

Pacific County Fire District #1

2026 EMS Levy Fact Sheet

This fact sheet is designed to provide residents of Pacific County Fire District #1 with facts and information about the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) measure on February 10, 2026, ballot.

1. Q: Is the EMS levy a new tax?

A: No. The Fire District #1 EMS levy has been in place since 1986 and is a renewal of the existing levy.

2. Q: What is an EMS levy?

A: An EMS levy provides funding dedicated to pre-hospital medical care service and is governed by State law (RCW 84.52.069).

3. Q: What pre-hospital medical services are provided through the EMS levy?

A: EMS services that Fire District #1 provides include:

- 24 hour a day staffing of Paramedic service. Immediate emergency responses from three (3) staffed stations (Ocean Park, Seaview, and Surfside)
- Emergency and non-emergency ambulance transport
- Initial and on-going medical training for Fire District #1 Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics
- Public assists (helping move a disabled person)
- Public education (CPR / First Aid classes, Fall Prevention)
- Injury prevention (Car seat installations, free bicycle helmets)
- Integrated health collaboration (Home safety referrals, rural quality improvement with the WA Department Of Health, advocacy coordination for unique medical situations)
- Special event medical stand-by (Rod Run, rodeo)
- Blood pressure checks at Ocean Park, Seaview, and Surfside fire stations

4. Q: What is the overall amount of funding requested?

A: This measure requests authorization to levy fifty cents per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation. For example: If your home is valued at \$400,000, your annual tax would be \$200 or \$16.67 per month.

5. Q: Is this a permanent levy?

A: No. The EMS levy is a six-year levy.

6. Q: Does my Senior Citizen/ Disability Exemption apply to fire district levies?

A: Maybe. It depends on your income and the assessed value of your property. For more information regarding your specific property see the Assessor's web site at www.co.pacific.wa.us/assessor or call the Assessor's Office at (360) 642-9301.

7. Q: Does Fire District #1 bill for service even if you are not transported?

A: No. Fire District #1 only bills for services if you are transported by ambulance.

8. Q: How much does an ambulance transport cost?

A: If you are transported by an ambulance, you are charged a user fee, which is based upon the level of care you received during the trip, plus mileage to the hospital. Washington State ambulance billing rates are available for public viewing on the State Office of Insurance Commissioner's website.

https://data.wa.gov/dataset/WA-Ground-Ambulance-Locally-Set-Rates/r9b2-b8ff/data_preview

Below is a table illustrating the (2025) billing rates for ambulance providers in Pacific County.

Fee Level	Fire District #1	Medix Ambulance	NPCEMS*	Ilwaco Fire Dept.	Naselle Fire
Non-Emergency	\$425	\$1,764	\$800	\$600	N/A
Basic Life Support (BLS)	\$600	\$1,764	\$800	\$600	\$800
Advanced Life Support (ALS-1)	\$700	\$1,764	\$1,000	\$800	\$1,000
Advanced Life Support (ALS-2)	\$1,100	\$1,764	\$1,200	\$900	\$1,200
Specialty Care	\$1,200	\$3,100	\$1,300	N/A	N/A
Mileage	\$15/mile	\$29.05/mile	\$16/mile	\$20/mile	\$17

** North Pacific County EMS provides ambulance service to areas located in north Pacific County*

9. Q: If I pay my taxes, do I still get a bill for service?

A: If you are a taxpayer or resident of the Fire District #1, the amount your medical insurance(s) pays for the medically necessary ambulance transport will be considered payment in full. That also includes Medicare, Medicaid, and DSHS.

10. Q: How many requests for emergency medical services does the Fire District #1 handle annually?

A: Over the past six years, Fire District #1 has responded to more than 14,000 EMS-related calls, while transporting nearly 8,500 patients.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
EMS Calls	1,930	2,453	2,684	2,499	2,501	2,502
Patient Transports	1,103	1,434	1,499	1,480	1,466	1,462

11. Q: Other than emergency responses, what other benefits are available to Fire District #1 citizens?

A: The Fire District employs a full-time public education coordinator, who also is trained in many aspects of risk reduction efforts. These EMS-related risk reduction efforts include injury and illness prevention programs for all ages and demographics of our community. Additionally, the Fire District provides nationally recognized medical training programs for our community and partner agencies.

If you have any questions about the upcoming levy or would like a presentation on the Fire District's EMS programs, please contact us at the District Office.

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District Office located at 26110 Ridge Avenue in Ocean Park

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