



PORT ORCHARD INDEPENDENT

FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2023 ★ VOL. 131, NO. 27 ★ KITSAPDAILYNEWS.COM ★ \$1.50

SOUND
PUBLISHING INC

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Levy questions

To the editor:

After the South Kitsap Fire & Rescue District chief gave his levy briefing to the Port Orchard City Council, two SKFR employees approached me outside. From one of them, the message was that if you aren't voting for the levy, then you don't want

fire services, lifesaving services or value lives.

Many people save lives but also show empathy for the rising costs to taxpayers. This firefighter lives in Tacoma so he doesn't pay taxes here and knows little of the tax burden for residents in this community. Given his union's power, he doesn't want pay and benefits.

Then I was told by another SKFR employee that I didn't know what I was talking about and to stop spreading false information. He didn't want to understand that because my research shows contrary information to what the SKFR party line says, it represents different information that should be shared so that the voter can

make an informed decision based on all the information—good and bad.

NFPA 1710 is one document that explains how the SKFR works. It explains desired personnel and response time needs. Reporting a fire or medical issue quickly is the best determinant of success compared to response time.

What voters want is to see that things have changed from the last levy request. More of everything is always the answer as it is taxpayer money. What has changed to make things more cost-effective before asking for more? What changes have you seen?

**Jeff Daily
Port Orchard**