



Shoreline Fire Department
Dedicated to the Protection of Life and Property
Serving the Shoreline Community for Over 75 years, since 1939

FIRE CHIEF
Matt Cowan

COMMISSIONERS
Ken Callahan Rod Heivilin
Kim Fischer Jon Kennison
David Harris

RESOLUTION 15-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SHORELINE FIRE DEPARTMENT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BENEFIT CHARGE; PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON AUGUST 4, 2015, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE IMPOSITION OF A BENEFIT CHARGE ON PERSONAL PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS TO REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE DISTRICT FOR UP TO SIX YEARS; AND, CALLING A PUBLIC HEARING.

**SHORELINE FIRE DEPARTMENT
King County, Washington**

ESTABLISHING BENEFIT CHARGE

Background: WHEREAS, Shoreline Fire Department, “the District” is authorized by chapter 52.18 RCW to establish, impose and collect a benefit charge on personal property and improvements to real property located within the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has determined that the regular real property tax levy income will not be sufficient to cover the cost of the operations of the District needed to maintain a satisfactory level of District services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has determined that the benefit charge, established in conjunction with a lower level of property taxes provides the most stable, reliable and cost effective method for financing the operations of the District needed to maintain a satisfactory level of District services; and

WHEREAS, the benefit charge will be reasonably proportioned to the measurable benefits to property resulting from the services provided by the District and shall not exceed 60% of the operating budget of the District; and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable and necessary that the District impose a benefit charge to maintain and improve the services provided by the District;

Resolution: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Shoreline Fire Department as follows:

1. **Benefit Charge.** It is the declared intent of the Board of Commissioners to fix and impose a benefit charge on personal property and improvements to real property located within the District, which have or will receive benefits provided by the District to be paid by owners of such properties in compliance with the following statutory procedures.
 - 1.1. **Method of Apportionment.** The benefit charge shall be reasonably proportioned to the measureable benefits to property resulting from the services provided by the District using a method of apportionment established on an annual basis in accordance with RCW 52.18.010, 52.18.030 and 52.18.060(2).
 - 1.2. **Amount of Benefit Charge.** The benefit charge for each year shall be set in the year preceding imposition of the charge after a public hearing to review and establish the amount of the benefit charge pursuant RCW 52.18.060 and shall not exceed 60% of the operating budget of the District.
 - 1.3. **Notice of the Benefit Charge.** Subsequent to the annual public hearing required by RCW 52.18.060(2), property owners will be notified in writing each year of the benefit charge and the amounts thereof to be charged in the subsequent year.
 - 1.4. **Review Board.** Subsequent to the establishing the annual benefit charge and notifying the property owners, the District shall form a review board pursuant to RCW 52.18.070. The review board shall be convened and available for at least a two-week period to hear and decide written appeals from property owners regarding their particular benefit charge assessment.
2. **Effective Date.** If approved by the voters, the benefit charge shall be imposed on the affected properties beginning January 1, 2016.
3. **Contract For Administration.** The Chief of the District is authorized and directed to negotiate a contract with the King County treasurer to provide for the administration and collection of the benefit charge. The contract shall establish the fee to be paid by the District to the County Treasurer and County Assessor for services to be performed under the contract.
4. **Public Hearing.** The Board of Commissioners will schedule a public hearing before the Board at a subsequent date at least ten days prior to the election to specifically set forth and consider the proposal to impose benefit charges for the support of the legally authorized activities of the District to maintain and improve the services provided in the District. The secretary shall cause public notice of the hearing to be published in a legal newspaper circulated within the District not less than ten days prior to the date of the hearing. The secretary shall also post a public notice of the hearing at all fire district stations within the District.

5. **Election.** There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the district for their ratification or rejection, at a special election on August 4, 2015, in conjunction with the state primary election to be held on the same date, the question of whether or not such benefit charge for fire protection purposes shall be authorized. The Board of Commissioners hereby requests that the Auditor of King County, as ex-officio Supervisor of Elections, call such special election, and to submit the following proposition at such election, in the form of a ballot titled substantially as follows:

PROPOSITION

Shoreline Fire Department

Shall Shoreline Fire Department be authorized to impose benefit charges each year for six years, not to exceed an amount equal to sixty percent of its operating budget, and be prohibited from imposing an additional property tax under RCW 52.16.160?


YES

NO

Adoption: ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Shoreline Fire Department, Washington, at an open public meeting of such Board on the 7th day of May, 2015, the following Commissioners being present and voting:




Jon Kennison, Board Chair



Kimberly A. Fischer, Vice Chair


Ken Callahan, Commissioner


David Harris, Commissioner


Rod Heivilin, Commissioner

Attest:


Joyce Brown, Secretary