

PROPOSITION NO. 1
PROPOSED FORMATION OF SHORELINE FIRE DEPARTMENT REGIONAL FIRE
AUTHORITY

BALLOT ISSUE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
(250 Word Limit)

After decades of working cooperatively to provide fire and emergency medical services in the Shoreline, Lake Forest Park, and Kenmore communities, the Boards of Commissioners of the Shoreline Fire Departments and King County Fire Protection District No. 16 d/b/a Northshore Fire Department jointly prepared and approved a plan to formally create and merge fire, rescue, and emergency medical operations of both Fire Districts into a Regional Fire Authority (“RFA”) under chapter 52.26. RCW.

If voters approve Proposition 1, the Shoreline and Northshore Fire Departments will create the Shoreline Fire Department Regional Fire Authority (“SHFD”) as a RFA effective May 1, 2025. The SHFD will operate under a governing board consisting of ten governing members, initially filled by seated fire Commissioners of both fire districts.

The SHFD will be funded by a fire benefit charge, and a property tax not to exceed \$.70 per thousand of assessed valuation to be levied in 2025 and collected in 2026. The SHFD property tax and fire benefit charge will replace the regular property tax levies and existing fire benefit charges of the Shoreline and Northshore Fire Departments.

The SHFD is designed to improve levels of service across all three communities, create financial and logistical efficiencies and savings, and ensure local geographical representation on the RFA governing board. The RFA has been discussed for many years, provides an opportunity for emergency service improvements, and will also support long-term sustainability and allow for future partnership opportunities. To view the complete RFA Plan, please visit: <https://shorelinefire.com/news/regional-fire-authority-ballot-measure>.