**NOTICE OF BALLOT TITLE RECEIVED**

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**

Notice is hereby given that on February 24, 2023, a request for ballot title was filed by the Aurora Rural Fire Protection District with the Marion County Clerk for an election to be held on May 16, 2023. The Marion County District Attorney drafted the Ballot Title and submitted that for publication to the Marion County Clerk on March 3, 2023.

The ballot title submitted by the Marion County District Attorney is as follows:

**Caption:** Five-year levy for hiring additional firefighters & general operations.

**Question:** Shall AFD replace current rate with $1.98/assessed value for five years beginning 2023, hiring EMTs/Firefighters and enhancing operations? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

**Summary:** Aurora Fire is seeking a five-year local option tax for general operations. Monies are needed to maintain and hire additional career EMTs/Firefighters. This levy will assist the District to staff apparatus with up to 3 career EMTs/Firefighters 24/7. The District currently has funding for two firefighters per 24 hours, this is below national standards of staffing of a three person minimum crew.

AFD responds to over 1300 emergencies a year, the amount of calls is stretching current resources thin. The reality is that times have changed. Demands on volunteers have become increasingly difficult to balance. We are no longer the small rural district we used to be, we are asking you to decide what service level you want us to provide. Money will be used for staffing, general operating expenses such as equipment, supplies and repairs. This levy request will help ensure we are staffed for your emergency and will put us on target for meeting minimum staffing standards. This levy replaces the current rate of $0.99.

The proposed rate will raise approximately $2,208,296 in 2023-24; $2,284,485 in 2024-25; $2,353,351 in 2025-26; $2,423,992 in 2026-27; and 2,496,712 in 2027-28.

Any elector dissatisfied with this ballot title may petition the Circuit Court of Marion County seeking a different ballot title pursuant to ORS 255.155. Petitions must be filed with the court not later than 5:00 p.m., March 14, 2023 (7th business day after receipt of the ballot title), with appropriate notification as required by law, to the Marion County Clerk.

Dated this 3rd day of March, 2023. William J. Burgess, Marion County Clerk.