

Notice of Measure Election

District

3-591

Notice

Date of Notice	Name of District	Name of County or Counties	Date of Election
02/01/2023	Molalla Rural Fire Protection District #73	Clackamas	May 16, 2023

Final Ballot Title The following is the final ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the district's voters. The ballot title notice has been published and the ballot title challenge process has been completed.

Caption 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure.

Local Option Renewal Levy to Maintain Fire, Emergency Medical Operations

Question 20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure.

Shall MRFPD maintain fire and emergency medical services by levying \$0.76 per \$1,000.00 of AV for five years, beginning 2023-24? This measure renews current local option taxes.

Summary 175 words which concisely and impartially summarizes the measure and its major effect.

Molalla Rural Fire Protection District #73 provides fire, emergency medical, and ambulance services to residents of Molalla, Mulino, and surrounding areas. Operations are funded through a property tax base and local option levy.

If adopted, this levy renewal would enable the District to retain paramedic/firefighters funded by the current levy. Levy funds would:

- Help maintain the District's current ability to handle multiple emergency calls at the same time without having to wait for backup from neighboring districts.
- Help ensure a second ambulance crew is available when one crew is already involved in transporting a patient to an area hospital, a trip that can take 2 hours or more.
- Retain 7 paramedic/firefighters with advanced life-saving skills that bring a near emergency-room level of assistance to patients.

The levy would be renewed at the same rate as the current levy: \$0.76 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value.

For a home with an assessed value (not market value) of \$214,000, about average for residential property in the District, the cost would be about \$163 per year.

The requested rate will raise approximately \$1,464,321 in 2023-2024, \$1,515,572 in 2024-2025, \$1,568,617 in 2025-2026, \$1,623,518 in 2026-2027 and \$1,680,342 in 2027-2028.

The estimated tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the county assessor at the time of estimate and may reflect the impact of early payment discounts, compression and the collection rate.

Explanatory Statement 500 words that impartially explains the measure and its effect.

If the county is producing a voters' pamphlet an explanatory statement must be drafted and attached to this form for:

- any measure referred by the district elections authority; **or**
→ any initiative or referendum, if required by local ordinance.

Explanatory Statement Attached? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Authorized District Official Not required to be notarized.

Name Vince Stafford	Title Fire Chief
Mailing Address PO Box 655, Molalla OR 97038	Contact Phone (503)829-2200

By signing this document:

- I hereby state that I am authorized by the district elections authority to submit this Notice of Measure Election; **and**
→ I certify that notice of receipt of ballot title has been published and the ballot title challenge process for this measure completed.

Signature Redacted

Signature

02/01/2023

Date Signed

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**Molalla Rural Fire Protection District #73
May 2023 Local Option Levy**

Measure # 3-591

Explanatory Statement

The Molalla Rural Fire Protection District #73 is seeking approval to renew a local option levy in the amount of \$.76 per \$1,000 of assessed value, the same rate as the current levy.

What services does Molalla Fire provide?

Molalla Fire is the first responder for medical emergencies and fires in its service area. It is also responsible for ambulance transport. Fire prevention, fire investigation, public education, and rescue services are also provided.

Who does the District serve?

Molalla Fire serves the residents of an approximately 101 square mile area that includes the City of Molalla and Mulino. The ambulance service area is larger — an approximately 350 square mile area that covers neighboring fire districts and unprotected wilderness area.

How is the District funded?

Molalla Fire is funded through a property tax base and a local option levy last approved by voters in 2018. Voters also approved a bond measure to upgrade District facilities and equipment in 2014. Molalla Fire also applies for Federal grant funding when appropriate.

How would funds from the renewed levy be used?

The renewed levy would continue funding for 7 of the District's 15 paramedic/firefighters, supporting effective response to medical emergencies and to structure and wildland fires, including:

- ▶ **Help maintain the ability to handle multiple emergency calls.** Levy funds would help maintain Molalla Fire's current ability to handle multiple emergency calls at the same time without having to wait more than 15 minutes for backup from nearby fire districts. Currently, about 46% of calls for service happen when a crew is already out on another emergency.
- ▶ **Help transport patients to area hospitals.** Molalla Fire is responsible for transporting patients to area hospitals, a trip that can take 2 to 3 hours. Levy funds would help ensure a second crew is available to respond to emergencies when one crew is involved in transporting a patient.
- ▶ **Help maintain a near emergency-room level of assistance to residents.** Molalla Fire's medical response teams include advanced life-saving paramedics with the ability to bring a near emergency-room level of assistance to patients. Levy funds would be used to retain 7 paramedic/firefighters with these skills.

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What is the cost to property taxpayers?

The levy rate would stay the same as the current rate — 76¢ per thousand of assessed value (not market value). For property assessed at \$214,000, about average for residential property in the District, the cost would be about \$163 a year or \$14 a month.

What if the levy is not approved?

If not approved, many calls for medical assistance and fire emergencies would have a delay in response and a delay in transport capability. Thus, Molalla Fire would need to increase its reliance on backup support from neighboring fire districts when there are multiple calls for service at the same time. This is because 7 paramedic/firefighters, out of the District's 15 total, would need to be laid-off after the current levy expires.

Need more information?

Visit the District's website site at www.molallafire.org.