

315 E Crawford St. Deer Park, WA 99006 509-467-4500 www.scfd4.org

January 22, 2024- Letter from the Chief

We are considering asking voters for a fire levy lid lift sometime this year to maintain our current service levels and fund needed service improvements. Our call volumes have increased 24 percent in the last three years and more calls means additional costs to provide emergency services. Our costs increase by an average of 7.5 percent each year, but state law limits us to just a 1 percent revenue increase per year. The 1 percent revenue increase is not keeping up with the emergency service needs of our community.

We need additional fire/EMS personnel to respond to higher call volumes. We also need to make station improvements and replace some fire engines to improve response times and ensure service reliability when responding to calls.

This will be a public process and the community will get an opportunity to provide feedback before a final decision is made by the Board of Fire Commissioners. Please learn more at www. scfd4.org.

Thank you,

Bill Neckels Fire Chief