

# Kitsap Sun

**LETTERS | Opinion** *This piece expresses the views of its author(s), separate from those of this publication.*

## Why does South Kitsap Fire keep buying property?

**Dave Kimble, Port Orchard**

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South Kitsap Fire and Rescue should be in the real-estate business. They paid \$525,000 in cash, for a single family home on 2.5 acres. County records reflect the tax value is \$432,570. That's \$92,043 over fair market value paid. The property is less than a few blocks from the "hoped for" future site of the 2nd SKSD high school.

The contract is conditioned on the current renter-tenants being evicted. A "time is of the essence" clause was also added by the fire district. I wonder what the hurry is about. On the seller disclosures they stated the well and septic have no problems, but they don't make any other representations regarding the condition of the property. It's a "sold as is" proposition.

What is the possibility of future surprises for the fire district? No mention of site inspections or evaluations done for hazardous waste on this property in the contract signed on February 15, 2023. And why wasn't the public informed of this purchase? All of the properties have been cash sales using our tax dollars.

How many properties does SKFR intend on buying? How many are actually needed? The last levy failed yet they continue buying up more properties. 17,000 or so voters said no last time. Do those voters still believe we don't need more fire stations? Expect another SKFR levy request in August.

Visit: <http://southkitsapcitizensdemandingresponsibletaxation.one/> for more information as it becomes available.

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