



Woodinville Fire and Life Safety District

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Woodinville, WA 98072
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May 20, 2010

Kathy Lambert, Councilmember
King County Council
516 Third Avenue, Room 1200
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: Woodinville Fire and Life Safety District
Change of District Name, Resolution 2010-06

Dear Councilmember Lambert:

I am writing to inform you of an action taken by our Board of Fire Commissioners at our regular Board meeting on May 3, 2010. During that meeting, the Board moved to change the name of Woodinville Fire and Life Safety District to Woodinville Fire & Rescue.

As a matter of background, I would like to explain what took place prior to the Board's action. At the beginning of the year, in an effort to change the direction of the District and move forward in a positive manner that would better serve the citizens of our community, we hired a new Fire Chief and Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). A few months later we hired a new Deputy Fire Chief. In early January, the Board, the Union's executive board, the Fire Chief and the CAO all met in a retreat to brainstorm and develop a new mission, vision and set of values for the District. Once that was complete, our plan was to determine if our District name was an accurate reflection of our vision, mission and values. We considered our new direction as well as the direction of the fire industry in general; that being a business where the majority of our calls are rescue and EMS related. These deliberations led us to continue the forward motion of "rebranding" the District with a new name that truly reflects who we are.

To that end, a list of potential names that represented the "new" District was compiled as a result of the Board's discussion. We prepared a survey and presented it to the approximately 800 citizens that attended our pancake breakfast during the Celebrate Woodinville festivities. The feedback we received was clear – *Woodinville Fire & Rescue* was the citizen's name of choice.

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Another matter the Board considered was the cost of changing the District's name. The Board decided that in order to be economically prudent, the change would be done over time with a goal of completing it by January 2012. This means that as items run out and are replaced, letterhead for instance, the new letterhead will be ordered with the new name – items that would be ordered anyway. We will greatly reduce and, in many cases, altogether avoid, any waste.

I am sure you understand the importance that the Board feels with regard to the "new" District truly being new as we move forward to the future.

The Board has signed Resolution 2010-06, a copy of which is enclosed for your information. It is my understanding that pursuant to RCW 52.30.060, the King County Council will need to approve the name change. A copy of Resolution 2010-06 is being sent to King County Clerk Anne Noris so that a draft ordinance may be prepared approving the name change. I respectfully request that you sponsor the District's name change so that it may be approved by the King County Council.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I look forward to receiving a copy of the final approved County ordinance.

Sincerely yours,



Randy Ransom
Chair, Board of Fire Commissioners

Enclosure

RR/jsm