



# **News Release**

## **CITY OF MOUNTLAKE TERRACE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

June 19, 2009

### **Resolution Puts EMS Levy on November Ballot**

MOUNTLAKE TERRACE—At their June 15 meeting, the City Council approved a resolution that places the EMS Levy Restoration on the November 3 ballot. The measure asks voters to restore full funding for emergency medical services (EMS) to the 50 cents per \$1,000 levy rate in 2010.

Fire District 1 provides emergency medical services under contract with the city. In 2003, voters passed an EMS levy that took effect in 2005 at a rate of 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value.

The one-percent limitation on property tax increases dropped the original 50-cent rate to 35 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, causing the EMS levy to fall short of the rate of inflation. Costs for personnel, conducting day-to-day operations, maintaining and replacing apparatus and equipment, and staying current with technology have increased almost 4% per year since 2006.

If voters pass the measure for the EMS Levy lid lift in November, the average Mountlake Terrace homeowner would see a property tax increase of about \$43 per year beginning in 2010.

For more information on the proposed EMS Levy, please visit the city's website at [www.cityofmlt.com](http://www.cityofmlt.com) or call Finance Director Sonja Springer at (425) 744-6204.

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