JOSEPHINE COUNTY VOTERS' PAMPHLET

Official Special Election | November 7, 2023

Voting Instructions

Examine your Official Ballot and locate the response of your choice. To vote, you must completely darken the oval () to the left of the response of your choice with black or blue ink.



If you vote **both** Yes **and** No on a measure, it is called an overvote. Your vote **will not count** for that measure.



Contact Josephine County Elections to request a replacement if:

- you make a mistake
- your ballot is damaged or spoiled
- your ballot is lost or for any other reason.

Voter Registration

The deadline to register to vote is the 21st day before an election.

Registering to Vote

To vote in Oregon you need to be registered in the county where you reside. You can register if you can answer yes to these three questions:

- Are you a resident of Oregon?
- Are you a U.S. citizen?
- Are you at least 16 years of age?

If you are 16 or 17 years of age, you will not receive a ballot until an election occurs on or after your 18th birthday.

How to register

You can register to vote online at www.oregonvotes.gov or you can get a voter registration card at any of the following places:

- any county elections office
- the Secretary of State's office
- some state agencies such as the Division of Motor Vehicles
- a voter registration drive

You can fill the card out in person or send it in by US mail. You can also print out a registration card online at www.oregonvotes.gov.

Updating your voter registration

Once you have registered, you are responsible for keeping your information up to date. You can do this online at www.oregonvotes.gov or by completing and returning a voter registration card with the new information.

Josephine County Official Ballot Dropsite Locations

Open from October 18 until 8 p.m., November 7, 2023

Josephine County Courthouse:

County Clerk's Office (7:50 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday.)

Open 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. on Election Day

Justice Building side, ground floor next to the elevator (24 hours / 7 days)

Next to the "C" Street Entrance (Tax Office Entrance) (24 hours / 7 days)

South Grants Pass:

Washington Federal, 290 Union Avenue, front parking lot (24 hours / 7 days)

Library Drive-up - Grants Pass Branch:

Parking lot behind library. Enter from "C" Street (24 hours / 7 days)

Merlin:

Please note new location
Rays Food Place, 3500 Merlin Rd., parking lot; next to the drive-up USPS Blue Mail Box (24 hours / 7 days)

Murphy:

Hidden Valley Market, in front, on the left side of the building (24 hours / 7 days)

Cave Junction:

Cave Junction City Hall, near front entrance (24 hours / 7 days)

Return your ballot

- By mail (must be postmarked by Election Day)
- At any Official Ballot Drop Site by 8 p.m. Election Day

Josephine County Elections

web: www.josephinecounty.gov email: clerk@josephinecounty.gov

ph: (541) 474-5243

ORS 254.445 Assistance in Marking Ballot; Allowances and Limitations

Any voter who, due to a disability or inability to read or write, is unable to mark their ballot may receive assistance. The assistance is provided either by two persons of different political parties provided by the county clerk or by some other person chosen by the voter. Any person assisting a voter must follow the direction of the voter as to how to vote the ballot. Also, the person assisting the voter must not afterwards give out any information about how the voter voted. Additionally, a person may not provide such assistance if they are an employer of the voter or an agent of the employer. Also, a person may not provide such assistance if they are an officer or agent of a union of which the voter is a member.

Translation Information

Selected portions of this county voters' pamphlet are available in Simplified Chinese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese. These translations can be found online at oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP

本县选民手册的部分内容提供简体中文版本。可以访 oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP 获取译本。

주 유권자 팜플렛의 선택된 부분은 한국어 준비되어 있습니다. 번역은 온라인 oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP 에서 찾아볼 수 있습니다.

Отдельные части брошюр избирателей этого округа доступны на русском языке. С данными переводами можно ознакомиться в Интернете по адресу: oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP

Algunas secciones de este folleto para votantes del condado están disponibles en español. Estas traducciones están disponibles en línea en oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP

Các phần được chọn trong tập thông tin cho cử tri quận này có bản ngôn ngữ tiếng Việt. Bản dịch có thể xem trực tuyến tại oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP

In 2021, the Oregon Legislature passed the Voter Language Access Bill (HB 3021) requiring the Secretary of State to translate portions of state and county voters' pamphlets into Oregon's and the county's most spoken languages. The law seeks to remove barriers to voting for those who are not fully proficient in English.

To help in this effort, the Translation Advisory Council was created. The Council is made up of volunteer community members who represent the ethnic, linguistic, and cultural diversity of Oregon voters. Council members make sure state and county translations are accurate and retain the original tone and meaning in a culturally appropriate manner.

Measure 17-114 City of Grants Pass

17-114

Five-year City Police & Fire Local Option Tax.

QUESTION: Shall Grants Pass renew a levy of \$1.79 per \$1,000 dedicated to funding Police and Fire?

SUMMARY: This levy renews the current City Police and Fire Local Option levy ending June 30, 2024. Funds raised by the levy would be used solely for Grants Pass Police and Fire operations.

What a YES vote will do:

Renew funding of the levy to continue Police and Fire response services - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for five years starting July 1, 2024.

Public Safety services include:

Neighborhood patrols, Detectives, Criminal investigation, Traffic enforcement, Drug enforcement, Gang prevention, 911/Dispatch services, SWAT/Negotiation Teams

Fire Services include:

Fire protection, Fire response, Wildfire prevention efforts, Medical response, Technical rescue, Crisis support

What a NO vote will do:

Result in a 21% loss in current Public Safety funding. Not funding the levy may result in a reduction or elimination of the services listed above.

This 5-year local option levy of \$1.79 per \$1,000 assessed value would be dedicated to City Police and Fire operations. The levy would be approximately \$380 per year for the average Grants Pass home.

Explanatory Statement

Continuation of current Police and Fire Service. This local option tax is a renewal of the current City Police and Fire levy at exactly the same rate.

- Since 1986, City voters have funded Police and Fire by approving levies
- 1996 \$4.13 per thousand set as Permanent Property Tax Rate for City. This amount alone is insufficient to fund Police and Fire services.
- 1998 Local option tax levy established to help fund Police and Fire operational services. This levy must be renewed by voters. All local option tax levy monies are dedicated to Police and Fire operations.
- 2010 \$1.79 current local option tax rate approved by voters.
 It has been renewed for one five-year levy, and two three-year levies, for a total of 11 years.
- This current local option tax rate expires June 30, 2024.

If approved, the levy would remain unchanged from the levy that will expire June 30, 2024. The proposed levy would be dedicated to City Police and Fire services for the next five years.

Police and Fire Funding. Permanent property tax revenues are insufficient to fund Public Safety at the current service level. Police and Fire local option taxes, such as this one, have been approved to provide Public Safety funding.

Maintain Current Police and Fire Services. This local option tax rate levy would maintain current services including Police and Fire/Rescue emergency responses 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Other services include:

- 911 dispatch services
- · Traffic enforcement

- · Vehicle crash/emergency medical response
- · Gang prevention
- Crime/fire prevention
- · Detectives/Major crime investigations
- K-9 program
- · Drug enforcement
- SWAT/Negotiation Team
- · Community policing/school programs
- Crisis support services
- · Fire protection/response
- · Wildfire prevention

Tax Impacts. This proposal is for a five-year local option tax levy dedicated to City Police and Fire services from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2029. The tax rate for this levy would be \$1.79 per \$1,000 of assessed value, which is approximately \$6,718,700 in Fiscal Year 2025, \$6,853,100 in Fiscal Year 2026, \$6,990,200 in Fiscal Year 2027, \$7,130,000 in Fiscal Year 2028, and \$7,272,600 in Fiscal Year 2029. The average Grants Pass home would pay \$380 per year in Fiscal Year 2025.

Renewal of Current Local Option Taxes. Renewing the local option tax would continue to provide tax funding for Public Safety. Currently 21% of Public Safety budget is funded by the local option tax rate. If the levy is not approved, this tax resource would not be available to Public Safety. A loss of 21 % to the Public Safety budget may impact the ability to provide Police and Fire response time standards for emergency calls. If approved, the levy rate would remain unchanged from the levy that will expire June 30, 2024.

A "yes" vote would be in favor of the local option tax levy. A "no" vote would be against the local option tax levy.

(This information furnished by Karen Frerk, City Recorder, City of Grants Pass.)

Measure 17-115 Josephine County

17-115

Form Law Enforcement Service District with Permanent Tax Rate Limit

QUESTION: Shall County Law Enforcement District be formed with permanent rate limit of \$0.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value beginning 2024-2025?

SUMMARY: This measure would form the Josephine County Law Enforcement Service District. Passage of this measure would establish, beginning in fiscal year 2024-2025, a permanent tax rate limit of \$0.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The tax would cost approximately \$153.86 per year for property with an assessed value of \$155,410 (median assessed value in Josephine County). In the first year of imposition the proposed rate will raise approximately \$5,643,350 for the district.

Tax revenues from this measure would provide dedicated funding for patrol, dispatch and evidence services for residents within the district boundary; including residents within the City of Cave Junction; excluding residents within the City of Grants Pass; and excluding residents within the Urban Growth Boundary of the City of Grants Pass with existing city Public Safety Service and Annexation Agreements.

Formation of this district would:

- · Stabilize county patrol services
- Provide funding for dispatch and evidence services
- · Provide funds that can only be used for law enforcement

The estimated tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the county assessor at the time of the estimate and may reflect the impact of early payment discounts, compression and the collection rate.

Explanatory Statement

In the past, Josephine County has relied on federal funding to pay for basic services. Those funds came from timber receipts from federal O&C lands located in the county. Since the 1990's, logging has decreased, and so has the federal payments to the county. Because of the decrease in timber receipts, beginning in 2000, the federal government made payments to the county under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. Those payments stopped in 2008. Josephine County does receive some funding from other federal and state sources, but those funds are designated for specific programs and services and cannot be used for any other purposes.

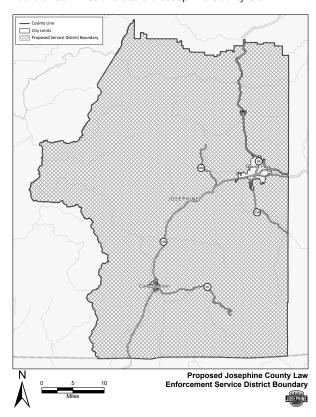
The payments from the federal government provided most of the funding to pay for the Josephine County Sheriff's Office. When the federal payments ended in 2008, the county lost approximately \$12,100,000 per year. This measure is proposed to help make up for the loss of those federal funds.

The Board of County Commissioners initiated formation of the Josephine County Law Enforcement Service District with operating taxes to fund county law enforcement. The Board of County Commissioners has held public hearings on formation of the district and is now referring this matter to the voters. The district would cover Josephine County, including the City of Cave Junction; excluding the City of Grants Pass; and excluding territory within the Urban Growth Boundary of the City of Grants Pass with existing Public Safety Service and Annexation Agreements.

If the voters approve formation of the district and the proposed permanent rate limit, then the district would receive monies to provide dispatch, patrol, and evidence services to residents within the district.

The proposed permanent rate limit for this district is \$0.99 per \$1,000 assessed value. The rate would take effect July 1, 2024. By law, these funds could only be used by the district for law enforcement purposes and could not be used for other county programs.

The district boundaries are as shown in the map provided by the Board of Commissioners to the Josephine County Clerk.



(This information furnished by Josephine County Board of County Commissioners.)

Measure 17-115 Arguments

Argument in Favor

Your Local Chambers of Commerce urge you to Vote YES on the Josephine County Law Enforcement Service District. The Grants Pass & Josephine County Chamber of Commerce and Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors support the Law Enforcement Service District to fund our Sheriff's Office. More than ever funding for Sheriff patrols, evidence, and dispatch are critical to our community's growth and wellbeing.

This Service District will provide stable funding to allow our Sheriff's Office to adequately operate and maintain service levels. We appreciate that the County Sheriff's Department is operating within their existing budget while providing quality service. The Sheriff's Office needs these resources to remain operational and provide services for our community such as patrol, evidence and dispatch. Stable funding will also allow the Sheriff to train and keep deputies. Retention is important for a successful Sheriff's Office and saves money in retraining new employees. These services are essential. Josephine County must pass this Service District to maintain our current services and protect our community. An adequately funded and staffed Sheriff's Office is imperative for a healthy and growing local economy . The Josephine County Law Enforcement Service District is proposed at 99 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. It is fiscally responsible; and it allows the Sheriff's Office to focus on keeping our community safe and allow businesses to grow and prosper. The rate can only be changed by the vote of the people.

The Grants Pass & Josephine County Chamber of Commerce and Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce support our Sheriff's Office. Join us in voting YES for the Josephine County Law Enforcement Service District.

(This information furnished by Josie Molloy, Grants Pass & Josephine County Chamber of Commerce.)

Argument in Favor

Vote YES for the Law Enforcement Service District

Your Sheriff and Your County Need Your Help!

In cooperation with a group of concerned citizens, Sheriff Dave Daniel has placed Measure 17- 115 on the ballot to form a law enforcement service district to stabilize county patrols and support a safer community.

The funding will pay for 20 fulltime county patrol officers, 6.25 dispatch operators, and 1.5 evidence technicians.

Since the passage of a levy to support juvenile detention and adult jail services In May 2017 and 2021, the Sheriff's Office has relied on general fund dollars and one-time ARPA monies for county patrol services, along with dispatch and evidence.

Measure 17-115 will replace the loss of federal funds and create a foundation for public safety and crime prevention. It is the first step in stabilizing law enforcement in rural Josephine County.

By law, these funds can only be used by the district for patrol, dispatch, and evidence services and can NOT be used for other county programs.

Measure 17-115 will form a five-member Citizen Advisory Board representing Sunny Valley/Wolf Creek, Williams, Cave Junction, Murphy, and Greater Grants Pass to provide oversight of the budget, set priorities, and advise on operations.

What will happen if Measure 17-115 doesn't pass?

The Sheriff will be forced to reduce county patrols, dispatch, and evidence even further than current levels of operations. This means the Sheriff would only be able to respond to life threatening calls for service, which may not include domestic disputes, theft, and dangerous drivers.

What will happen if citizens vote YES on Measure 17-115?

County law enforcement operations will be stabilized, preventing the loss of county patrols and trained deputies in the coming year - and while it isn't as much as we need to fund everything, it is what this community can afford.

This Measure is a step in the right direction for **STABLE** funding, a **SAFER** county, and a **STRONGER** economy.

(This information furnished by Colene Martin, Citizen Coalition for Safety.)

[&]quot;Measure arguments are printed as submitted. The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by Josephine County, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statements made in the argument."

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Measure 15-220 Applegate Valley Rural Fire Protection District #9

15-220

Five Year Local Option Levy for Staffing and Operations

QUESTION: Shall the District impose \$1.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value for five years for staffing and operations beginning in FY2024/25?

This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent

SUMMARY: The purpose of this temporary levy is to provide funding that will allow Applegate Fire District #9 to operate at today's service levels

This levy would fund the following:

- 24/7 staffing at Station 51 (Applegate) and Station 53 (Ruch) by retaining most of the positions that are currently grant funded.
- Retain a Fire Marshal position that is currently grant funded.
- Recruit and Train new volunteer firefighters and medical personnel.
- · Replace aging fire engines and staff vehicles.

This request is for \$1.25/\$1000 of assessed value, to replace the current levy that expires in 2024.

If the levy does not pass, taxes would remain at \$1.6787/\$1000 of assessed value, the \$1.25/\$1000 of assessed value would not be assessed, resulting in a 43% reduction in the District's Operating Budget and the District would no longer be able to provide 24/7 staffing at any station.

The estimated amount of taxes that would be raised per year is as follows: \$842,550 in 2024/25, \$867,827 in 2025/26, \$893,861 in 2026/27, \$920,667 in 2027/28, and \$948,297 in 2028/29.

Explanatory Statement

Applegate Valley RFPD#9 (District) provides firefighting, emergency medical care, rescue and fire prevention services to a 181 square mile area including the residents and businesses in the Ruch, Applegate, Provolt, and McKee Bridge areas. Voters will have the opportunity to consider a Measure on the November 2023 ballot, which would authorize a tax rate of \$1.25 per \$1000 of assessed property value and fund the above services.

The District has had a local option operation levy in place, and renewed it, every five years since 1998. These levies have provided enough tax revenue to staff Station 53 (Ruch), 24/7, with a combination of permanent full-time, seasonal full-time, and student firefighters. The levies have also provided funding to repair, replace, and maintain its fleet of vehicles, equipment and facilities.

With the help of two grants, the district has begun staffing a second station (Station 51), 24/7, in Applegate, with added Full-Time and Student Firefighters. Additionally, one of the grants funds a full-time Fire Prevention (Fire Marshal) position. The two grants expire March of 2026 and May of 2027.

In 2022, the District responded to 768 emergency calls for service, with medical emergencies accounting for approximately two thirds of the District's responses. Simultaneous calls for emergency service happened approximately 24% of the time in 2022. Staffing both Stations 51 & 53 now allows the District to respond to these emergency incidents that overlap or occur at the same time.

If the Measure passes, it will cost homeowners \$1.25 per \$1000 of assessed property value and would replace the current levy of

\$1.05 that expires at the end of June 2024. The Measure would authorize collection of tax revenue in the amount of \$4,473,202 over the following five years.

If passed, the Measure would provide sufficient funding for the District to continue to staff Stations 51 (Applegate) & 53 (Ruch), as well as retain the Fire Marshal position through June 2029. The Measure would also provide funding for the District to continue to repair, replace, and maintain its current fleet of vehicles, equipment and facilities.

If the Measure does not pass, the firefighting, fire prevention, emergency medical and rescue services described above would not be provided as planned and the current levy of \$1.05 per \$1000 of assessed property value would not continue.

(This information furnished by Chris Wolfard, Fire Chief, Applegate Valley Rural Fire Protection District #9.)

Measure 15-220 Arguments

Argument in Favor

A Home Ignites due to the condition of the home and everything around it, up to 200'

I am writing to wholeheartedly endorse the Applegate Fire District's ballot measure seeking approval of a temporary tax levy. As a retired employee of the Applegate Fire District and current lead of a Firewise community, I know the importance of collaboration between residents and our fire agencies to strategically prevent wildfires.

One crucial aspect of this ballot measure is the retention of the newly established fire prevention coordinator position. This position will provide a greater understanding of our needs and the resources necessary to address them effectively. This ballot measure will provide the resources for property owners to request fire assessments.

In an area like ours, prone to wildfires, prevention is KEY to safeguarding lives, homes, and natural resources. This program will enhance our readiness by educating residents about defensible spaces, proper land management, and hazard reduction. We can collectively reduce the risk of devastating fires and create stronger, more resilient communities.

The issue of community resiliency resonates deeply with me. Our rural setting demands that we unite in our efforts to prepare for and respond to emergencies. By approving the temporary tax levy, we invest in our shared future. The levy will provide the resources necessary to sustain the fire prevention program.

We have all chosen to live in an Extreme Fire danger risk area. I implore our community members to rally behind this ballot measure 15-220. Let us show our commitment to safety, preparedness, and resiliency by voting in favor of the Applegate Fire District's proposal.

Sincerely,

Carey Chaput, Firewise Community Coordinator Annette Parson & Jim Clover, Applegate Landowners Cris Usher, Retired Applegate Volunteer

(This information furnished by Carey Chaput.)

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Measure 15-220 Arguments

Argument in Favor

Dear Voters,

On behalf of the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), I am pleased to extend our enthusiastic endorsement of the Applegate Fire District's ballot measure seeking approval of a temporary tax levy. This measure provides strategic funding that not only supports the enhancement of community safety but also recognizes the critical symbiosis between the fire district and our dedicated union members.

The provision to allocate funds for seasonal firefighter positions during fire season and student firefighter positions during the school year is a testament to the forward-thinking approach of the Applegate Fire District. We understand the unique dynamics of the district and acknowledge that it may not become a fully paid union member organization. However, the establishment of these positions underscores a mutual commitment to safeguarding the well-being of both the community and our union members.

By maintaining a contingent of well-trained seasonal firefighters, the Applegate Fire District demonstrates a dedication to tackling the heightened risks posed by fire season. These positions not only bolster the district's response capabilities but also provide an additional layer of protection for our union members on the front lines. Student firefighter positions also fosters a culture of learning and growth, reinforcing the fire district's capacity to adapt to evolving challenges.

The IAFF recognizes that the success of our union members is intricately linked with the community's safety and confidence in our services. Supporting these seasonal and student positions under the proposed temporary tax levy ensures that the district remains resilient, responsive, and capable of delivering high-level services. This collaboration sets a commendable example for the harmonious coexistence of the fire district and our union members.

In light of these considerations, the IAFF wholeheartedly endorses the Applegate Fire District's ballot measure. We encourage all residents to vote in favor of this initiative, understanding that it not only secures a safer community but also strengthens the foundation of our union's role within it.

(This information furnished by Marty Adamo, IAFF3564 President.)

Argument in Favor

Dear community members,

We are writing to express our support of the Applegate Fire District levy and why we believe it deserves your -YES vote

- Preserving Public Safety: The Applegate Fire District plays an essential role in safeguarding our lives, properties, and environment from the devastating impacts of fires and emergencies. By providing the necessary resources, this levy will enable our local firefighters to respond promptly and effectively, minimizing potential damage and saving lives.
- Maintaining Efficient Emergency Response: A wellequipped and staffed fire department is essential for timely emergency response. The levy will ensure that the district has the necessary personnel, training, and modern equipment to manage various situations effectively, whether it is a wildfire, medical emergency, or hazardous material incident.
- Protecting Property Values: A well-funded fire district contributes safety and security that can positively impact property values throughout our community.

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- Enhancing Community Resilience: While facing the increasing challenges, the threat of wildfires and other natural disasters is growing. By supporting this levy, we are taking proactive measures to strengthen our community's ability to manage and survive the threat that a wild fire poses to our home and community. Adequate funding will allow the district to engage in vital prevention, education, and mitigation efforts that can reduce the impact of future disasters.
- Transparent and Accountable Funding: the tax levy comes with fiscal transparency from careful Board and Budget review, where community members are always encouraged to participate. Taxpayers can be assured that the funds generated will be used for the specified purposes.
- Shared Responsibility: Fire safety is a shared responsibility.
 This levy is an equitable way for all property owners to play a part in maintaining the safety of our community.
- In conclusion, we encourage you to join us in voting YES for Measure 15-220 ensuring that our local fire department remains well-equipped, responsive, and capable of meeting the challenges that lie ahead.

(This information furnished by Babette Rapp, Friends of the Applegate Valley Fire District #9.)

Argument in Favor

To sustain essential firefighting, emergency medical care, rescue, and fire prevention services, the Applegate Valley Rural Fire Protection District (AVFD) is seeking your approval for the continuation of the local levy --with minimal increase --to provide additional needed coverage. This levy will replace the current five-year levy that expires June 2024. A yes vote will ensure the continuation of critical services.

AVFD encompasses 181 square miles, including Ruch, Applegate, Provolt, and McKee Bridge areas. Without revenue generated by the proposed levy, AVFD would face a substantial reduction in staffing and response capabilities. It would lead to the elimination of 3 permanent shift captains, 12 seasonal fire-fighters, 12 student firefighters, and 1 fire marshal. Simply put, if this levy is not continued, AVFD would no longer be able to provide you 24/7 coverage. This local option levy is a recurring lifeline for AVFD since 1998. The community has historically recognized the importance of supporting AVFD's emergency response abilities by voting yes.

AVFD response demands are diverse, with medical emergencies nearly two thirds of calls. Response levels continue to increase each year to include simultaneous emergency calls, 24% of the time in 2022. Strategic staffing of Stations 51/53 (Applegate/Ruch) is instrumental to respond to concurrent emergency incidents. Station 51 in Applegate benefits from funding through two grants, however these grants expire in 2026/2027, and are not eligible for renewal. This local option levy is crucial to ensure prompt emergency response by funding staffing at Station 51 & 53, through June 2029.

We encourage residents to understand the consequences of not continuing the current levy with the minimal increase. Approval of the levy will not only secure uninterrupted emergency services until July 2029, but will also provide increased emergency services by staffing Station 51 in the Applegate area. Denying the levy would end 24/7 coverage for AVFD as a whole. We urge all eligible voters to vote yes on Measure 15-220.

(This information furnished by Rob Underwood, Applegate Fire District Board of Directors.)

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RHIANNON HENKELS
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Residential Customer

vote!



Josephine County Voters' Pamphlet

Special Election

November 7, 2023

Notice: If a ballot is delivered to your address for someone who has moved or for someone who has passed away, please write "RETURN" on the envelope and place it back in your mailbox or in an official ballot dropsite so our office may make the necessary changes to the voter rolls.