

FIRE & RESCUE

When **seconds** count...



Serving the cities of Yelm, Rainier, and surrounding unincorporated areas.

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Commissioners

Jonathan Sprouffske, Chair
Steven Slater, Vice Chair
Jeff Dehan
Stewart Kunkel
Dave Shepherd
Kevin Rademacher

Fire Chief

Mark King

Commissioner Meetings

(Open to the Public) SE Thurston Fire Authority Commissioner Meetings.

Date: 1st Thursday every month

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Headquarter Station #21
709 Mill Road SE, Yelm

Office (360) 458-2799

www.setfa.org

Mission Statement

To prevent Loss of Life, Personal Injury and Damage from Fire, Disaster and Medical Emergencies through: Emergency Response, Training, Public Education and Information.

Made Possible By

S.E. Thurston Regional Fire Authority's newsletter, "Fire & Rescue – When Seconds Count," made possible through the generous donation of Nisqually Tribal Council.

2016 Levy Lid Lift on ballot to Restore 2007 Levy Rate



Jonathan Sprouffske,
Chair, SETFA Fire
Commissioner



Chief Mark King

From 2011 to 2013 S.E. Thurston Fire Authority experienced an unprecedented loss in revenue exceeding \$700,000. In response the Fire Authority eliminated five positions, froze all base wage and cost of living increases, successfully applied for, and received, 1.2 million in federal grants, as well as established partnerships with neighboring jurisdictions to share cost. The prior levy lid lift, which was approved

by the voters, expired in 2013. Your board of commissioners made a conscious decision to wait three years before re-running the proposition. It was our intention to help citizens recover from the downturn in the economy. The fire commissioners and Chief King's decision to ask the community to restore our prior funding levels is not a decision that your department leadership takes lightly.

Although S.E. Thurston Fire Authority has been able to maintain service levels, call volume has increased 17%, over the past 5 years, we have exhausted all cost cutting and revenue generating measures, and in addition our federal grant for staffing is set to expire in 2017. Consequently S.E. Thurston Fire Commissioners are placing a multi-year lid lift proposition before the voters on August 2, 2016. This levy, if passed, will restore the 2007 regular property tax levy which expired in 2013 to the maximum statutory rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value. If passed, this levy will allow the authority to maintain our current levels of service.

What's the cost?

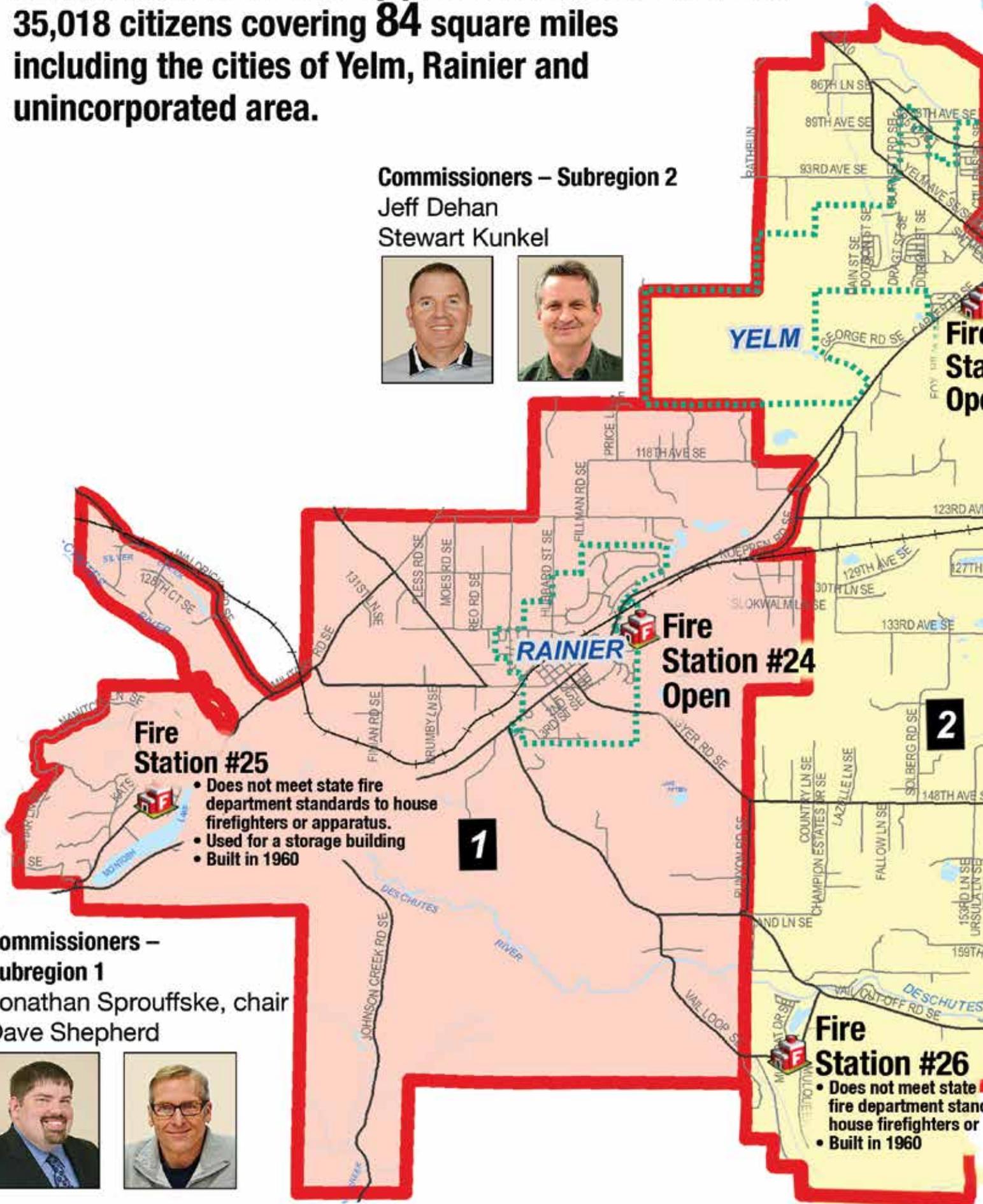
70¢



– less than the cost of a candy bar per month on a \$275,000 home.

SE Thurston Fire Authority provides services to about 35,018 citizens covering 84 square miles including the cities of Yelm, Rainier and unincorporated area.

Commissioners – Subregion 2
 Jeff Dehan
 Stewart Kunkel



Fire Station #25

- Does not meet state fire department standards to house firefighters or apparatus.
- Used for a storage building
- Built in 1960

Fire Station #24 Open

Fire Station #26

- Does not meet state fire department standards to house firefighters or
- Built in 1960

Commissioners – Subregion 1

Jonathan Sprouffske, chair
 Dave Shepherd



Restoring the 2007 Levy

Commissioners – Subregion 3
Kevin Rademacher
Steven Slater, vice chair



If approved, what will this levy do?

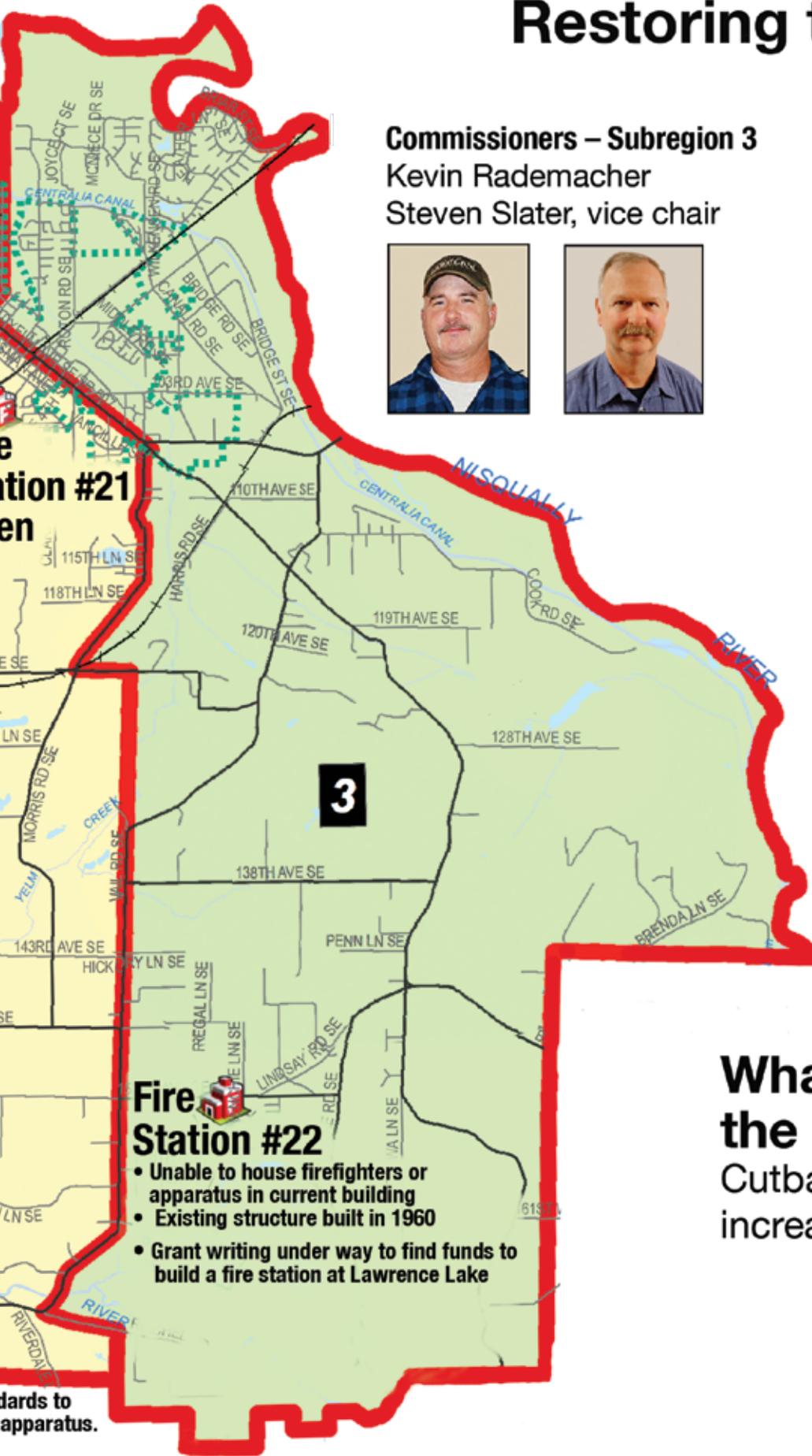
- Maintain current levels of emergency medical services/fire protection.
- Continue to staff Yelm and Rainier stations 24/7.
- Improve ambulance transport services.
- Continue the volunteer program.
- Purchase fire fighter gear which costs \$4,500 per person.
- Repair and replace aging fire trucks & ambulances.

What happens if the levy is rejected?

Cutbacks in service, and increased response times.

For more information:

www.setfa.org
(360) 458-2799



Fire Station #22

- Unable to house firefighters or apparatus in current building
- Existing structure built in 1960
- Grant writing under way to find funds to build a fire station at Lawrence Lake

ards to
apparatus.

SE Thurston Fire Authority Accepting Volunteer Applications

Must:

- Be at least 21 years old
- Have a high school diploma (or equivalent)
- Have a good driving record
- Pass a criminal background check

Must pass tests:

- Board interview
- Oral
- Written
- Physical agility
- Medical evaluation by doctor

For questions, email m.fogarty@setfa.org or volcor@setfa.org, or call (360) 458-2799.



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**In An Emergency –
Call 9-1-1**

Possible Insurance Premium Savings

SE Thurston Fire Improves Fire Protection Rating to Some Property Owners

You should contact your insurance company and inquire about your property insurance premium savings.

A recent evaluation and assessment by the Washington Survey and Rating Bureau (WSRB) of the fire departments' fire stations, apparatus, staffing needs, and training and emergency service delivery capabilities resulted in a substantial rating improvement.

Each insurance carrier is different, residents and business owners in the area should check with their insurance carrier.



The accomplishment results from years of planning, development and voter support to fund improvements.

The voters have recognized the importance of and invested in developing and maintaining quality emergency services. Now the Rating Bureau has recognized the community's efforts by reducing their insurance premiums in some areas. If you have questions please contact Chief Mark King, (360) 458-2799.

Grant Writing Underway for Lawrence Lake Fire Station

Grant writing efforts are underway to find funding to build a fire station at Lake Lawrence to serve citizens at Lake Lawrence and in the Vail Road area. The proposed new station is needed to shorten response time on calls for service from stations in Yelm and Rainier that are presently staffed 24/7.

The outdated Station #22 at Lake Lawrence and the Vail Rd. Station #26 have been out of service for many years and do not meet state standards for fire stations where firefighters would be on duty 24/7.

Chief Mark King will be submitting the grant request to legislators for consideration as a capital budget request during the 2017 legislative session.

Disclaimer: This publication of the SE Thurston Fire Authority contains opinions, interpretations, assumptions and predictions of various authors. The management and WMS do not make warranties with respect to accuracy, reliability or completeness of the information in this publication. Its purpose is to enhance awareness of the fire district and disseminate information that is of vital concern to the public. Comments from the public are encouraged and should be sent to: Chief Mark King, PO Box 777, Yelm, WA 98597, or call (360) 458-2799.