LACEY 3 FIRE DISTRICT

In the November 2026 general election, Lacey Fire District 3 (LFD3) is proposing a $98.3 million bond measure for capital projects to address significant facility deficiencies and operational gaps.

Why is LFD3 asking for this?

LFD3 has identified deficiencies that include a current inadequate fire station, a response gap north of I-5, inadequate live fire training capabilities, and a lack of sufficient storage facilities that are needed to manage a large fire district. LFD3 manages the highest call volume in Thurston County, currently exceeding 18,000 calls annually. With projected population growth and increasing call volumes, the District needs to prepare for the future. If approved by the voters, the bond proceeds will be used to secure the infrastructure necessary for a modern, large-scale emergency response agency to address current deficiencies and future District growth.

What will Proposition 1 fund?

The projects funded by the bond proceeds will address increasing emergency call volumes, reduce emergency response times, improve community and firefighter health and safety, and support critical ongoing training. The projects include the construction of a new community fire station which would address response gaps north of I-5, and the relocation of Station 32 to a more optimal site on the Yelm Highway corridor. The bond proceeds will also fund the development of a regional training facility and a permanent logistics warehouse for optimal and progressive emergency services for our community.

Will taxes increase?

Yes. The financial impact on the community is estimated at $0.22 to $0.25 per $1,000 of assessed property value, which translates to approximately $8 to $11 per month for a median $500,000 home.

Why issue a bond rather than use current property tax funding?

As a fire district in Washington, LFD3 relies almost exclusively on property taxes. The regular property tax levy is used to fund normal day-to-day operations of the District. Per state law, regular property tax levies are restricted to a levy limit of $1.50 per $1,000 of assessed valuation. This financial cap makes it difficult to fund the significant capital investments required to maintain service levels. Building cash reserves using current property tax revenue would not address immediate needs. Constructing facilities sooner also avoids future construction cost inflation and puts facilities in service for today's taxpayers.

What if the bond doesn't pass?

Failure to pass this measure will lead to slower response times as demand increases and continued reliance on aging, inefficient facilities that no longer meet the District's established service standards.

For more detailed information and project updates, please visit our website at www.laceyfire.com or contact Headquarters at 360-491-2410.