



## Elections & Passports Division

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## NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF BALLOT TITLE

Notice is hereby given that a ballot title for a measure referred by **Philomath Fire & Rescue District** was filed with the Benton County Clerk on **February 20, 2026**. The ballot measure will appear on the **May 19, 2026 Primary Election** ballot.

The Ballot Title caption, question and summary follow:

Caption: Five-Year Local Operating Levy for Fire Rescue Personnel and Operations

Question: Shall the district levy \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value for five years to fund general operations beginning 2027-2028? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

Summary: The District is seeking a local operating levy to fund continuing operational expenses. The new proposed operating levy is \$.50 per \$1,000 and will start in July 2027 and expire in 2032. The bond expiring in June of 2027 for buildings and updating emergency response vehicles levied \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

The District will use this revenue to maintain services and staffing as expenses have increases relating to personnel and operational costs, which enables Philomath Fire and Rescue to continue the current level of fire and rescue response to our community.

Philomath Fire and Rescue provides fire and life safety services within the territory of the Fire District, 24/7 via a combination of paid professional staff and trained volunteers. Without this funding, the District may have to reduce staffing levels and reduce the level of services to the community.

The proposed rate will raise approximately \$566,292 in 2027-2028, \$583,281 in 2028-2029, \$600,780 in 2029-2030, \$618,803 in 2030-2031, and \$637,367 in 2031-2032, for a total over five years of \$3,006,523.

As indicated by **ORS 255.155**, an elector may file petition for review of this ballot title in Benton County Circuit Court no later than 5:00 PM on **March 3, 2026**, seventh business day after the ballot title is filed.