

**Measure No. 24-493  
Marion County Fire District #1**

**Argument in Support:**

Vote YES on Measure 24-493

Marion County Fire District #1 has served our community since 1939. This special district covers approximately 59,000 people over 88 square miles, including the communities of Four Corners, Middle Grove, Pratum, Macleay, Brooks, Clear Lake, Lake Labish, and Chemeketa.

**Increasing Calls for Service**

Our world has changed significantly since 2020, and the world of emergency services is no different. In 2021, voters approved a levy to support Marion County Fire District #1. Since that time, calls for service have risen 30%. Federal funding for 9 personnel will sunset in February of 2025 – a 17% cut of on duty personnel.

**Replacement Levy – Not a New Levy**

We are committed to providing timely service, and to do that, MCFD#1 needs to pass measure 24-493. This is a replacement levy, not a stacking one. If this \$0.99 levy passes, voters will pay less than they did in 2022, when they were paying off the bond and previous levy. In fact, if passed, the average homeowner would only pay \$297 a year.

If this levy does not pass, we will continue to work hard for our residents, but response times will increase. We will have “swing companies” at two stations where if the crew is out at a medical call, there is no one available to respond to a fire. This is a dangerous position for our community.

A YES vote on measure 24-493 will stabilize funding for the district and will let us have full staffing at all stations.

**Vote Yes, Save Lives**

With increased calls for service, expiring federal funds and a fire season that keeps coming earlier each year, our fire fighters are stretched thin. We need this replacement levy to continue providing the service our community deserves.

*(This information furnished by Juan Deleon, President, on behalf of Local 2557, Marion County Professional Firefighters)*

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.

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**Argument in Support:**

As board members of Marion County Fire District #1, our first priority is to ensure residents receive the highest quality care for the most affordable cost. We have our financials audited every year and consistently pass independent review.

When we referred a levy to you in 2021, we were not fully aware of the long-term impacts of the pandemic or the economic impacts. Since you, the voters, graciously passed that levy, things have dramatically changed.

- Calls for service have increased 30%
- More people have moved into our over 88 square mile service area
- Federal funding for 9 firefighters and EMTs will expire in February of 2025. This means a loss of 17% of our on-duty personnel.
- Inflation has increased by 9%

**MCFD#1 Needs Measure 24-493!**

While our crews provide the best service they can, these factors are and will continue to stretch them thin, increasing wait times and potentially risking lives.

That is why we have brought measure 24-493 to your ballot. This is a replacement levy, meaning that it will not stack, but replace the previous levy. Because we paid off the bond a couple of years early, if this \$0.99 levy passes, voters will pay less than they did in 2022. In fact, if passed, the average homeowner would only pay \$297 a year, or less than \$25 a month.

Marion County Fire District #1 has served our community since 1939. We receive no funding from other governments, like the county or the state. We as residents, pay for the services we receive. Our Fire District needs this levy to continue offering the services our community has been accustomed to receiving.

Please vote YES on Measure 24-493 by November 7th.

More information can be found at [www.mcfd1.com](http://www.mcfd1.com).

*(This information furnished by Michael Welter, Board President, on behalf of Marion County Fire District #1)*

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**Official Marion County  
Ballot Drop Sites**

The Marion County drop sites listed below will be open beginning October 18<sup>th</sup>.

On Election Day, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 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.

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

**Marion County Fire District #1**

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](http://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  
Marion County Clerk - Elections

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**Measure No. 24-493  
Marion County Fire District #1**

**Tax Levy for Staffing Two Dedicated Emergency Response Fire Engines.**

**Question:** Shall MCFD#1 levy taxes of \$0.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value for five-years beginning 2024-2025 for fire engine staffing? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

**Summary:** Marion County Fire District No.1 is proposing a replacement levy of \$0.99 per \$1,000 during the November Election. The levy would fund the staffing of two fire and emergency response engines for five years and reduce response times. For a property with an assessed value of \$300,000, the cost is \$297.00 per year or \$24.75 a month.

Marion County Fire District No.1 is not part of, nor does it receive funding from any city, county, or state government. It is considered a separate taxing authority. More information on the replacement levy can be found at [www.mcf1.com](http://www.mcf1.com).

Levy proceeds will be used to staff two dedicated fire and emergency response engines beginning Fiscal Year 2024 and would raise an estimated \$3,859,300 in 2024-2025; \$3,975,079 in 2025-2026; \$4,094,331 in 2026-2027; \$4,217,161 in 2027-2028; and \$4,343,676 in 2028-2029.

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 estimate and may reflect the impact of early pre-payment discounts, compression, and the collection rate.

**NO ARGUMENTS WERE  
FILED IN OPPOSITION  
TO THIS MEASURE**

**Measure No. 24-493  
Marion County Fire District #1**

**Explanatory Statement:**

The Board of Directors for Marion County Fire District No.1 (the Fire District) voted on July 20th, 2023, to place a replacement local option levy in the amount of \$0.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value on the November 7, 2023 ballot.

**Who does the District serve?**

Marion County Fire District No.1 serves approximately 59,000 people over 88 square miles, including the communities of Four Corners, Middle Grove, Pratum, Macleay, Brooks, Clear Lake, Lake Labish, and Chemeketa. It provides fire suppression, emergency medical services, ambulance transport, rescue services, and fire prevention services. The Fire District has 70 employees and 53 volunteers who responded to 9,848 emergency calls in 2022. Calls for service have increased 31% over the past 3 years.

**How is the District Funded & Staffed?**

The District is not part of, nor does it receive funding from county or state government. It is a separate taxing "Special District," providing emergency services to the community since 1939.

MCFD No.1 is funded through a permanent property tax rate of \$1.90 per thousand assessed value. In 2008, voters approved a 16-year bond measure for the purchase of fire and EMS vehicles and station improvements, that was paid off early, in 2022. State law prohibits the use of bond funds for operational expenses.

In 2021, as call volumes continued to grow, voters approved a levy of \$0.59 per \$1,000 assessed property value for one dedicated Fire Engine. Since then, inflationary costs and emergency calls for service have increased rapidly. The District was fortunate enough to also receive a 3-year Federal Grant for staffing of a dedicated engine company at the Four Corners Fire Station, which will run out in February 2025.

(Statement Continued on Next Column)

**(Explanatory Statement continued:)**

Before July 2020, the District had the ability to provide fire and EMS response engines to assist our public while the ambulances transported patients. Voters in 2020 were paying a total of \$2.94/\$1,000 in taxes to the District, the taxes with the proposed levy would be \$2.89/\$1,000, a net savings of \$0.05/\$1,000 from 3 years ago.

**How would levy funds be used?**

While maintaining emergency response services would remain the top priority of MCFD No.1 if the levy is not approved; the Fire District will not be able to fully meet the increasing emergency response demand. This will result in longer response times for emergencies and a reduction in the number of staffed response units.

For more information go to [www.mcf1.com](http://www.mcf1.com) or contact Fire Chief Kyle McMann at (503) 588-6535 or [kylem@mcf1.com](mailto:kylem@mcf1.com).

Information Submitted by:

Ron Lee  
Deputy Fire Chief  
Marion County Fire District No. 1

**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.**