



# Lane Fire Authority

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 17, 2016  
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### **Next steps to finalize Lane Fire Authority merger**

Veneta, Ore. – Voters in Lane County Fire District 1 and Lane Rural Fire/Rescue approved a merger by wide margins during the November 8 General Election. The fire districts have been working together under the name “Lane Fire Authority” since 2012 and will keep the name moving forward.

There are several steps the fire districts must complete before the merger is finalized. First, the boards of both fire districts must meet separately within five days of the election being certified by Lane County. The purpose is to pass a resolution accepting the election results.

The second step is to elect a governing board of five members for the new agency. Based on population, three board members will serve from Lane County Fire District 1 and two from Lane Rural Fire/Rescue. There will be a joint meeting of both fire district boards for this purpose.

At the same meeting, the new board for Lane Fire Authority passes a resolution declaring that the fire districts have officially merged. This resolution completes the merger process.

These meetings will take place on Thursday, December 1 starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Veneta Headquarters Station at 88050 Territorial Highway in Veneta.

There will be a new levy rate for the fire authority, which will replace the existing levy for each fire district. The Lane County Assessor’s Office will finalize the rate based on assessed valuations as of December 1, 2016, when the merger is finalized. The new levy rate will take effect on July 1, 2017.

Community members with questions about the merger process are encouraged to contact Fire Chief Terry Ney at (541) 935-2226 or [terryney@lanefire.org](mailto:terryney@lanefire.org).

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*Lane Fire Authority provides fire, life safety and emergency medical services (EMS) to 36,000 residents over 276 square miles in the Willamette Valley. This new partnership is actually two fire districts – Lane County Fire District 1 and Lane Rural Fire/Rescue – operating under a special agreement since 2012 that saves money and improves emergency services for the community. Our career and volunteer emergency personnel respond to over 4,800 emergency calls per year, 81% of which are for EMS.*



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