

House Calls



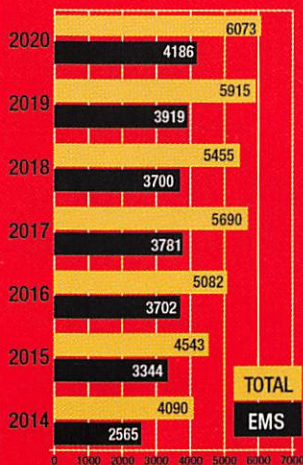
NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 9

WINTER/SPRING 2021

48%
INCREASE
IN INCIDENTS
SINCE 2014



SCFD9 INCIDENT CALL VOLUME



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What Prop. 1, the Replacement Maintenance & Operations (M&O) Levy Ballot Measure, Means to You

FUNDING FOR SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 9 COMES SOLELY FROM PROPERTY TAXES. The regular property tax levy generates about 40% of our revenue, and an annual M&O levy – approved by the voters – generates the remainder. Revenue from the regular levy supports the District's basic fire services with our volunteer personnel, while the M&O levy supports 24/7 career staffing, advanced life support (paramedics) and emergency medical services. Together, these funding sources support the existing level of service district-wide.

The current M&O levy expires on December 31, 2021, and the proposed M&O levies will replace the expiring levy and provide funding for 2022, 2023 and 2024. These annual M&O levies are for specific dollar amounts so they will not increase if assessed property values increase.



Instead, any further increase in assessed value will result in a reduction of your tax rate for the M&O levy.

You'll find the 2022, 2023 and 2024 M&O levy renewals on your April 27th ballot.

SPECIAL MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS (M&O) LEVY

- Fire District revenue is generated solely from property taxes.
- Proposition 1 is for calendar years 2022, 2023 and 2024.
- Proposition 1 is a replacement levy for the expiring 2019, 2020 and 2021 M&O levy. **This is NOT A NEW TAX.**
- Used for the maintenance and operations costs of your fire and emergency medical services.
- The Special M&O levy funds approximately 60% of our total budget.
- The Special M&O levy provides the funding to maintain existing service levels (both staffing and services).
- Proposition 1 will be on the April 27th special election ballot.
- The 2022, 2023 and 2024 M&O levy rates are estimated to be \$1.74, \$1.76 and \$1.77 per \$1,000 of AV, or \$261, \$264 and \$265.50 on a \$150,000 home.
- The Special M&O levy requires a super-majority 60% "yes" vote to pass.
- The Special M&O levy requires at least 40% of the number of voters from the last general election.



LOOK FOR YOUR BALLOT IN THE MAIL STARTING APRIL 7TH.



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HOUSE CALLS is a publication of
Spokane County Fire District 9

Jack Cates, Fire Chief
Michael R. Atwood, Commissioner
James E. Bennett, Commissioner
Thomas R. McGarry, Commissioner

*****ECRWSH**R 001

Current Resident
16418 N Birdie Rd
Nine Mile Falls WA 99026-9602



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11536



A Message from the Chief

2020 WAS AN ESPECIALLY CHALLENGING YEAR FOR ALL OF US. OVERNIGHT OUR COLLECTIVE WAY OF LIFE CHANGED. BUT AT FIRE DISTRICT 9, WE DID NOT CHANGE THE WAY WE PROVIDE SERVICE TO YOU. We took some extra precautions in order to keep you and our personnel safe, but there was no impact on the way we treated you or your loved ones in times of need. We saw yet another increase in calls for service, eclipsing 6,000 calls for the first time in District history. We experienced an unprecedented wildfire season that saw a record amount of forestland burned and unprecedented loss of life. Yet through it all your firefighters never wavered. 24/7 fire and EMS care from our 9 fire stations was the one constant in a world of unknowns. At the same time, your firefighters continue to do their parts to move our community forward. Through *Operation Warm* they delivered over 200 coats to children in need. They supported less fortunate local families at Christmas with food and presents, and once again brought Santa to the neighborhoods of Fire 9.

OUR FIREFIGHTERS AND PARAMEDICS STAND AT THE READY TO SERVE YOU IN YOUR TIME OF NEED.

From all of us at Fire 9, we are indeed proud to continue to bring you the best fire protection and advanced life support care possible. Our firefighters and paramedics stand at the ready to serve you in your time of need. We are grateful for the support you have shown us over the years and promise to continue our unwavering service in order to maintain your trust in us.



JACK CATES, FIRE CHIEF,
SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #9