### KITTITAS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 7

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2025-5**

# RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A LEVY LID LIFT (Primary Election)

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF KITTITAS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 7, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON AUGUST 5, 2025, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT TO RESTORE ITS REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY TO \$1.25 PER \$1,000.00 OF TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION SUBJECT TO OTHERWISE APPLICABLE STATUTORY LIMITATIONS.

**Background:** WHEREAS, it is the judgment of the Board of Commissioners of the District that it is essential and necessary for the protection of the health and life of the residents of the District that the fire and emergency medical services be provided by the District.

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners has determined that the accelerated demands for, and increasing costs of, providing services will necessitate the expenditure of revenues for improved fire protection operations, replacing apparatus and equipment, firefighter recruitment and training and maintaining emergency medical service levels in excess of those which can be provided by the District's regular tax revenue levied at the current rate of approximately \$1.12 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation of taxable property within the District as limited by the 101% limitation, not to exceed 1% maximum increase per year.

WHEREAS, The District's voters last approved a levy rate of \$1.25 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation in 2022.

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners has determined that it is in the best interest of the District that the maximum allowable levy authorized by this Resolution serve as the levy base for purposes of applying the limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 in subsequent years.

**Resolution**: NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Kittitas County Fire Protection District No. 7, Kittitas County Washington as follows:

**Section 1**. In order to meet increased call volumes, maintain the level of fire protection, prevention, emergency medical services and the protection of life and property in the District, it is necessary for the District to operate and maintain emergency fire and medical service vehicles and improve station and other capital facilities and to retain properly trained firefighters equipped with proper firefighting and emergency medical equipment.

**Section 2.** In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of maintaining and providing the services described in Section 1 and to assure the continuation and improvement of such services the District shall, in accordance with RCW 84.55.050, remove the limitation on regular property

taxes imposed by RCW 84.55.010, and levy beginning in 2022 and collect beginning in 2023, pursuant to RCW 52.16.130, RCW 52.16.140 and RCW 52.16.160, a general tax on taxable property within the District at a rate of \$1.25 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits.

**Section 3.** If approved by the voters, the amount levied in 2025 for collection in 2026, shall serve as the District's tax levy base for purposes of applying the limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 in subsequent years.

**Section 4.** There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their ratification or rejection, at a special election on August 5, 2025, in conjunction with the state primary election to be held on the same date, the question of whether or not the regular property tax levy of the District should be restored to \$1.25 per \$1,000.00 of true and assessed valuation, subject to otherwise applicable statutory limitations. The Board of Commissioners hereby requests the auditor of Kittitas County, as ex-officio Supervisor of Elections, call such election, and to submit the following proposition at such election, in the form of a ballot title substantially as follows:

| Name of Jurisdiction | Kittitas County Fire Protection District No. 7 |  |
|----------------------|--|--|
|----------------------|--|--|

Proposition #:

Proposition No. 1

Short Title:

Levy Lid Lift

Ballot Title:

The Board of Kittitas County Fire Protection District No. 7 adopted Resolution No. 2025-5 concerning a proposition to increase its regular

property tax levy.

This proposition authorizes the District to restore its regular property tax levy to \$1.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value to be assessed in 2025 and collected in 2026. The funds will maintain and improve fire protection, and emergency medical services, replace apparatus and equipment, and provide for firefighter safety. The dollar amount of the 2025 levy collected in 2026 shall serve as the base for computing subsequent levy limitations as provided by chapter 84.55 RCW.

| Should this Proposition be: |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| •                           | Approved □ |
|                             | Rejected   |

Section 5. In accordance with RCW 84.55.050(1), the ballot measure requires approval of a simple majority of the voters to pass.

**Section 6.** The Board hereby assigns to the Fire Chief or designee the task of appointing members to a committee to advocate voters' approval of the proposition and to a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' rejection of the proposition.

Section 7. For purposes of receiving notice of any matters related to the ballot title, as provided in RCW 29A.36.080, the Board hereby designates the Fire Chief as the individual to whom the County Auditor shall provide such notice.

**Section 8.** The Chief is authorized to implement such administrative procedures as may be necessary to carry out the directives of this resolution, including modifying the text of the ballot title and any other text, language and/or descriptions relative thereto necessary to conform such ballot title, text, language and/or descriptions to the intent of the parties, consistent with the objectives of this resolution

**Section 9.** The Chief, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed, no later than May 2, 2025, to provide to the County Auditor a certified copy of this resolution and the proper District officials are authorized to perform such other duties or take such other actions as are necessary or required by law to the end that the proposition described in this resolution appear on the ballot before the voters at the August 5, 2025 election.

Section 10. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution.

**Section 11.** Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

Section 12. This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

Adoption: ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Kittitas County Fire Protection District No. 7, Kittitas County, WA, at a regular open public meeting of such Board on the 2nd day of April 2025, the following Commissioners being present and voting:

eff Myers, Commissioner Chair

Justin Zipperer, Commissioner Vice Chair

Robert Cernick, Commissioner

#### LEGAL NOTICE PROOF

## **VOTER PAMPHLET COMMITTEE**

Kittitas County Fire Protection District No. 7 is placing a proposition before the voters on the August 5, 2025 ballot authorizing the District to restore its 2025 regular property tax levy to \$1.25 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation for collection in 2026. The Fire District is accepting names of people interested in participating in voter pamphlet statement pro and con committees.



The deadline for appointing the committees is May 2, 2025. Citizens interested in participating, please contact Eryn A. Micallef, 509-656-4100 or email <a href="mailto:emicallef@kcfd7.com">emicallef@kcfd7.com</a> no later than 5/1/2025.
(Published in the N.K.C. TRIBUNE, April 10, 17, and 24, 2025.)

2x2.5 Display Legal (5")
Run Dates: April 10, 17 and 27, 2025

Total cost = \$105.00

(First run - \$55.00; subsequent dates \$50.00 each)

TRIBUNE

509-674-2511 • Cle Elum, WA

APPROVED BY

DATE

Please sign and fax back to: (509) 674-5571

Approved as shown.

Approved with indicated changes.

Line Legai Publish: 3 Times Election Date: August 5, 2025

Name of Jurisdiction Submitting Measure: Kittitas County Fire Protection District No. 7

Contact Name: Eryn A Micallef

Daytime Contact Phone Number: 509-656-4100

#### Explanatory Statement Proposition No. 1 (150 Word Limit)

Kittitas County Fire Protection District No. 7 provides emergency fire protection and medical services to its citizens. If approved by the voters, this proposition authorizes the Fire District to restore its regular real property tax levy rate to \$1.25 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2025 for collection in 2026. The voters previously approved the \$1.25 rate in 2022 and the current levy is approximately \$1.12 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

Your Fire District Board of Commissioners has determined that approval of this proposition is necessary to maintain an effective level of fire protection and emergency medical services, fire fighter staffing, equipment and facilities in light of the increasing demands for such services.

The dollar amount levied in 2025 shall serve as the fire department's tax levy base and absent further voter approval, the tax levy will then be subject to the statutory one percent limit.

Prepared by: Brian K. Snure

Attorney for District

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