

ON YOUR BALLOT:  
Renewal of the Fire Benefit Charge



**EASTSIDE FIRE & RESCUE**

**KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 10**

*Proud Partner of Eastside Fire & Rescue*

175 Newport Way NW,

Issaquah, WA 98027

[www.eastsidefire-rescue.org](http://www.eastsidefire-rescue.org)



## What's on my ballot?

King County Fire District 10 is asking voters to renew its fire benefit charge before it expires at the end of the year. The measure is on the August 3 Primary Election ballot.

## What is a fire benefit charge?

King County Fire District 10 funds fire protection service with a fire levy and a voter-approved fire benefit charge. A fire levy is based on a property's assessed value. A fire benefit charge is based on the size of a property and its risk of fire. Smaller properties (like single family homes) are charged less than larger ones (like commercial developments) because it takes fewer resources to defend them in a fire.

## How does it work?

With a fire benefit charge, the fire levy is reduced from \$1.50 to \$1 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. The fire benefit charge is then set annually at a public hearing to cover operation costs above what the fire levy funds. The fire benefit charge accounts for 23 percent of emergency services funding this year.

## Is this a new charge?

No. Fire District 10 voters first approved a fire benefit charge in 2003 and have renewed it every six years since then. More than two dozen communities have a fire benefit charge because voters believe it is a fairer way to fund emergency services.

## How much is the fire benefit charge?

The fire benefit charge has declined from an average of \$0.68 in 2017 to \$0.29 per \$1,000 of assessed property value in 2021. Your property tax statement shows the total amount you paid.



**Eastside Fire & Rescue** was formed by King County Fire District 10 and the City of Issaquah. A year later, the cities of North Bend, Sammamish and King County Fire District 38 joined. Each city and fire district fund emergency services separately and contribute revenue to the partnership.

*Fire Chief Jeff Clark is available to answer questions at (425) 313-3201 or [jclark@esf-r.org](mailto:jclark@esf-r.org).  
More information is available at [www.eastsidefire-rescue.org/154/Fire-District-10](http://www.eastsidefire-rescue.org/154/Fire-District-10).*