

Notice of Measure Election
District

MAR 12 2019

SEL 803

rev 03/18 ORS 250.035,
250.041, 255.145, 255.345

Elections Division

24-438

Notice

Date of Notice 03/07/2019	Name of District Aurora Fire District	Name of County or Counties Marion, Clackamas	Date of Election 05/21/2019
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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.

Five year local levy for hiring, general operations and equipment

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

Shall AFRD replace current rate with \$0.99/assessed value for five years beginning 2019, hiring EMT's/Firefighters and enhancing operations? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

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

Aurora Fire District is seeking a five-year local option tax for general operations. Monies are needed maintain current staff of four and hire additional career EMTs/Firefighters for emergencies. For the first time, this levy will allow the District to respond to calls 24 hours a day with a career Emergency Medical Technician/ Firefighters.

AFD responds to over 1000 emergencies a year, the amount of calls is stretching current resources. Volunteering is still an important aspect to the Aurora District, however times have changed and time demands on volunteers has become increasingly difficult to balance. Money will also be used to enhance current volunteer program, pay for general operating expenses such as equipment, supplies and repairs. This levy request will help ensure when you call us for an emergency, we will have a crew available to assist you. This levy does not add an additional \$0.99, it replaces the current rate of \$0.49.

The proposed rate will raise approximately \$920,945.00 in 2019-20; \$958,573.00 in 2020-21; \$977,031.00 in 2021-22;\$1,006,342.00 in 2022-23; and \$1,036,532.00 in 2023-24. The total estimated amount of tax to be raised is \$4,899,423.00

The estimated 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 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 Joshua L. Williams	Title Fire Chief
Mailing Address PO Box 9 Aurora, OR 97002	Contact Phone 503-678-5966

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.

03/07/2019

Date Signed

Aurora FD Option Levy

Explanatory Statement

Responding to over 1,000 emergencies per year, AFD provides Firefighting, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to residents within 64 square miles of Marion and Clackamas Counties. We protect the Cities of Aurora and Donald as well as the Aurora Airport, Champoeg State Park and 20 miles of Interstate 5.

This levy is needed to maintain current operations and provide a career EMT/Firefighter as the officer in charge 24 hours a day. It will also allow us to make repairs, upgrade emergency equipment and enhance our current student and volunteer program.

Most of our calls for service occur when there are no career staff on duty. Currently, there are only 4 career employees on duty M-F during regular business hours. Once the business office has closed, volunteers and students are the primary emergency responders.

If you, or your loved one, experience a cardiac event, car crash or major emergency, a fire engine without a career EMT/Firefighter in charge is likely to respond. If your home is on fire, national mandates prohibit us from entering to extinguish the fire until a minimum of four firefighters are on scene. Between volunteers, students and career staff, the levy will allow us to quickly meet these standards and provide better service to the community.

The District has a group of well qualified volunteers who serve in all positions from Battalion Chief to our newest recruit. However, time demands on volunteer firefighters have reached a point where it is difficult to recruit, and more importantly retain, volunteers. Family life, job requirements and increased emergency calls have changed the face of the fire service both nationwide and locally.

The District recruits volunteers who live and/or work within the community and can respond to emergency calls. We also recruit "out of district" volunteers who may live anywhere throughout the Willamette Valley and sign up for shifts (generally 12-24 hours in length) in Aurora or Donald.

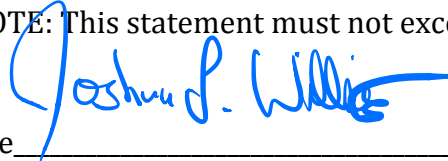
Our student program exists to provide staffing and a career path to college students. The District strives to maintain six student firefighters and place them on shifts (currently helping to ensure a minimum of two responders). They are among the newest and most inexperienced members.

What is the impact if an operational levy fails?

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42% Due to
error.
AW
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Our budget would be reduced by 37% making the current level of operations unsustainable. We would have to delay needed repairs, the purchasing of vital equipment and possibly reduce our current staff and student program. The priority of AFD will always be to serve our District and maintain timely emergency responses. However, without this levy, it would become increasingly difficult if not impossible.

Total Words 486 (NOTE: This statement must not exceed 500 words.)



Authorized Signature _____ Title: Fire Chief

Printed Name: Joshua L. Williams

Local Government Unit: Aurora Rural Fire Protection District

This information submitted by
Joshua L. Williams, Fire Chief
Aurora Fire District