

North Whatcom Fire and Rescue

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To the editor:

North Whatcom Fire and Rescue passed a resolution to place a fire levy lid lift on the August primary election ballot. This decision was made after several months of discussion and meetings with our community.

I've been in the fire service for over 40 years. This process engaged the most people I've ever seen. Residents had thoughtful questions, ideas and discussion, which made our plan stronger.

Priority one for our community is protecting the level and quality of emergency services residents require. This means hiring additional firefighters to reduce response times and putting an additional EMS unit in the field. (Emergency Medical Service accounts for 71% of our calls.)

More firefighters are important. They also need reliable fire engines and medical equipment to do their job. The lid lift would also replace apparatus and equipment that has reached the end of their usable lives.

We look forward to continuing the conversation as the election nears. You also can find more information at <u>www.nwfrs.net</u>.

Thank you,

Bruce Ansell, Chair Board of Fire Commissioners North Whatcom Fire and Rescue