A BETTER PLAN FOR THE FUTURE: THE FIRE BENEFIT CHARGE (FBC)

Matching Rising Demand with Stabilized Funding



South King Fire has a better plan for the future to stabilize funding with the Fire Benefit Charge (FBC), known as Proposition 1 on the August 6, 2024 ballot.

Emergency 911 calls now exceed 25,000 annually, signifying a 54% increase compared to a decade ago. Due to population growth, higher density, and community need, additional resources are now required. The FBC creates a more fair and stabilized funding approach to address the rising demand for fire and emergency services.

KEY FACTS ABOUT THE FBC

- ☑ The FBC is not a tax.
- ☑ The FBC is a fee based on structure size, property use, and fire risk factors.
- ☑ Exemptions and discounts apply.
- ☑ If approved, it will lower regular property taxes and eliminate need for renewed M&O levy.
- ☑ Single-family homeowners generally pay less under the FBC.
- ☑ The FBC requires a 60% majority vote.

Remember to vote Aug. 6, 2024

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- The FBC is a more fair and stabilized funding approach. **If the FBC is approved, it will lower regular property taxes and eliminate the need for a renewed Maintenance & Operations levy**.
- It distributes costs by placing more responsibility on structures with higher fire risk and resource needs. **Smaller structures (such as single-family homes) generally pay less than larger buildings** (i.e. commercial buildings) because it takes fewer resources to protect them in a fire. Here are some examples:

Square Footage	Current Funding Model	**Proposed Funding Model with FBC	Reduction
1,750 SQFT House + 440 SQFT Garage	Property Tax **Total:** $874.82	Property Tax: $549.36 FBC: $283.50 **Total:** $832.86	**$41.96**
2,240 SQFT House + 780 SQFT Garage	Property Tax **Total:** $1,081.38	Property Tax: $679.07 FBC: $342.99 **Total:** $1,022.06	**$59.32**
2,740 SQFT House + 280 SQFT Basement + 960 SQFT Garage	Property Tax **Total:** $1,530.93	Property Tax: $961.38 FBC: $452.08 **Total:** $1,413.46	**$117.47**

*These property tax estimates are based off of 2024 collections according to King County's assessed values.
**FBC rates are estimated using King County's Assessed Value (AV) projections for 2025.

Scan the QR code for FAQs and more!

SCAN ME

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