

## **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

Whatcom County Fire Protection District No. 8 requests approval of a four year maintenance and operations property tax levy. As a result of declining tax revenues and increasing costs, the District's regular tax levy is no longer adequate to continue providing fire and emergency services at existing levels of service or to make necessary facility improvements. By spreading costs over four years, the district is able to limit this levy to approximately 87 cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. If approved, the law prohibits any additional maintenance and operations tax levies for this four-year period.