

# FIRELINE



## MEDIC ONE LEVY PROPOSAL WILL BE ON NOVEMBER BALLOT

The acclaimed Medic One system that delivers the highest cardiac arrest survival rate in the world will be fully funded under a new six-year levy proposal that will appear on your ballot this November 6. Shoreline Medic One, which serves Shoreline, Northshore, Lake Forest Park and Bothell is part of that system.

The King County Council worked with city elected officials and emergency service providers across King County to come up with the funding plan.

Every six years the levy process provides the region with the opportunity to review and evaluate the state of the Medic One system and present those recommendations to voters.

“The cities, fire districts, and the County have worked to present voters with a

levy that gives emergency responders the funding they need to do critical, life-saving work,” says King County Executive Ron Sims. “In addition to maintaining emergency medical services, the levy also looks ahead to paramedic service needs in the next six years, and also gives us a contingency fund for quick response to disasters such as earthquakes or flu pandemic.”

Shoreline Medic One includes 28 highly trained firefighter paramedics, who staff three medic units in the area. They respond to an average of 14 calls a day. Most often these calls involve life-threatening medical emergencies.

*The Medic One levy will appear on the November 6 General Election Ballot.*

The new levy would replace a six year tax expiring this year. The new levy would start in 2008 at 30 cents per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation. It

would raise an estimated \$623 million dollars over six years.

The levy requires a 60% majority vote to pass.

The first EMS levy was passed by voters back in 1979. Funding from the levy includes full support for paramedic services, and a portion for emergency medical technicians. The remainder is provided by local Fire Departments. The levy also supports training and continuing education for responders and dispatchers.



Paramedics and emergency medical technicians work side by side. EMT's are trained to stabilize the patient. They do rapid assessment, CPR, bandaging, splinting, and transporting non-critical patients. They can administer a few medications.

Paramedics perform life support skills like I.V. and drug treatments, diagnostic patient assessment, advanced airway, and cardiac care. Paramedics are trained to treat patients in the field.

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF SHORELINE MEDIC ONE

They are Shoreline Medic One firefighter/paramedics. They are highly trained at the U-W School of Medicine and Harborview Medical Center. Covering Shoreline, Bothell, Northshore and Lake Forest Park, they respond to as many as 15 or more calls in 24-hours.

Here is a look at some 9-1-1 calls that could be handled by one of three Medic units.

- 8:26 a.m.** Chest pain. 67 year old male at Fred Meyer.
- 8:43 a.m.** Trauma. Car-pedestrian accident at elementary school.
- 9:18 a.m.** Woman reports her 18 month old baby is not breathing.
- 2:12 p.m.** Difficulty breathing. 48 year old asthma patient at public pool.
- 2:41 p.m.** Vomiting, nausea, fainting. 37 year old female at work.
- 3:10 p.m.** Trauma. 5 car pileup on I-5 at 175<sup>th</sup>.
- 3:58 p.m.** Seizure. Elderly male in local tavern.
- 6:39 p.m.** Diabetic emergency. Combative, 29 year old at recreation center.
- 8:18 p.m.** Unconscious. 72 year old male. CPR in progress upon arrival.
- 9:10 p.m.** Trauma. 16 year old fell and hit head at skate park.
- 11:58 p.m.** Chest pain. 88 year old male.
- 4:39 a.m.** Difficulty breathing. 9 year old girl.
- 6:53 a.m.** Imminent childbirth. Aurora Avenue North.
- 8:00 a.m.** Go home for 24 hour rest. Return to work at 0800 for the next shift!