



GIG HARBOR FIRE & MEDIC ONE

10222 Bujacich Road NW, Gig Harbor 98332

(253) 851-3111 | www.gigharborfire.org

[f](#) GigHarborFire | [t](#) gigharborfire | [i](#) gig_harbor_fire_medic_one

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 7, 2022
Contact: Fire Chief Dennis Doan
(253) 851-3111 DDoan@gigharborfire.org

Questions About the Bond?

Community invited to meetings to learn more

[Gig Harbor, Wash.] – Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One (GHFMO) is holding three public meetings for residents to learn more about the facilities bond on the August 2, 2022 Primary Election ballot. The purpose of the bond is to add space for emergency personnel, and improve community safety and the health and safety of its firefighters.

Meetings will be held on:

- Wednesday, July 13 at 6:00 p.m. – Station 53 (Fox Island), 906 Kamus Dr., Fox Island
- Saturday, July 23 at 1:30 p.m. – Station 58 (Swede Hill), 10302 Bujacich Rd., Gig Harbor
- Wednesday, July 27 at 6:00 p.m. – Station 51 (Gig Harbor), 6711 Kimball Dr., Gig Harbor

Cancer is known to be a leading cause of death among firefighters. Some stations lack decontamination areas to remove soot, hydrocarbons and toxic chemicals from firefighting gear. There is also a need for space to decontaminate medical equipment after EMS calls.

Other renovations include adding space for emergency personnel, complying with requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, seismic upgrades, and enlarging bays to shelter modern apparatus.

The bond would fund needed improvements at Station 53 (Fox Island), 57 (Crescent Valley), 58 (Swede Hill), and 59 (Artondale). It also will replace Station 51, the community's busiest station in downtown Gig Harbor, and build a live fire training facility.

The bond would last for 20-years and is projected to cost the owner of a \$500,000 home (considered the average for the Gig Harbor community) \$9.90 per month, or \$118.80 per year. (The calculation rate is \$0.238 per \$1,000 of assessed property value.) Please note that the assessed value of your property is lower than its market value. The financial health of GHFMO helps ensure a favorable bond rate, as well.

More information on the facilities bond can be found at www.gigharborfire.org/about/bond. Fire Chief Dennis Doan also welcomes your questions at DDoan@gigharborfire.org.

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Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 5 (known as Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One) provides fire and life safety services to 53,000 people over 54 square miles. The Fire District responded to a high of 6,685 calls in 2019. Emergency medical service accounts for 78% of all calls. Through community support, Gig

Harbor Fire & Medic One has built one of the most advanced emergency response systems in Pierce County with highly-trained personnel and rescue programs.