

City of Stanwood

Proposition 1

Ballot Title

Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Related Costs

The City of Stanwood has adopted Resolution 2010-1 concerning funding for fire protection services. If approved, this proposition shall fund firefighting staffing and related costs for fire protection services. This proposition would allow the City to increase its current expense levy to two dollars and sixty-seven cents (\$2.67) per one thousand dollars of assessed value for collection in 2011 and increase the levy each year thereafter as allowed by chapter 84.55 RCW. Should this proposition be approved or rejected?

Explanatory Statement

A previous voter approved property tax measure that was passed in 2003 which levied \$.82 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation expired on December 31, 2009. This measure would provide for fire protection services and related costs within the City of Stanwood. The measure would restore a levy of \$.82 per \$1,000 of assessed value for a total City property tax levy of \$2.67. Voter approval of this levy will provide funding to the City to maintain an adequate level of fire services.

Statement For

Statement by: Derek Anderson, Ralph Fry, Dave Pinkham

This proposition is not a new tax. It is to re-establish the City of Stanwood fire levy lid lift of \$0.82 which voters approved in 2003. That levy was for the purpose of providing a much needed increase in the City of Stanwood fire protection services. It was a six-year temporary lid lift that expired at the end of 2009. Currently the rate is \$1.85 per \$1000 of assessed valuation, which has reduced the city property tax revenue by more than \$400,000 per year. This levy request for 2011 is to reinstate the already approved amount of \$0.82. This would increase the current rate to \$2.67 per \$1000 valuation. Since 2004 the number of fire department calls has increased 85%, from 984 calls to 1,655 calls. We strongly feel it is vital to keep our city fire department services funded at the level voters already have approved for the purpose of sustaining excellent fire protection in our community.

No Statement Against Submitted