



April 22, 2019

**Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
Policy Position
HB 2449: Relating to 9-1-1 Funding**

Clackamas County supports HB 2449: The Board of County Commissioners supports HB 2449, which increases the 9-1-1 tax to \$1.50.

Since the last 9-1-1 emergency access tax increase in 1995, Clackamas County has seen a population increase from 314,922 to 412,672 (2017). More people means higher call volume into the emergency access lines in urban areas, but also for search and rescue calls as more and more people from the Portland Metro Area travel to Mount Hood for recreation.

Clackamas County is an Oregon leader in collaborative communication responses, and currently works with other local and regional 9-1-1 providers to share costs and ensure Clackamas County has safe and reliable access to 9-1-1 services. Even with these cost sharing tools, the 9-1-1 tax today only covers approximately 18% of our local operations.

It is important to note that while the proposed \$0.75 increase will still not provide 100% funding to all 9-1-1 centers in Oregon, it will help to improve our ability to respond to our communities when they experience the worst days of their lives.

We urge a “YES” vote for HB 2449.

Please contact Chris Lyons at clyons@clackamas.us for more information.