

# Measure 3-469

## REPLACEMENT LOCAL OPTION LEVY FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

**QUESTION:** Shall Canby Fire District maintain emergency response services by levying 45¢ per \$1,000 assessed value for five years, beginning 2016? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

**SUMMARY:** This proposed levy would replace a current local option levy that expires in 2016. The replacement levy would be used to retain four current Firefighter/Paramedics funded by the expiring levy and add two Firefighter/Paramedics during peak call times.

The District responds to over 2,200 fire and medical emergency calls each year. The percentage of overlapping calls has increased from 19% to over 30% in the past three years. This increase impacts the District's ability to provide an immediate response to all calls. The replacement levy would be used to fund two ambulance crews for rapid response during peak hours and improve response support when calls overlap.

The replacement levy rate is 45¢ per \$1,000 assessed property value, an increase of 11¢ over the current rate. For a typical property assessed at \$250,000, the annual cost would be approximately \$112, an increase of about \$27 per year. If the proposed levy fails, the existing levy will expire in 2016, at which time property taxes on a typical property would decline about \$112 per year.

The replacement levy is projected to raise \$4,370,175 over five years:

- 2016-17 \$827,267
- 2017-18 \$850,017
- 2018-19 \$873,392
- 2019-20 \$897,410
- 2020-21 \$922,089

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Canby Fire District (CFD) provides fire suppression, emergency medical response, ambulance transportation, community risk reduction, emergency preparation and management, and hazardous materials response services to the City of Canby, the City of Barlow, and a total of 54 square miles of surrounding suburban and rural areas. CFD's mission is "Outstanding service to our community delivered with skilled professionalism and commitment to safety." CFD's shared vision is "Highly-skilled, efficient response to fire and medical emergencies and working together with our community to prevent the next emergency."

### Why has this measure been placed on the ballot?

The current levy, which funds four Firefighter/Paramedics, expires in June 2016. This proposed levy would take the current levy's place and provide sufficient funding for CFD to retain existing

**Measures, explanatory statements, and arguments are printed as filed. No spelling or grammar corrections are made.**

staffing and add two more Firefighter/Paramedics during peak activity hours.

### Why is additional staffing during peak activity hours being proposed?

CFD's response teams include EMTs and Paramedics with the ability to provide immediate life-saving care at medical and rescue incidents. The number of emergency response calls for CFD's services has increased from 1,731 in 2001 to 2,284 in 2014. Additionally, the percentage of simultaneous emergency response calls has increased from 19% to over 30% in the past three years. This increase in demand for CFD's services, combined with increasing overlap calls, challenges CFD's ability to respond in a quick and effective manner. The proposed addition of two Firefighter/Paramedics during peak activity hours would improve CFD's ability to provide fast and effective emergency response services during periods of high demand when volunteers might not be available.

### What does the measure call for?

A "yes" vote would result in a local option levy tax rate of 45¢ per thousand assessed property value, an increase of 11¢ over the current rate. For property assessed at \$250,000 the cost would be approximately \$112 per year, an increase of about \$27 over the current local option levy.

A "no" vote would result in no replacement for the current local option levy, which expires in June 2016. The current local option levy funds four existing Firefighter/Paramedic positions.

### What happens if the levy fails?

Without a replacement levy, CFD would continue to prioritize emergency response services, but would be required to eliminate a minimum of four firefighter/paramedic positions. Response challenges would also degrade the speed and effectiveness of CFD's emergency response services, especially in simultaneous call situations, because of the need to wait for back-up responders to arrive from Oregon City, Wilsonville or West Linn. If the measure fails, taxes for a typical property with an assessed value of \$250,000 would decline by about \$112 per year.

### What would be the total proposed tax rate for Canby Fire District?

\$1.54/\$1000. Permanent rate  
\$.45/\$1000. Proposed local option levy rate (being voted on)  
\$1.99/\$1000. Total Proposed Rate

The total proposed rate of \$1.99/\$1000 is lower than the average tax rate in Clackamas County for fire and emergency medical response services, which is estimated at \$2.15/\$1000.

Submitted by: James X. Davis  
Fire Chief

**NO ARGUMENTS WERE FILED IN OPPOSITION TO THIS MEASURE**

*The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.*

# Measure 3-469

## ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

This is a unified letter from all your Canby Firefighters and Elected Officials. The Canby Fire District and Paramedic Ambulance has operated for more than 65 years and remains one of the great cornerstones of Our Community. We do not take the responsibility of operating it lightly and for this reason we are asking for Community support to VOTE YES to replace the expiring operating levy that has maintained 4 firefighter paramedics since 2002.

Over the years Canby Fire has taken purposeful steps to ensure our ability to provide quick and effective emergency response, such as 5-person crews, alternative response vehicles, reduction of high frequency/ low risk calls, an effort to increase and retain volunteer ranks, and community risk reduction. Additionally, Canby Fire relies heavily on automatic aid agreements with our neighboring fire departments and AMR to help respond to the increased call volume. Canby Fire is utilizing our mutual aid partners now more that ever before.

Today Canby Fire, the 3rd busiest fire station in Clackamas County, responds to over 2,200 emergencies each year. The percentage of these emergencies that happen in the same time periods has grown from 19% to 30% in the past 3 years. Canby Fire needs to add 2 additional firefighter/ paramedics for staffing during peak demand times when most simultaneous calls are occurring. Peak demand is typically from 7am to 7pm when Our Volunteer Firefighters are often at work and not available.

A YES VOTE on Measure 3-469 will ensure Canby Fire is able to continue answering growing demands in emergency calls.

A YES VOTE will keep the 4 firefighter paramedics on the current local option levy that expires June 2016 and hire 2 additional firefighter paramedics.

A no vote will eliminate the 4 firefighter paramedics hired in 2002 and eliminate any ability to provide second ambulance service and fire suppression.

Sincerely,  
Canby Volunteer Firefighters Association  
Canby Fire District Board of Directors  
Canby Professional Firefighters

*(This information furnished by Matt Dale, Canby Volunteer Firefighters Association)*

*The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by Clackamas County, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statements made in the argument.*

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## ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

As Canby physicians that provide medical care to thousands of local citizens, we ask you to vote YES on Local Option Levy 3-469. A YES vote replaces and enhances an existing levy that funded the hiring of additional emergency medical and firefighting personnel and has provided enhanced ambulance service to our community since 2003.

When it comes to medical emergencies and traumatic injuries, seconds count. The additional paramedics and EMT's hired in 2003 have provided Canby Fire District with needed depth to quickly respond to two simulatanious medical emergencies and the ability to bring more of these highly trained prehospital medical personnel to the scene of a critical medical event or vehicle accident.

We believe in quality medical care and responsible government - voting YES to update the levy and retain all of our highly skilled Canby ambulance and firefighting personnel is the right choice.

Canby physicians supporting the levy update:

- Trent B. Warren M.D.
- Janae Zolna M.D.
- DeOna Bridgeman M.D. Davies Clinic, PC
- Amanda S. Gay M.D.
- Kathryn Kolonic D.O.
- JoAnna C. Anders N.P.
- Thomas C. Allmon M.D.
- Karolina Krawczyk Faler M.D.
- David Peter M.D.
- Kori L. Anderson F.N.P.
- Rean Goelst M.D.

*(This information furnished by Matt Dale, Clackamas County Professional Firefighters)*

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### ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Canby Area Elected Representatives Support Canby Fire District Measure 3-469

Your Canby area representatives are in favor of Canby Fire Districts replacement levy. Voters approved a staffing levy in 2002, 2006 and 2010. Measure 3-469 will replace the current levy amount and add an additional \$0.11 cents per \$1,000 assessed value of property costing homes valued at \$250,000 an average of \$26 more per year.

This replacement levy will maintain the 4 Firefighter/ Paramedics currently in place and add 2 additional Firefighter Paramedics. These additional 2 positions will cover peak demand times during the day when career firefighter paramedics are on simultaneous emergency calls and volunteer firefighters are away at their regular jobs. These simultaneous emergency calls occur approximately 30% of the time. Now more than ever, our community is relying on out-of-district units to respond into Canby during simultaneous emergencies.

With the Fire Districts strategic planning process, their financial stability and staffing deployment plans, we believe that this increase in staffing (the first increase in more than 10 years) is necessary to provide for our safety as Canby continues to grow.

Tim Dale, Canby City Council President  
Tracie Heidt, City Councilor  
Traci Hensley, Canby City Councilor  
Representative Bill Kennemer  
Congressman Kurt Schrader

## ELECTION RESULTS ON THE INTERNET

[www.clackamas.us/elections/results.html](http://www.clackamas.us/elections/results.html)

By entering the above web address into your computer's internet browser, you can access current and archived results for elections conducted in Clackamas County.

After 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, navigate to returns for the current election with just a few clicks of the mouse.

Updates are posted as ballot processing continues throughout the evening of the election and the following days up to certification.



***“OH NO! I forgot to use the secrecy envelope!”***

Relax . . . it's not that big a deal. The secrecy envelope is designed to preserve the anonymity of your ballot choices, from the moment you vote onward. Once your ballot reaches the processing table, we've arranged the examination procedure so the ballot processors have no way of knowing which ballots came from which voters. Of course, you *could* carefully re-open the outer return envelope, put your ballot in the secrecy envelope and re-seal the return envelope with tape. Or . . . just send it in the way it is. The absence of a secrecy envelope will not affect the tallying of your vote in any way.

If you have further questions, please call the Clackamas County Elections Division at **503.655.8510**.

## BALLOT DROP SITES

Your voted ballot may be dropped off at any of the following locations. Outdoor drop boxes are locked at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

**Canby City Hall (Outside, 24 Hours)**  
182 N Holly St

**Canby McDonalds (Outside, 24 Hours)**  
709 SW First St

**Damascus City Hall (Outside, 24 Hours)**  
19920 SE Hwy 212

**Milwaukie Public Safety Building (Outside, 24 Hours)**  
3200 SE Harrison St

**West Linn City Hall (Outside, 24 Hours)**  
22500 Salamo Rd

**Gladstone Library (Indoor)**  
135 E Dartmouth St

Mon - Thurs 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Fri, Sat 11:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Sun 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Ledding Library of Milwaukie (Indoor)**  
10660 SE 21st Ave

Mon - Thurs 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Fri, Sat 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Sun 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**West Linn Library (Indoor)**  
1595 Burns St

Mon - Wed 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Thu, Fri 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Sat, Sun 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Wilsonville Library (Indoor)**  
8200 SW Wilsonville Rd

Mon - Thurs 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Fri, Sat 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Sun 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Clackamas County Elections**  
(Indoor - Office Hours & outdoor - 24 Hours)  
1710 Red Soils Ct., Ste. 100  
Oregon City, OR 97045



# CLACKAMAS COUNTY ELECTIONS DIVISION

# VOTERS' PAMPHLET

## SPECIAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 3, 2015 CANBY RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Ballots must be returned by 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3, 2015.



## SHERRY HALL, COUNTY CLERK

*(This information furnished by Matt Dale, Clackamas County Professional Firefighters)*

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