fire levy rate to \$1.50 per \$1,000. The measure will appear on the August 6, 2024, primary election ballot.

## What will the lid lift fund?

- Up to six firefighters over the next six years to staff the Lake Symington and Olympic View stations 24 hours a day
- Replace an aging ambulance and refurbish up to three engines
- Firefighter and paramedic training programs
- Funding for the CARES program to reduce non-emergency 911 calls and improve service for residents

## Why are we asking for this?

Revenue from our fire levy is not keeping up with the demand for

and costs to provide emergency services. Our call volumes have increased by 39 percent in the last six years. We require additional emergency personnel to respond to higher call volumes and to maintain our level and quality of emergency response. We also need to replace fire engines to ensure service reliability when responding to calls.

## What will this cost?\*

The owner of a \$500,000 home would pay an additional \$80 per year or \$6.67 per month.

## Where can I find more information?

Learn more at [www.ckfr.org](http://www.ckfr.org). Fire Chief Jason Christian welcomes your questions at [jchristian@ckfr.org](mailto:jchristian@ckfr.org) and 360-447-3550.

\*Homeowners who are 61 years or older and others who meet income and eligibility requirements may qualify for a property tax exemption. Contact the Kitsap County Assessor at 360-337-7160 or online at [www.kitsapgov.com/assessor/Pages/Exemptions.aspx](http://www.kitsapgov.com/assessor/Pages/Exemptions.aspx) to see if you qualify.



AS AVs  
GO UP

LEVY RATES  
GO DOWN



## Do my property taxes increase by the same percent of my home's assessed value?

No. Our revenue does not increase at the same rate as property values. Here's why. Each year we are allowed to collect a set amount of revenue. State law limits us to that amount plus a small annual increase approved by voters. This means the fire levy rate falls as property values rise to limit our budget to approximately the same amount from the previous year plus that small annual increase approved by voters.

Our fire levy rate has dropped from \$1.50 in 2019 to \$1.34 in 2024 and is no longer adequate to meet the emergency service level needs of our community.