

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR COUNTY VOTERS' PAMPHLET

Ballot Title Caption: Renewal of 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Operating Fund

Measure Number: 5-299 Word Total (500 maximum): 429

Governing Body: Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District

Person Responsible for Content: Dannell Hooper, Acting Executive Director

Signature: _____

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The Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District Operating Levy is due for a five-year renewal.

Not an Additional Tax, But Instead a Five-Year Renewal of the Current Levy
This measure does not create an additional tax burden. Instead, it seeks a renewal of the current Operating Fund levy, which will end on June 30, 2024. The renewal measure requires approval by a majority of the voters to maintain Columbia 9-1-1 services at its current level.

The Unchanged Tax Rate Will Maintain Emergency Service Levels
This Operating Fund renewal measure is requested at the same tax rate approved by voters in 2019. Its passage would maintain emergency communications service operations that benefit all citizens in Columbia County.

Levy Renewal Rate
The Operating Fund levy renewal would be at a rate of 29 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value, added to the permanent rate of 25.54 cents per \$1,000 assessed value. For a home assessed at \$100,000, the annual combined cost of the permanent and requested renewal levy would be \$54.54 per year.

Citizen Reliance On Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District Services
The requested five-year Operating Fund levy supports all ongoing functions of the 9-1-1 call center, such as 24-hour staffing, training, and coordination with local and state emergency operations. Renewal of the funding will maintain the current level of emergency services citizens receive. On average, the 9-1-1 call center answers about 213 calls daily and 77,899 emergency calls annually.