

Whatcom County Fire District #11

PROPOSITION NO. 2021-7 The Fire Levy

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire Protection District #11, adopted Resolution No. 2021-263 authorizing a regular property tax levy of \$1.49 per \$1,000. This proposition would **restore** the District's tax levy back to \$1.49 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for 2021. It will also authorize us to increase our levy by 1% each year.

This is not a new tax—it restores the levy rate back to \$1.49 as approved by the voters in 2014.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Levy Rate	\$1.43	\$1.40	\$1.33	\$1.22	\$1.21	\$1.12

PROPOSITION NO. 2021-8 The EMS Levy

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire Protection District #11, adopted Resolution No. 2021-264 concerning a proposition to maintain funding for EMS operations by continuing a regular property tax levy at the current rate of \$0.28 per \$1000 for the next six years.

This is not a new tax—it maintains the current levy rate at \$0.28 for six more years.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Levy Rate	\$0.39	\$0.21	\$0.19	\$0.17	\$0.26	\$0.28

Why do we need to reset the levies?

Currently our operating expenses exceed our funding by almost ten percent due to inflation, increased operating expenses and automatic annual levy rate changes that limit income.

Restoring our levies will continue to fund day-to-day operations, including the rising costs of medical and fire supplies, and will also continue to fund our apparatus replacement plan. Maintaining our fleet and replacing outdated equipment is crucial to providing service to our community and keeping our firefighters safe.

Whatcom County Association of Fire Chiefs

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Ferndale, WA 98248-1599

WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #11
LUMMI ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT
INFORMATION FOR
PROPOSITIONS 2021-7 & 2021-8

POSTAL CUSTOMER

LUMMI ISLAND, WA 98262

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR PROPOSTIONS 2021-7 & 2021-8

How much will the levies cost?

If both levies are approved, and you own a home valued at \$300,000, it would be an increase of about \$10.15 per month.

Will this pay for a new fire station?

No. Our regular property tax levies are not sufficient to fund a project this large. Other options are being considered in regards to updating our aging station to current standards. Much of our firefighting equipment is at end of service life, and urgently needs updated.

Will this be the last levy lift?

Until the state law is changed we will need to come back to the voters every few years to stay current. We are committed to coming to the voters regularly for support to keep the increases as small as possible. District #11 is not alone in this predicament of the state law limiting us to a 1% growth, with almost half of the fire districts in Whatcom County proposing similar levy measures.

How can I learn more?

Please visit <https://lummiislandfire.com/financial-presentation> for more information regarding the financial needs of the District. Feel free to E-mail questions to admin@wcf11.org