



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Sept. 30, 2025

Contact: Diana Holmes, Public Information Officer
Lane Fire Authority
541-935-2226
media@lanefire.org

Lane Fire Authority to host public Q&A sessions on levy measure
Community invited to hear details on fire and EMS funding

VENETA, Ore. – Lane Fire Authority will host two public meetings to share information about the local option levy that will appear on the November 4, 2025 ballot. Each session will begin with a short presentation by Fire Chief Dale Borland, followed by time for community questions.

Meetings will be held at Station 101 (Veneta headquarters, 88050 Territorial Rd.) on Thursday, October 16 at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, October 25 at 9:00 a.m.

The levy, first approved by voters in 2021, is a critical part of Lane Fire Authority's daily operations. Since then, total call volumes have climbed nearly 20%, with medical emergencies now accounting for 80% of all 911 responses. At the same time, costs for staffing, equipment, vehicles, and medical supplies have risen sharply.

If renewed and modestly increased, the levy would help maintain current service levels by funding staffing and offsetting higher operating costs. Without this funding, Lane Fire Authority may be forced to reduce services.

Possible reductions include firefighter layoffs, eliminating an ambulance, and reducing the number of emergency personnel on an engine. Cuts could also extend to community programs such as public education and wildfire mitigation, along with the executive assistant position that manages public records and community inquiries.

"These are not decisions we want to make, but they are the kinds of adjustments we would be forced to consider without sustainable funding," said Fire Chief Dale Borland. "The goal of these Q&A sessions is to ensure residents have the facts they need before casting their vote."

For more information about the levy and upcoming meetings, visit lane.fire.org/localoptionlevy or contact Lane Fire Authority at 541-935-2226.

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Lane Fire Authority provides fire suppression, emergency medical, and life safety services to approximately 45,000 people across 282 square miles in the heart of the Willamette Valley. EMS accounts for about 80% of the roughly 7,400 calls responded to each year by full-time and volunteer personnel. Learn more at lane.fire.org.