



# Clallam County Fire District 3

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f ClallamFD3

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 8, 2018  
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### **Clallam County Fire District 3 hosts public meetings about lid lift**

SEQUIM, WASH. – Clallam County Fire District 3 is hosting two public meetings to answer questions from the community about its upcoming general levy lid lift to fund emergency services. The meetings will take place on October 13 (10:00 a.m.) and October 16 (12 noon) at 323 North 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Sequim.

Attendees on October 13 also will have the chance to witness physical agility testing for potential volunteer firefighters. This means people will witness men and women climbing ladders, moving heavy equipment, and carrying dummies as part of the requirement to be a firefighter.

The fire district has spent the past year and a half communicating with local residents about increasing call volumes and revenue that is not keeping up with demand for service. It predicts that the cost to respond to emergency calls will exceed revenue in 2019 and start draining reserves to maintain current service levels.

“We share information in good times and bad with our community,” said Fire Chief Ben Andrews. “And we want to make sure our citizens have the information they need before they vote.”

Clallam County Fire District 3 is asking voters to consider a levy lid lift of 24-cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value during the November 6 General Election. This would return the general levy for emergency services from \$1.26 to \$1.50/\$1,000. If approved, it would mean an additional \$5 per month for the owner of a \$250,000 home.

Voters originally approved a general levy of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed property value in 2004. Levy rates fall as property values rise and the fire district is limited to roughly the same amount of revenue per year (plus a one percent increase allowed by law). The one percent increase is less than inflation and not keeping up with the cost to provide service through increasing call volumes.

Community members are encouraged to attend one of the meetings, or contact Chief Andrews with their questions at (360) 683-4242 or [bandrews@ccfd3.org](mailto:bandrews@ccfd3.org). More information also can be found on the web site at [www.ccf3.org](http://www.ccf3.org).

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*Since 1914 residents of Clallam County have volunteered their time and financial support to provide emergency services for the greater Sequim community. Today Clallam County Fire District 3 provides a 24-hour fire and emergency medical response to 30,000 people with a combination of volunteer, part-time, and full-time personnel. We respond to an average of 7,300 emergency calls per year, and appreciate the support from our community.*