

Letter to the Editor
September 8th, 2023

Dear Editor,

Firefighters with the Granite Falls Fire Department want to thank our Board of Fire Commissioners for placing a levy lid lift on the November election ballot. We need help to meet the demand for emergency services in our community.

Call volumes are up 40% percent since our last lid lift in 2020 – 23% in the last year alone. Overlapping calls are happening more and more often. We require additional emergency responders to maintain the level and quality of emergency service for our community.

Our fire department has a long-term plan in place to reduce impacts to taxpayers. The lid lift will fund seven emergency responders over three years to reduce overtime costs and improve response times. It also will allow our fire department to pay cash for a fire station and replace an engine and ambulance without debt, which costs property owners more in interest payments.

The cost would be \$10 per month for the average homeowner. Please take a moment to learn more about the fire levy lid lift at www.gffd17.org.

Sincerely,

Ted Bergstrom
Captain, Granite Falls Fire