

**Newberg Rural Fire
Protection District**

Referred by the Newberg Rural Fire Protection District

Measure 36-187

**Authorizes Dissolution of Newberg Rural
Fire Protection District**

Question: Shall Newberg Rural Fire Protection District be dissolved in order to be annexed by Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue?

Summary: This measure dissolves Newberg Rural Fire Protection District (Newberg Rural) so that its territory may be annexed into Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue (TVF&R).

Newberg Rural does not have any fire stations, land or personnel. Since July 1, 2016, TVF&R has provided fire protection and emergency medical services to Newberg Rural under contract.

Dissolution is contingent upon voter approval of a separate annexation measure. If Newberg Rural voters approve dissolution and annexation, all assets and liabilities of Newberg Rural shall be transferred to and assumed by TVF&R under the plan of dissolution available for inspection at the office of the Yamhill County Board of Commissioners. TVF&R will reinvest any proceeds from Newberg Rural's cash assets into future infrastructure that will serve the area.

Newberg Rural's permanent tax rate of \$.4329 per \$1,000 of assessed property value would be eliminated. TVF&R's permanent tax rate of \$1.5252, a local option levy of \$0.45 that expires on July 1, 2020, and bonded indebtedness of \$0.1047 (total combined rate of \$2.0799) would be levied beginning July 1, 2018.

**NO ARGUMENTS
WERE FILED IN
SUPPORT OF OR IN
OPPOSITION TO THIS
MEASURE**

**Newberg Rural Fire
Protection District**

Explanatory Statement

Measure 36-187

This measure dissolves Newberg Rural Fire Protection District (Newberg Rural). Dissolution is contingent upon Newberg Rural's voters approving a separate measure to annex into Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue (TVF&R). Under Oregon law, TVF&R may not annex properties within Newberg Rural unless Newberg Rural dissolves.

For decades, Newberg Rural had an agreement with the City of Newberg for the provision of fire and emergency medical services. The City of Newberg approached TVF&R for contract services in 2016 due to funding limitations that made it difficult to sustain adequate staffing, maintain equipment, and comply with national standards given increased service demands.

When the City of Newberg began contracting with TVF&R, services were extended to Newberg Rural to honor the historic arrangement. Since there are no fire stations in Newberg Rural's area, the City of Newberg subsidized fire and emergency services by having resources respond from the City. As part of the contract, TVF&R has provided additional firefighters, apparatus and equipment to improve coverage, response and medical transport services to the City and Newberg Rural areas. The City of Newberg is now seeking approval from its voters in the November 7, 2017 election to annex the City's territory into TVF&R.

Newberg Rural's board of directors hired an independent consultant to research options for Newberg Rural's future. Under most of the options considered, Newberg Rural would likely have to ask voters to approve a levy and/or bond since the existing rate of \$.4329 per \$1,000 assessed value does not generate enough revenue to hire staff, invest in infrastructure, and cover operational costs. Newberg Rural's board decided that dissolution of the district and annexation to TVF&R would provide the most stable solution for long-term service to the area. TVF&R will reinvest proceeds from Newberg Rural's cash assets into future infrastructure that will serve the area.

If approved, Newberg Rural's permanent tax rate of \$.4329 per \$1,000 of assessed property value would be eliminated. TVF&R's permanent tax rate of \$1.52, a local option levy of \$0.45 and bonded indebtedness of \$0.1026 (total combined rate of \$2.0799) would be levied beginning July 1, 2018. TVF&R's local option levy expires on July 1, 2020.

*Information furnished by Cassandra Ulven, Public Affairs Chief
Newberg Rural Fire Protection District*