



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Fife-area residents invited to Q&A sessions ahead of election
Fire district leaders will discuss bond proposal and answer questions

FIFE, Wash. – As the Aug. 4 election approaches, Pierce County Fire District 10 is inviting Fife-area residents to attend one of two public question-and-answer sessions about the proposed fire station bond measure.

District leadership will explain the proposal, discuss the challenges posed by the district's outdated fire station and answer residents' questions before ballots are returned.

The first session will be held Tuesday, July 21, at 6 p.m. at Station 12, 2015 54th Avenue East in Fife. A second session will be offered Saturday, July 25, at 9 a.m. at the same location.

Voters are being asked to consider a bond that would fund the purchase of land and construction of a replacement fire station. The current facility, built in the mid-1950s, was designed for a different era of firefighting and no longer meets today's emergency response needs.

Sleeping quarters are located far from emergency apparatus, increasing response times, while apparatus bays were built for smaller vehicles than those used today. The facility also has an antiquated diesel exhaust removal system and lacks modern decontamination areas that help reduce firefighters' exposure to carcinogens. It is also not designed to remain operational following a major earthquake.

If approved, the bond would fund a modern station designed to improve emergency response, better protect firefighter health and safety, and remain operational during major disasters. The new station would include a more efficient station layout that reduces response times, modern exhaust removal and decontamination systems, appropriately sized apparatus bays, and construction that meets current seismic standards.

"Residents deserve the opportunity to hear directly from district leadership and have their questions answered before they vote," said Deputy Chief (Ret.) Jeff Jensen. "We encourage everyone to attend one of these sessions, learn about the proposal and make

an informed decision based on facts."

The proposed bond is estimated to cost about \$14.50 per month, or approximately \$174 per year, for a home assessed at \$600,000.

Ballots must be postmarked by Election Day to be counted. Residents planning to return ballots by mail are encouraged to mail them early to help ensure they are received on time.

Residents can learn more about the proposed bond at pcfd10.org/station-project.

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Pierce County Fire District 10 serves the city of Fife and the unincorporated area of Fife Heights. Through a partnership with the Tacoma Fire Department, firefighters, EMTs and paramedics respond to approximately 2,600 emergency calls each year—80% of which are medical emergencies. Visit pcfd10.org for more information.