

The Snoqualmie Pass Fire and Rescue Board of Commissioners recently authorized a ballot measure asking the voters of Snoqualmie Pass whether the levy lid should be lifted. This proposition will appear on the November, 2007 ballot. The measure, if approved, would re-establish the \$0.90 levy that voters approved in 2005.

Approval of this proposition will allow for continued evaluation of the new Headquarters Station 291 project (most funding for the new fire station is expected to come from outside sources); some implementation of the recently approved long range plan; and along with other revenue sources, some help towards a full time Fire Fighter/EMT.

SPFR's levy ballot measure meets the requirements of Initiative 747, which was enacted by the voters of the State of Washington in November of 2001, mandating that any increase in revenue of more than 1%, over the previous year, be approved by the voters.

The Board also approved the hiring of TCA Architects to design the new Station 291. TCA Architects has designed over 180 Fire Stations and has extensive experience with sustainable design, as well as Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED).

The hiring is timely as HR1285 (The Snoqualmie Pass Land Conveyance Act), which would convey a small parcel of Forest Service land to build the new station, recently passed out of the U.S. House of Representatives. Prior to a Senate companion bill being introduced, SPFR is undergoing an initial environmental scoping with help from Charlie Raines (of the Sierra Club) to address concerns from environmental and conservation groups. It is expected that TCA Architects will be able to help address some of the concerns that have been raised.

A presentation on NORCOM was given by Tracy Burrows of the City of Kirkland. NORCOM is being formed as a consolidated dispatch agency for Police and Fire Departments in NE King County. The Board is expected to formalize its intent to be part of the new dispatch agency at its next meeting in September. Current dispatch services for Snoqualmie Pass Fire and Rescue are provided by Eastside Dispatch. Once NORCOM is up and running, Eastside Dispatch will cease to exist.

In other business, Snoqualmie Pass Fire and Rescue's long range plan was also approved. This document addresses the needs of the Fire Department for the next ten years.