ANACORTES FIRE DEPARTMENT
One Team ALWAYS There For You
Who We Are

3 Chief Officers
25 Line Staff Members
1 Community Paramedic
1 Administrative Assistant
3 Volunteer Firefighters
(7 more in training)
What We Do
Deployment

Station #1 Downtown
- Administrative Staff M:F
- 2 Personnel 24 Hours a day
- E2911, M14, L2915, R2917 Cross Staffed
- M18 (Reserve), UTV

Station #2 Skyline
- 2 Personnel 24 Hours a day
- E2921/M16 (Engine 2922 Reserve)
- Primarily covers the Skyline and West End neighborhoods.

Station #3 March’s Point
- 2 Personnel 24 Hours a day
- E2931/M12
- Primarily covers the March’s Point area, Swinomish Tribal Lands and Skagit County between LaConner and Bayview
60% Increase in 10 yrs

83% EMS Related

17% Fire Related
- 26 Structure Fires in 2022

899 Overlapping calls in 2022
Station Response Zones

Station #1
• 2356 Calls (57%)

Station #2
• 831 Calls (20%)

Station #3
• 974 Calls (23%)
Response Examples

BLS Calls (40%) receive a single unit
• Not ideal for patient or crew safety
• Necessity due to increased call volume

Station #1 is the busiest station (57%)
**Response Examples**

ALS Calls (60%) receive 2 units
- Critical time sensitive patient care
- Advanced procedures
- Approximately 2000 times

899 Overlapping Calls
275 Instances of “Level Zero”

4 minute response standard

![Time Chart]

- **0 Minutes**: Breathing stops; the heart will soon stop beating
- **4-6 Minutes**: Possibility of long-term brain damage
- **6-10 Minutes**: High probability of long-term brain damage
- **Over 10-15 Minutes**: Certain irreversible brain damage resulting in death

![City of Anacortes - Fire Response Zones]
Effective Response Force

NFPA - 16:17 Firefighters in 8 Minutes
Resolution 1946 - 12 Firefighters in 11 Minutes
2022 AFD Averaged 6.5 FFs in 12 Minutes and 10.3 FFs Total

WAC 296:305
- 4 Firefighters on scene to enter a building on fire (2 in/2 out)
- 2 in/1 out If there is a known rescue

- Having only 2 personnel on each engine means that offensive fire suppression or rescue cannot occur until a second unit arrives.

This creates a delay of 7-12 minutes.
Ensuring public safety, earning public trust.
## APD Staffing

### Commissioned Staff
- 1 Chief
- 1 Patrol Captain
- 1 Administrative Captain
- 1 Detective Sergeant
- 1 Detective Corporal
- 2 Detectives
- 3 Patrol Sergeants
- 3 Patrol Corporals
- 15 Patrol Officers

### Non-Commissioned Staff
- 1 Animal Control/Parking Enforcement Officer
- 1 Community Service Officer
- 1 Records Services Manager
- 4 Records Clerks

Commissioned patrol officers are individually assigned to patrol duties allocated to cover the City of Anacortes 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.
APD SERVICES

- More officers responding to complex calls means better outcomes for all involved. Current staffing may appear sufficient, but staggered shifts include weekends, as well as vacations, sick time and other considerations.

- This leads to potentially fewer officers than ideal for calls that require an extra measure of care, often by as much as 20%.

- This is even more pertinent as crime rates across a variety of categories continue to rise.

- Even as expectations stay high and crime rates continue to rise, the Anacortes Police Department retains its high level of service.
DE-ESCALATION

From Washington State RCW 10.120.010, "De-escalation tactics" refer to actions used by a peace officer that are intended to minimize the likelihood of the need to use force during an incident. Depending on the circumstances, "de-escalation tactics" may include, but are not limited to: Using clear instructions and verbal persuasion; attempting to slow down or stabilize the situation so that more time, options, and resources are available to resolve the incident; creating physical distance by employing tactical repositioning to maintain the benefit of time, distance, and cover; when there are multiple officers, designating one officer to communicate in order to avoid competing commands; requesting and using available support and resources, such as a crisis intervention team, a designated crisis responder or other behavioral health professional, or back-up officers.

Officer are resources, and on complex calls, more officers lead to a greater ability of those officers to accomplish successful de-escalation and avoid using physical force.
Property crime is up across the board. 2022 saw a dramatic increase in thefts and vandalism; only fraud saw a decrease. A sufficient number of officers is required to deter these crimes before they happen.
Even as APD officers see increases in property crime, many call classifications are still low relative to other cities across Washington, including multiple varieties of serious crime.
Currently, each APD shift carries one sergeant, one corporal and four officers. However, sick time, vacation, training and scheduled days off for each officer mean these shifts often operate with fewer officers depending on the day.

For example:

Thursday, March 9, 2023 – Day Shift
Sergeant: Training
Corporal: Day off
Officer 1: On duty
Officer 2: On duty
Officer 3: Day off
Officer 4: Day off

Thursday, March 16, 2023 – Day Shift
Sergeant: On duty
Corporal: On duty
Officer 1: On duty
Officer 2: On duty
Officer 3: Day off
Officer 4: Day off

APD officers are eager to do their jobs, meaning the gaps can often be filled in with holdovers and overtime work, but this is not a sustainable way to staff the police department. Additional officers are needed to continue providing a high level of service to the community. The city's population and call volume also justify adding patrol staff.
WHAT WE DO
PROPOSITION #1 - Public Safety Staffing

Levy Lid Lift
Common Questions

What is Proposition #1?
- Proposition #1 is a request for a single-year Levy Lid Lift
- This Levy Lid Lift would be utilized to hire 5 additional Police Officers and 8 additional Firefighters

What is a Levy Lid Lift?
- The Levy is the total amount of property tax collected by the City annually
- The Levy is limited to a 1% increase annually without voter approval
- A Levy Lid Lift allows the voters to approve increasing the levy rate to an amount equal to or less than the statutory maximum rate of $3.375 per $1000 of assessed value.
Why is the City seeking a Levy Lid Lift?

US Inflation Rate at New 40-Year High

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Cumulative Inflation Increase</th>
<th>Cumulative 1% Allowable Increase</th>
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Common Questions
Where does my money go?
Common Questions

What would Proposition #1 Cost?
- Proposition #1 would cost 36 cents per $1000
- $19.50 per month on a $650,000 home

What is my current tax rate?

2023 City Tax Rates per $1000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Tax Rate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Anacortes</td>
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<td>Sedro Woolley</td>
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Common Questions

How would 8 new FFs be deployed?
✧ Spread across the 3 existing shifts (48/96)
✧ They would allow the AFD to staff a second 2-person unit at Downtown Station #1
✧ Allows for Reduced response times
✧ Allows for improved response forces

How would 5 new police officers be deployed?
✧ An emphasis on patrol staffing
✧ Reduce response times
✧ Proactive policing/crime prevention
✧ Enough personnel to be safe/de-escalation
✧ Recruitment/Retention (flexibility/burnout)
Common Questions
Why Now?

Fire/EMS
- Fire and EMS Master Plan (2014)
- Resolution # 1946 (2016)
- Steadily rising call volume

Police
- Increasing crime rates
- Legislative changes
- Changing expectations