To register to vote in Washington, you must be:

- A citizen of the United States;
- A legal resident of Washington State;
- At least 18 years old by Election Day; and
- Not under the authority of the Department of Corrections.

How to register

- Register in person at the King County Elections office or annex.
- Register online with the Secretary of State, elections.wa.gov.
- Download a registration form from the King County Elections website and return it by mail.
- Register in person at the King County Elections office or annex.

Registration deadlines

While you may register to vote at any time, there are registration deadlines prior to each election. The deadlines for the April 23, 2013, special election:

- March 25 – Deadline to register to vote online or by mail, or update existing voter registration information.
- April 15 – In-person registration deadline for people not currently registered in Washington. Register in person at the Elections office in Renton or at the Voter Registration Annex in Seattle.

Keep your voter registration current

Update your registration if you have moved or changed your name, or if your signature has changed. Simply submit a new registration form to update your information.

Accessible voting center

Accessible voting centers are available for voters who need assistance completing their ballot. Trained staff and specialized equipment is available to help voters with disabilities cast a private, independent ballot. Voters may also return ballots at these locations during business hours.

King County Elections
919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057
April 5 - April 22
Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
April 23
Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Requirements
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• A legal resident of Washington State;
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How to register
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Registering to vote

To obtain this pamphlet in an alternate format, please contact King County Elections at 206-296-VOTE (8683).

Returning your ballot for this election
Voting begins as soon as you receive your ballot in the mail. Consider returning it early to be counted in election night results and to have time to resolve any issues with your signature.

Beginning April 3 through April 23
Through the mail
You can vote and return your ballot through the U.S. Postal Service as soon as you receive it. Ballots require first class postage and must be postmarked by April 23.

At our office
The King County Elections ballot drop box located at 919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057 will also be open.

Beginning April 15 through April 23
Ballot drop boxes
Return your ballot without using the U.S. Postal Service or a first class stamp at a ballot drop box. The following ballot drop boxes are open 24-hours a day beginning Monday, April 15:
Lake Forest Park City Hall
17425 Ballinger Way NE
Lake Forest Park, WA 98155

Tahoma School District Office
25720 Maple Valley-Black Diamond Road SE
Maple Valley, WA 98038

King County Administration Building
500 4th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

King County Elections
919 SW Grady Way
Renton, WA 98057

By law, ballots cannot be accepted at ballot drop box locations after 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

King County
Official Local Voters’ Pamphlet
April 23, 2013 Special Election

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King County Elections
919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057
April 5 - April 22
Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
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Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
King County Fire Protection District No. 16

Proposition No. 1
Benefit Charge Continuation

Shall King County Fire Protection District No. 16 be authorized to continue voter-authorized benefit charges each year for six years, not to exceed an amount equal to sixty percent of its operating budget, and be prohibited from imposing an additional property tax under RCW 52.16.160? Yes No

Statement in favor

Citizens of the Northshore Fire District have wholeheartedly supported the work of our fire department, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians. We have one of the finest departments in the Northwest. Its professional team of well-trained staff has proven itself repeatedly in the performance of its duties. For over two decades our citizens have voted to fund a benefit charge to support the department’s operating budget.

The combined assessment from property tax and the benefit charge for fire protection would continue to average approximately $1.50 per thousand. This is not a new tax, but it must be approved by voters every six years, and it is time to renew that commitment once again. By supporting this renewal, the taxation level for the fire district remains constant and provides a vital and reliable source of revenue for planning, equipment maintenance and replacement, and property protection. This is a crucial investment in our community, one which we will be glad we made in case our own family needs emergency assistance, or we face a natural disaster or public safety crisis. Join us in continuing the commitment to maintaining our excellent fire department. Please vote to approve this measure.

Statement submitted by: Marella Alejandrino, Kent Sturgis, and Jack Rogers • 206-367-7153

Statement in opposition

No statement submitted.

Explanatory statement

The Northshore Fire Department (King County Fire Protection District 16) is responsible for providing fire protection and emergency medical services in your community. For the last twenty-four years the Fire Department has funded these services primarily through a combination of property taxes and voter approved benefit charges. Benefit charges are based on risk factors and the cost of providing fire protection services, unlike property taxes that relate to the value of property. Under state law, voters must approve the use of benefit charges every 6 years and the Elected Board of Commissioners is required to hold a public hearing each year to review and establish the amount of the benefit charge. Once established the aggregate amount of the charge is prorated to individual properties based on risk factors and collected by the county assessor, together with real estate taxes. The amount of any benefit charge imposed on any given property cannot exceed the measurable benefits of the services afforded to the property by the Fire Department and are subject to appeal.

Under state law, fire districts which collect benefit charges authorized under Chapter 52.18 RCW have reduced taxing authority. Benefit charges can constitute no more than 60 percent of a district’s annual operating budget and the maximum property tax rate is reduced from $1.50 to $1.00 per $1,000 of assessed valuation.

If approved, Proposition 1 would continue the current funding method of providing emergency medical and fire protection services for 6 more years.

For additional questions regarding this measure contact:
Jim Torpin - Fire Chief
425-354-1776 • jtorpin@northshorefire.com

The security envelope has been redesigned

1. Slip your ballot inside the black and white envelope. The margin of your ballot will stick out from the side, but all your votes will be covered.

2. Do not make additional folds to your ballot or tape the envelope shut.

Now place the black and white envelope with your ballot into the return envelope.

Your signature verifies your vote

Sign the declaration on the back of your return envelope before returning it. Take your time and sign carefully.

Before any ballot is counted, state law requires that specially trained Elections staff make sure the signature on the ballot envelope matches the signature on file with your voter registration. If you forget to sign or if the signatures don’t match, the Elections department cannot count your ballot. If this happens, Elections staff will contact you to take care of the issue.

King County Fire Protection District No. 16

Election Day: April 23, 2013

Don’t forget to sign below!

Election Day: April 23, 2013
King County Fire Protection District No. 44

Proposition No. 1
Levy of General Tax for Maintenance and Operations

The Board of King County Fire Protection District No. 44 adopted Resolution No. 13-484 concerning a proposition to adequately finance maintenance and operation costs. This proposition would authorize the District to levy an excess property tax on all taxable property within the District beginning with collection in 2014 and continuing for three years thereafter to be used for the support of fire protection and emergency medical services, facilities, maintenance, staffing and operations. The levy amount for each of the four years would be $650,000 with an approximate rate each year of $0.31 per $1,000 of assessed valuation (the actual rate will be based on assessed values).

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes
No

Statement in favor

Fire District 44 has never requested a levy of this type. The District has met our needs with the statutory funds based on property value. Due to the 39.8% decline in assessed valuation of property in our district, the district now needs to ask us for support. This need will be short-term (four years) as property values are expected to increase.

As your neighbors, we encourage you to vote "YES" for this levy. The Fire District has been there for us when loved ones have had heart attacks, when our children have sustained serious injuries, when our homes have been consumed with fire—we need to support the district now so that they will continue to provide the level of service we need.

Many could share a personal story of how the District 44's response has impacted our lives. We are blessed with a district that exceeds county and national average in heart attack survival rates—this is due to response time, skill and training. It is also critical that the eight schools in our district have timely emergency response from trained professionals.

We ask you to please vote "YES" and mail in your ballot.

Citizens for Fire District 44

Statement submitted by: Linda S. Cowan, Monroe Shropshire, and Karen Weiman

Explanatory statement

If approved by the voters, the Fire District will be authorized to levy a maintenance and operations excess levy in the sum of $650,000.00 per year to be collected in 2014 through 2017. Such levy will be in addition to the District’s regular and EMS tax levies for a temporary four-year period. Based on current assessed property valuations the District estimates that the tax levy rate necessary to generate these funds each year will be approximately $0.31 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. In subsequent years the levy rate will decrease if assessed property values increase.

Declining assessed property values have caused the District’s revenue to drop from $1,850,151.00 from 2008 to 2013. Due to the decrease in revenues, the District will not be able to maintain current staffing and service levels and will not be able to maintain current staffing and service levels within the limitations of the District’s regular tax levy. The proposed maintenance and operations levy funds will be used to maintain service levels and retain firefighters.

If the levy is approved, the additional maximum tax per $100,000.00 assessed valuation is estimated not to exceed approximately $31.00 each year or an additional $2.58 per month for fire protection and emergency medical services.

This proposition would authorize the District to levy an excess maintenance and operations levy in the sum of $650,000.00 per year to be collected in 2014 through 2017. Such levy will be in addition to the District’s regular and EMS tax levies for a temporary four-year period. Based on current assessed property valuations the District estimates that the tax levy rate necessary to generate these funds each year will be approximately $0.31 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. In subsequent years the levy rate will decrease if assessed property values increase.

Statement in opposition

No statement submitted.

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

Don’t forget to sign below!

Election Day: April 23, 2013
To register to vote in Washington, you must be:

• A citizen of the United States;
• A legal resident of Washington State;
• At least 18 years old by Election Day;
• A legal resident of the county in which you are registering to vote;
• A U.S. citizen residing overseas if you are not currently registered in Washington.

To register to vote:

1. Download and print a registration form from the King County Elections website at www.kingcounty.gov/elections
2. Register in person at the King County Elections office.
3. Register online with the Secretary of State, Elections Division.
4. Register by mail, or update existing voter registration information.

To update your registration:

If your name, address, or other information has changed, you may update your registration by:

1. Download and print a new registration form from the King County Elections website.
2. Submit the new registration form to update your information.

Voting begins as soon as you receive your ballot in the mail. Consider returning your ballot in time to ensure your vote is timely counted.

Voting materials available in Chinese and Vietnamese:

To comply with Section 203 of the Federal Voting Rights Act, King County is required to provide voting materials in Chinese and Vietnamese. To request voting materials, update your language preference or register to vote, visit www.myvote.wa.gov or call 206-296-VOTE (8683).

Accessible voting centers are available for registered voters who need assistance completing their ballots and/or to have their ballots completed. Trained staff and specialized equipment are available to help voters with disabilities cast a private, independent ballot. Ballot drop boxes are open 24-hours a day beginning April 15 through April 23. Ballot drop boxes are open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day.

For more information call 206-296-VOTE (8683) or visit www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

King County
Official Local Voters’ Pamphlet
as requested by King County Fire Protection District No. 16

April 23, 2013 Special Election