

NO ARGUMENTS WERE FILED IN OPPOSITION TO THIS MEASURE

Five-Year Local Option Tax Levy for Operations

Question: Shall District impose \$0.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value for general operations for five years beginning in 2024-2025? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

Summary: Keizer Rural Fire Protection District's current local option levy of \$0.59 per \$1,000 of assessed value expires June 30, 2024. This measure will replace the current levy with a new five-year levy at the rate of \$0.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The new levy would start July 1, 2024, after the current levy expires.

If adopted, the District will use the tax revenue from this measure to continue to operate the District at its present level of service and continue to improve current operations. Revenue from this levy would allow the District to increase staffing to meet growing demands on District services caused by increasing emergency call volume. The revenue would also help address rising costs of fuel, medical supplies, and other materials needed for operation. In summary, the levy would allow the District to provide adequate staffing, to respond to fire and medical emergencies, and pay for the costs of the District's 9-1-1 dispatch services.

The first year of this new five-year levy would be fiscal year 2024-2025. The proposed rate will raise approximately \$2,762,998 in 2024-2025; \$2,843,128 in 2025-2026; \$2,925,888 in 2026-2027; \$3,097,763 in 2027-2028; and \$3,187,620 in 2028-2029, for a total of \$14,817,097.

**Measure No. 24-490
Keizer Fire District**

Keizer Fire District

County of Marion VOTERS' PAMPHLET



November 7, 2023 Special Election

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

Voted ballots for this election must be received in an Elections Office or an Official Oregon Ballot Drop Site by 8:00 pm, November 7, 2023, or Postmarked by November 7, 2023, and received by November 14, 2023.

Compiled and Distributed by
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**Measure No. 24-490
Keizer Fire District**

Official Marion County Ballot Drop Sites

**The Marion County drop sites listed below will be open beginning October 18th.
On Election Day, November 7th, drop sites will remain open until 8:00 pm.**

You DO NOT need to apply postage if you use an Official Marion County Drop Box or mail within the United States.

Donald City Hall 10710 Main St NE, Donald	Walk-up Drop Box 24 Hours
Jefferson City Hall/ Library 150 N 2 nd St, Jefferson	Curbside Drop Box 24 Hours
Keizer City Hall 930 Chemawa Rd NE, Keizer	Curbside Drop Box 24 Hours
Marion County Clerk 555 Court St NE, Ste 2130, Salem	Indoor Drop Box Mon - Fri 8:30 am - 5 pm Election Day 7 am - 8 pm
Marion County Health 3180 Center St NE, Salem	Curbside Drop Box 24 Hours
Marion County Public Works 5155 Silverton Rd NE, Salem	Curbside Drop Box Mon - Fri 8 am - 5 pm Election Day 8 am - 8 pm
Mill City - City Hall 444 S 1 st Ave, Mill City	Indoor Drop Box Mon - Fri 8 am - 4 pm Election Day 8 am - 8 pm
Roth's Fresh Market - Hayesville 4746 Portland Rd NE, Salem	Indoor Drop Box Daily 6 am - 9 pm Election Day 6 am - 8 pm
Roth's Fresh Market - Sunnyslope 4555 Liberty Rd S, Salem	Indoor Drop Box Daily 6 am - 9 pm Election Day 6 am - 8 pm
Roth's Fresh Market - Vista 3045 Commercial St SE, Salem	Indoor Drop Box Daily 6 am - 9 pm Election Day 6 am - 8 pm
Silverton - Lewis St. Parking Lot 208 Lewis St & S 1 st St, Silverton	Curbside Drop Box 24 Hours

Explanatory Statement:

The Keizer Fire District relies on a five-year local option levy to meet the demand for services in the Fire District. The current local option levy expires in June 2024. As a result, the Board of Directors has voted unanimously to ask voters to approve a five-year operating levy at the rate of \$0.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Keizer Fire District relies on levy funding to sustain emergency services. Without out levy funding, emergency service levels will be greatly reduced. Revenue from this levy would allow the Fire District to meet growing demands on Fire District services caused by increasing call volume. The revenue would also address the rising cost of fuel, medical supplies, and other materials needed for operation.

In 2022, the Fire District had 6,469 emergency responses, compared to 3,736 in 2012. This represents a 73% increase since the last levy rate adjustment in 2013. Over 80% of those responses were Emergency Medical Services (EMS) related. Fires, rescues, and calls for assistance accounted for the remaining calls. In emergency situations, such as fire or cardiac arrest, the Fire District responded in less than six minutes 92.7% of the time. Positive outcomes are diminished with extended response times. The Fire District requires levy funding for continued operations to meet this level of demand. Without sufficient levy funding, service levels will decrease and response times will increase.

Keizer Fire District is a Special District, a separate unit of government with its own tax base, not a part of a city or a county government. Formed in 1948 by a vote of the people, it is governed by an elected Board of Directors, who reside in the Fire District. As representatives of the Fire District's residents, their responsibility is to make policy decisions that ensure the highest level of fire, emergency medical, and life safety are provided in the most cost-effective manner. Keizer Fire District is staffed by forty-two career and ten volunteer personnel.

The Keizer Fire District Board of Directors is asking Keizer Fire District residents to replace the expiring five-year local option levy of \$0.59 per \$1,000 of assessed value with a new five-year local option levy of \$0.99 per \$1,000. A "Yes" vote would provide funding for the Fire District to increase the level of service to meet the increasing number of calls for service. It would provide additional staffing to respond to your emergency and other needs of the community and cover the cost of providing 9-1-1 communications as required by law. Even with the approval of this levy, Keizer Fire District will continue to remain at a lower tax rate for Fire and EMS services than the City of Salem or Marion County Fire District.

Information Submitted by:
Ryan Russell
Fire Chief
Keizer Fire District

**Measure No. 24-490
Keizer Fire District**

How to cast your vote...

1 Complete your ballot

To vote, completely fill in the box next to your choice.

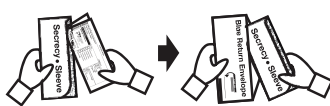


2 Check for errors

- You do not have to vote on all contests. Those you do vote on will still count.
- If you vote for more options than are allowed, your vote **will not count** for that contest.
- If you think you made a mistake, call the Marion County Elections Office.

3 Using the optional "Secrecy" sleeve

If you use the optional "Secrecy" sleeve, put only your voted ballot inside. Then, put only your "Secrecy" sleeve inside your return envelope.



You are not required to use the "Secrecy" sleeve.

4 Sign your return envelope

You must sign your return envelope or **your vote will not count.**

We verify every signature on every envelope against the voter files.



5 Return your ballot

- By mail
- At any official drop site (*see list on this flyer*)
- At the Clerk's/Elections Office

Sincerely,
Ryan Russell, Chief
Keizer Fire District

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at theryanrussell@gmail.com.

When I became Fire Chief, I swore an oath to protect our community to the best of my ability. I can continue to uphold my oath **only with your support** and with the proper resources and funding.

We Need Your Support

- Hire a Fire and Life Safety Specialist,
- Strengthen current staffing levels to meet the population increases,
- Add four firefighters/paramedics to the team,
- Continue to maintain critical, life-saving materials,
- Keep our response to six minutes or less.

How the New Measure Will Keep Our Community Safe

The measure enacts a modest increase. Our estimates show that the new levy would cost the average Keizer property owner around \$19 a month. However, this is a small adjustment to maintain our existing response times.

What the New Measure Does

More growth means more 9-1-1 calls for life-saving responses, and if we are underfunded, our arrival will be delayed. This cannot happen.

Friends, my name is Ryan Russell and I have the honor of serving as your Fire Chief. The Keizer Fire District is coming to you with a critical vote to ensure we can respond to your emergency. As you know, Keizer is growing and inflation is hitting everyone. We must adapt.

Please Support Your Fire District

Argument in Support:

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by Marion County. nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statements made in the argument. Marion County does not correct errors in spelling or grammar.

(This information furnished by Ryan Russell on behalf of Keizer Fire District)

Measure No. 24-490 Keizer Fire District

Argument in Support:

Dear Neighbors,

I'm writing this to you to express my sincerest support for the Keizer Fire District's new operating levy and I wholeheartedly hope that you will join me in backing this crucial measure. During two separate medical emergencies I had, paramedic staff from the Keizer Fire District embodied the values we want from our local emergency service.

The Keizer Fire District Paramedics Go Beyond the Call of Duty

On one occasion, when a medical emergency occurred, the paramedics from the Keizer Fire District arrived with remarkable speed. Their kind and caring approach provided both physical and emotional support, making a challenging situation more bearable. Further, when we arrived at the emergency room, they ensured I had someone from the hospital to attend to me before they left.

In another instance, I required support from Keizer Fire paramedics. And again, they arrived with such speed and professionalism.

I cannot overstate the kindness I received from the paramedics during both occasions. I could tell they genuinely cared for my wellness.

This Small Cost Will Bring Immense Reassurance To Our Community

I understand that we live in an uncertain time financially. However, what I can assure you all is the price of the new levy is small compared to the high-quality emergency services it will bring.

Please vote 'Yes' for the Keizer Fire District's new operating levy. Without this levy, we risk losing the rapid and compassionate assistance that has made a profound difference in the lives of many, including mine.

Sincerely,

Carol Doerfler

(This information furnished by Carol A. Doerfler)

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Measure No. 24-490 Keizer Fire District

Argument in Support:

Vote 'Yes' For Measure 24-490

Dear Keizer Community,

We, the Board of Directors of the Keizer Fire Board, are urging your support for the new operating levy for the Keizer Fire District. The Board voted unanimously to send this to you because the proposed levy is critical to ensure the safety of our community.

The Measure Will Support Community Safety

Yes, the measure will slightly increase taxes, but it will provide so much in return to our community:

- 1) four more firefighters/paramedics,
- 2) a Fire and Life Safety Specialist,
- 3) important safety materials, and
- 4) the ability to keep response times short.

The Keizer Fire District responds to every fire and medical emergency with skill and dedication, saving countless lives and limiting damage to property.

Without This Levy, The Keizer Fire District Will Suffer

Keizer Fire District relies on levy funding to operate. Our current levy supports our operations and is expiring. We fear that without the new levy, our community will be at risk. The operating environment has changed since the expiring levy was passed. Keizer is growing rapidly and more apartment complexes spring up every year, adding more to Keizer Fire District's plate.

Without the support of an operating levy, the district will have to make cuts to its staff. This will leave our community in a terrible position.

We are asking you to please vote for this measure so that Keizer Fire District can continue to keep your family and friends safe.

Thank you,

President, Joe Van Meter

Director, Betty Hart

Director, Kevin Clark

Director, Louis Risewick

Director, Colleen Busch

(This information furnished by Joe Van Meter on behalf of Keizer Fire Board)

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Measure No. 24-490 Keizer Fire District

Argument in Support:

The Keizer Fire District Needs This Levy

My Dear Neighbors,

I'm taking a moment to express my heartfelt support for the Keizer Fire District's new operating levy, and I wholeheartedly hope that you will consider joining me in backing this crucial measure. As someone who has been helped a number of times by Keizer Fire, I have experienced their generosity, devotion, and thoughtfulness firsthand.

Having spent numerous years in our cherished town, I've witnessed its transformation and growth. With these changes, it has become increasingly clear that we must adapt to ensure the continued safety and well-being of our residents.

This is why the passage of this levy is of such paramount significance, especially in the context of the assisted and independent living communities.

Every Member of the Keizer Fire District is Caring, Thoughtful, and Professional

When I needed assistance, members of the Keizer Fire District arrived with remarkable speed and expertise. No matter the situation, they took great care in ensuring my health and well-being.

I understand that in these times, we must be mindful of our finances. However, the cost of this new levy is a small price to pay for the peace of mind that it brings. Knowing that our fire department is well-equipped and ready to respond quickly is a comfort beyond measure, especially for those in independent or assisted living situations.

Their plans to rehire specialists, bolster their staff, and maintain their commitment to swift response times demonstrate their unwavering dedication to the safety and well-being of our community.

Please consider voting 'Yes' for the Keizer Fire District's new operating levy. Without the levy, we risk a great loss for our community. This is why I am asking for your support.

With heartfelt gratitude of the men and women of the Keizer Fire District,

Doris Johnson

(This information furnished by Doris M Johnson)

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VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

To be eligible to vote in the November 7, 2023, Special Election, a completed voter registration card must be on file with the Marion County Clerk by no later than 5:00 pm, October 17, 2023.

YOU MAY REGISTER TO VOTE IF:

- You are a citizen of the United States
- You are at least 16 years of age (you may vote if you will be 18 years of age or older on election day)
- You are a resident of Oregon

YOU MUST RE-REGISTER TO VOTE IF:

- Your residence or mailing address changes
- Your name changes
- You wish to change party affiliation

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

When you receive your ballot packet in the mail, immediately examine it to make certain it is complete. It should contain the following items:

- A printed ballot on which you may vote
- A secrecy sleeve with instructions printed on it
- A pre-addressed ballot return envelope in which to return your ballot

If any items are missing, contact the Marion County Clerk's Office at 503.588.5041, and a replacement ballot packet will be sent to you.

VOTING & CORRECTING YOUR BALLOT

If you make an error on your ballot, spoil it in any way, or lose it, you may obtain a replacement ballot by contacting the Marion County Clerk's Office at 503.588.5041.

RETURNING YOUR VOTED BALLOT

- Follow the instructions on the secrecy sleeve
- Fold your ballot along the pre-scored folds and insert it into the optional secrecy sleeve (if desired)
- Insert ballot (or ballot and secrecy sleeve) into the ballot return envelope
- SEAL the ballot return envelope and SIGN the statement on the back of the envelope
- Mail or place the return envelope in an Official Ballot Drop Box

Your ballot will not be counted if your ballot return envelope is not signed.

Measure No. 24-490 Keizer Fire District

Argument in Support:

Citizens of Keizer Fire District,

Keizer Professional Firefighters asks for your support with a vote of **YES on Measure 24-490**. Our goal is always to provide you with the best emergency services possible in your time of need. In order to meet these critical needs, we must have enough firefighters and paramedics to respond to the increasing call volume. Keizer Fire District has not increased our operating levy in a decade, however we have seen a 73% increase in call volume. In 2022 alone, Keizer Fire responded to 6,469 calls for service. We are no longer able to find creative ways to stretch your tax dollars and keep up with the pace of growth in emergency calls. We are asking the public to **vote yes** for an operating levy of 99 cents per thousand of assessed value.

Passing this levy will add several new firefighter/paramedics and keep up with the increasing cost of supplies, equipment, maintenance and fuel. This allows us to staff more emergency apparatus and increase our coverage capabilities. It also provides resources for us to continue growing, as the population of Keizer rises over the next 5 years.

If this levy does not pass, we will face layoffs and a decrease in emergency response availability. There will be fewer staffed ambulances and fire engines. A decrease in personnel means it may take longer for an ambulance to reach you in your time of need. This also means it may take longer to get a staffed fire engine on scene if your house is on fire. In our line of work, time is very precious. The faster we can get to you, the better the outcome of your emergency. The effects of this reduction in service could be catastrophic, personally and as a community.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve the wonderful citizens of Keizer. Please **VOTE YES on Measure 24-490**.

Sincerely,

Christina Wilson

Keizer Professional Firefighters Local 3881

(This information furnished by Christina Wilson on behalf of Keizer Professional Firefighters Local 3881)

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Track Your Ballot

Sign up for updates about your Ballot from the Marion County Clerk

The Marion County Clerk is offering a program to voters in Marion County that allows them to track the status of their ballot through automated notifications.

ballottrax

Participating voters will have the option of receiving text, email, or voice alerts at several points on their ballot's journey.

The screenshot shows the ballottrax website interface. On the left, there is a banner with the text 'Trust That Your Vote Counts!' and 'Track the status of your mail-in ballot. From pre-mail to accepted.' On the right, there is a 'GET STARTED' form with the following fields: FIRST NAME, LAST NAME, DATE OF BIRTH, and RESIDENTIAL ZIP CODE. There is a checkbox for 'I voted a ballot' and a 'GET STARTED' button.

If you have any questions about this service, please call the Marion County Clerk's Office at 503.588.5041.

Sign up today to begin receiving messages:

marioncountyclerk.ballottrax.net/voter