

# Looking for information about the Bond Proposal?



# Answers to frequently asked questions are here...

**What's on my ballot?** Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue is asking voters to approve a facilities bond to improve community and firefighter health and safety for one of the fastest growing areas of Kitsap County.

**Why is my fire district asking for this?** The Fire District has implemented plans to add staffing and replace aging apparatus. The next step is to address facility needs to improve community safety and provide a safer and healthier operating environment for our firefighters. These improvements also will help shelter modern emergency apparatus that are too large to fit into our existing facilities.

**What is meant by "improve community safety?"** Our 60-year old stations are not up to current seismic standards, and may collapse during an earthquake preventing our ability to reach you in an emergency. Several stations are located away

from populated areas, which increases response times.

**What is meant by "provide a safer and healthier operating environment for our firefighters?"**

Cancer is a leading cause of death for firefighters. Our 60-year old stations lack effective diesel exhaust removal systems and decontamination areas to reduce firefighter exposure to these carcinogens and infectious diseases, such as we have experienced with COVID-19. Many facilities are not equipped with modern fire and life safety systems such as security, commercial fire alarms and sprinklers.

**What work has been done to determine if this is needed?** The District spent two years working with the community to complete a Capital Facilities Plan that is available on our website at [www.ckfr.org](http://www.ckfr.org). A list of improvements to individual stations can be found there as well.

**How much will it cost property owners?** This bond is estimated to be 32 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value over 20 years (no more than \$96 a year for a \$300,000 home). The bond will meet our community's facility needs for 60 years, and the combined rate for fire and EMS still would be less than property owners paid in 2019. This is because two other funding measures will have expired. Here is a chart that reflects what property owners have paid, and would pay for emergency service if approved:

Levy Measure	2019	2020	2021*
Fire & EMS	\$1.90	\$1.76	\$1.86
M&O Levy	\$0.19	\$0	\$0
Apparatus Bond	\$0.16	\$0.11	\$0
Facilities Bond	-	-	\$0.32
Total	\$2.25	\$1.87	\$2.18

\*Projected based on current data. Rates are per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

**What else do I need to know about the bond?**

The Fire District had planned to be on the August ballot, but delayed that due to COVID-19. It reviewed the most recent housing and market data available before moving forward with a November election. Station construction projects will help stimulate the local economy as it recovers from the pandemic. The bond would last for 20 years, but fund the community's emergency facility needs for 60 years.

**Where can I find more information?**

More information can be found on our website at [www.ckfr.org](http://www.ckfr.org). Fire Chief John Oliver also is available to answer questions at or [joliver@ckfr.org](mailto:joliver@ckfr.org) or (360) 447-3566. Thank you for considering our request.

**PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS AND DEFERRALS** Senior citizens and disabled persons in Washington State may be eligible for property tax exemptions or deferrals. For more information about these programs, please visit the Kitsap County Assessor's office online at [www.kitsapgov.com/assessor/Pages/Exemptions.aspx](http://www.kitsapgov.com/assessor/Pages/Exemptions.aspx).