



**OREGON  
MARION COUNTY  
VOTER PAMPHLET**

**Bill Burgess  
Marion County Clerk**

**March 13, 2012  
Special Election**

**OFFICIAL MARION  
COUNTY DROP SITES**

Ballots for Marion County voters will only be issued from the County Elections Office, 4263 Commercial St. SE, Room 300, Salem. The following Marion County Ballot Drop Sites are open normal business hours beginning on February 24, 2012 and until 8:00 PM on Election Day, March 13, 2012.

**Keizer City Hall** **Mon - Fri**  
930 Chemawa Rd. NE, Keizer 8 AM - 5 PM

**U.S. Bank - Keizer** **Mon - Fri**  
5110 River Rd. N, Keizer 9 AM - 6 PM

**Marion County Elections** **Mon - Fri**  
**Inside Service Only** 8:30 AM - 5 PM  
4263 Commercial St. SE, # 300, Salem  
**Election Day, March 13<sup>th</sup> 7 AM - 8 PM**

4263 Commercial St. SE, #300, Salem  
Phone: 503.588.5041 or 1.800.655.5388  
TTY/TDD: 503.588.5610 FAX: 503.588.5383

E-Mail: elections@co.marion.or.us  
Website: http://www.co.marion.or.us/CO/elections/

If you have a disability or are otherwise unable to mark your ballot, you may contact the Elections Office for assistance.

**★ Not all voters will vote on every measure.**

**Keizer Rural Fire Protection District**

Referred to the People by the District Board

**24-325 Proposal to Annex Clear Lake Neighborhood to Keizer Fire District**

**Question:** Should the Clear Lake neighborhood be annexed to Keizer Rural Fire Protection District ("Keizer Fire")?

**Summary:** This measure would annex the Clear Lake neighborhood to Keizer Fire. Marion County Fire District #1 currently provides services in Clear Lake. With the exception of Clear Lake, Keizer Fire currently provides services in the City of Keizer.

Clear Lake extends roughly from Parkmeadow Drive NE to Clearlake Road NE and River Road NE to Wheatland Road N.

If approved, beginning July 1, 2012, Clear Lake will receive fire/rescue services from Keizer Fire.

If approved, Clear Lake would be withdrawn from Marion Fire, annexed to Keizer Fire, and subject to the proposed debt distribution plan, under which Clear Lake properties:

- would be responsible for its share of:
- Marion Fire outstanding bonded indebtedness – currently \$0.3560;
- Keizer Fire Permanent Rate: \$1.3526;
- Keizer Fire Local Option Levy currently \$0.35;

- would not be responsible for any share of:
- Keizer Fire outstanding bonded indebtedness – currently \$0.1415;
- Marion Fire Permanent Rate: \$1.9045;
- Marion Fire Local Option Levy, if any - currently \$0.00.

This measure is contingent upon separate approval by Keizer City electors.

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

- New registrations needed to be completed and post-marked by February 21, 2012.

If you have questions about registration or voting, contact the Elections Office.

**IMPORTANT BALLOT INFORMATION**

If a ballot has been delivered to your address and it is addressed to someone who does not live at your address:

1. Mark through the address like this:
2. Return to your mailbox, post office or letter carrier.

If a ballot has been delivered to someone at your address who is deceased:

1. Mark through the address like this:
2. Write "Deceased" on the envelope.
3. Return to your mailbox, post office or letter carrier.

Notify Marion County Elections BEFORE voting the ballot delivered to you if:

- Your name is different than that on the label; or
- Your residence address has changed; or
- You have added, deleted or changed a mailing address.

**REVIEW THE BALLOT PACKET**

It should contain the following additional items:

- Printed ballot
  - A pre-addressed Return & Secrecy envelope
- If any items are missing, contact Marion County Elections.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING YOUR BALLOT**

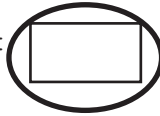
To make sure your vote counts:

- Use a black or blue ink pen to mark your ballot.
- Completely fill in the box.

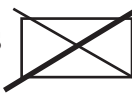
FILL IN THE BOX LIKE THIS:



NOT THIS:



OR THIS



**CHECK YOUR BALLOT**

- Make sure you have completely filled in the box next to your choice(s).
- If you vote both YES and NO on a measure, it is called an Overvote. Your vote will not count for that measure.
- You do not have to vote on all contests. Those you do vote on will still count.

**RETURNING YOUR VOTED BALLOT**

- Place the ballot in the secrecy envelope, seal it, then place the secrecy envelope in the Return envelope. Do not remove the label.
- Sign the Voter Statement on the back of the Return envelope. Your ballot will not be counted if you do not sign your envelope.
- To return your ballot by mail, place one first class stamp on the envelope.
- To return your ballot other than through the mail, you may refer to the list of ballot drop sites. You may return your ballot to any Official Ballot Drop Site in the State.

**FOR YOUR BALLOT TO BE COUNTED**

- Mark your ballot according to voting instructions.
- Do NOT remove any label(s)
- Use your secrecy envelope.
- Your brown striped return ballot envelope must be signed.
- Your ballot must be received in the Elections Office or an Official Ballot Drop Site by 8:00 P.M. on Election Day. **POSTMARK DOES NOT COUNT**

**WHAT IF I . . . ?**

**What if I make a mistake on my ballot?**

See Instructions on your ballot. If you make a mistake that cannot be corrected, call the Marion County Elections Office and request a replacement ballot. One will be mailed to you provided the request is received within time for mailing. Otherwise, you may pick up a replacement ballot in person.

**What if I change my mind after I turn in my ballot?**

Your ballot has been cast as soon as you deposit it in the mail or at a drop site. After that, you cannot receive a new ballot.

**What if I don't vote on everything on the ballot?**

Your ballot will be counted.

**Do Not Forget to Sign Your Return Ballot Envelope**

**Explanatory Statement Continued:**

Total Cost: \$419,848.16\*

\* Assumes a 2010 assessed value of \$250,000.

**Description of territory:**

Clear Lake extends roughly from Parkmeadow Drive NE to Clearlake Road NE and River Road NE to Wheatland Road N. (See map.)

**Debt Distribution Plan Described:**

If approved, Clear Lake properties:

- would be responsible for its share of:
- Marion Fire outstanding bonded indebtedness – currently - \$0.3560;
- Keizer Fire Permanent Rate of \$1.3526;
- Keizer Fire Local Option Levy currently \$0.35.
- would not be responsible for any share of:
- Keizer Fire outstanding bonded indebtedness – currently \$0.1415;
- Marion Fire Permanent Rate of \$1.9045;
- Marion Fire Local Option, if any – currently \$0.00.

Submitted by: Joe Van Meter, President, Keizer Rural Fire Protection District

**No arguments in favor of or opposed to this measure were filed.**

**Explanatory Statement:**

Keizer Rural Fire Protection District ("Keizer Fire") and Marion County Fire District #1 ("Marion Fire") provide fire suppression, emergency medical response, rescue, fire prevention services and emergency response. Keizer Fire serves all territory within the city of Keizer, except the Clear Lake neighborhood. The Clear Lake neighborhood is currently served by Marion Fire.

**What would this measure do?**

It proposes annexation of the Clear Lake neighborhood to Keizer Fire. Marion Fire currently provides service to Clear Lake. This measure would make the City's ordinance 2011-644 effective (withdrawing the Clear Lake neighborhood from Marion Fire), and would annex the withdrawn Clear Lake Neighborhood to Keizer Fire. It proposes that the annexation would be subject to a debt distribution plan to distribute the liabilities for bonds, local option levies and permanent rates between Keizer Fire and Marion Fire.

**Why has the measure been placed on the ballot?**

Keizer Fire provides services to all of the territory within the City of Keizer, except the Clear Lake neighborhood. The Keizer City Council found that withdrawal of the Clear Lake neighborhood would: continue and maintain services to all of the City; lower the tax rate for Clearlake residents; and allocate the permanent property tax rate to the service provider, Keizer Fire.

**Would property tax bills decrease in Clear Lake if this measure is approved?**

Yes. Property tax bills in Clear Lake would be reduced as a result in the reduction of the permanent rate.

**What is the current total tax rate for Clear Lake?**

\$1.9045/\$1,000 Permanent Rate  
\$0.00/\$1,000 Levy  
\$0.3560/\$1,000 Bonds  
\$2.2605/\$1,000 Total

Current cost to average home: \$565.13\*  
Total Cost: \$461,025.34\*

\* Assumes a 2010 assessed value of \$250,000.

**What would the proposed total tax rate for Clear Lake if it is annexed by Keizer Fire?**

\$1.3526/\$1,000 Permanent Rate  
\$0.35/\$1,000 Levy  
\$0.3560/\$1,000 Bonds  
\$2.0586/\$1,000 Total

Proposed cost to average home: \$514.65\*

**Explanatory Statement Continued in next column.**





**★ Not all voters will vote on every measure.**

**City of Keizer**

Referred to the People by the City Council

**24-326 Proposal to Annex Clear Lake Neighborhood to Keizer Fire District**

**Question:** Should the Clear Lake neighborhood be annexed to Keizer Rural Fire Protection District (“Keizer Fire”)?

**Summary:** This measure would annex the Clear Lake neighborhood to Keizer Fire. Marion County Fire District #1 currently provides services to Clear Lake. Keizer Fire currently provides service to the rest of Keizer.

Clear Lake extends roughly from Parkmeadow Drive NE to Clearlake Road NE and River Road NE to Wheatland Road N.

If approved, beginning July 1, 2012, Clear Lake will receive fire/rescue services from Keizer Fire.

If approved, Clear Lake would be withdrawn from Marion Fire, annexed to Keizer Fire, and subject to the proposed debt distribution plan, under which Clear Lake properties:

- would be responsible for its share of:
  - Marion Fire outstanding bonded indebtedness – currently \$0.3560;
  - Keizer Fire Permanent Rate: \$1.3526;
  - Keizer Fire Local Option Levy currently \$0.35;
- would not be responsible for any share of:
  - Keizer Fire outstanding bonded indebtedness – currently \$0.1415;
  - Marion Fire Permanent Rate: \$1.9045;
  - Marion Fire Local Option Levy, if any - currently \$0.00.

This measure is contingent upon separate approval by Keizer Fire electors.

**Explanatory Statement:**

Keizer Rural Fire Protection District (“Keizer Fire”) and Marion County Fire District #1 (“Marion Fire”) provide fire suppression, emergency medical response, rescue, fire prevention services and emergency response. Keizer Fire serves all territory within the city of Keizer, except the Clear Lake neighborhood. The Clear Lake neighborhood is currently served by Marion Fire.

**What would this measure do?**

It proposes annexation of the Clear Lake neighborhood to Keizer Fire. Marion Fire currently provides service to Clear Lake. This measure would make the City’s ordinance 2011-644 effective (withdrawing the Clear Lake neighborhood from Marion Fire), and would annex the withdrawn Clear Lake Neighborhood to Keizer Fire. It proposes that the annexation would be subject to a debt distribution plan to distribute the liabilities for bonds, local option levies and permanent rates between Keizer Fire and Marion Fire.

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Keizer Fire provides services to all of the territory within the City of Keizer, except the Clear Lake neighborhood. The Keizer City Council found that withdrawal of the Clear Lake neighborhood would: continue and maintain services to all of the City; lower the tax rate for Clearlake residents; and allocate the permanent property tax rate to the service provider, Keizer Fire.

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\$1.3526/\$1,000 Permanent Rate  
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Proposed cost to average home: \$514.65\*  
 Total Cost: \$419,848.16\*

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**Description of territory:**

Clear Lake extends roughly from Parkmeadow Drive NE to Clearlake Road NE and River Road NE to Wheatland Road N. (See map.)

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  - Keizer Fire Local Option Levy currently \$0.35.
- would not be responsible for any share of:
  - Keizer Fire outstanding bonded indebtedness – currently \$0.1415;
  - Marion Fire Permanent Rate of \$1.9045;
  - Marion Fire Local Option, if any – currently \$0.00.

Submitted by: Lore Christopher, Mayor, City of Keizer

No arguments in favor of this measure were filed.

**Argument In Opposition**

**Vote “NO” to Keep Keizer Safe!**

Recently, Keizer City Council and Keizer Fire District (KFD) worked together to lower our level of emergency services and put residents at higher risk during a fire or other life-threatening emergency by filing measures to annex Clear Lake into Keizer Fire District and take it away from Marion County Fire District #1 (MCFD #1). Read carefully how this forced annexation actually reduces services you receive.

**There’s no reason to change service in Clear Lake**

This “money/land-grab” by KFD is completely unnecessary. There hasn’t been a problem with service in Clear Lake or any other Keizer area MCFD #1 covers. MCFD #1 volunteer and professional firefighters risk their lives every day to protect our homes, business and our lives. And they do a great job.

**Vote “NO” to Keep Keizer Safe!**

**If these measures pass, service will actually decrease**

- MCFD #1 currently has 20 firefighters at Clear Lake station. KFD has stated they will be hiring 3 new staff.
- Ambulance service will go from two full-time and one part-time ambulance to only two full-time.
- When MCFD #1 is called to help, they will have to respond from Brooks or even further away, meaning a delay of at least 10 minutes during a fire or other emergency.
- Because KFD firefighters will be covering Clear Lake without MCFD #1 being close, residents in the rest of Keizer will see longer response times to fires and other emergencies as KFD is stretched too thin.

**Vote “NO” to Keep Keizer Safe!**

**KFD and Keizer City Council Aren’t Listening**

First was a poorly-conceived cell phone tax designed to take money from residents. Then, voters overwhelmingly defeated the 911 fee backed by KFD and City Council. Now, they’re trying again to make changes without listening to residents, resulting in less service for you and more money for KFD.

**Vote “NO” to Keep Keizer Safe!**

*(This information furnished by Wayne Miller, Keep Keizer Safe PAC.)*

**The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by Marion County nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statements made in the argument. Marion County does not correct errors in spelling or grammar.**

**Argument In Opposition**

**The Clear Lake Firefighters and Marion County Fire District #1 (MCFD #1) Volunteer Firefighters Association strongly OPPOSE this ballot measure.**

MCFD#1 has served the Clear Lake area for over 60 years. We have 80 volunteer firefighters district-wide with 20 assigned to the Clear Lake Station. At this station we provide two fire engines in addition to our 24-hour paramedic ambulance. Because of our presence Keizer residents currently are serviced by two 24-hour ambulances and one daytime ambulance from both Keizer Fire District (KFD) and MCFD#1.

**Our concern if this passes: In a system already overloaded, Keizer residents will lose twenty (20) dedicated firefighters and one 24-hour ambulance**

Eliminating firefighters during this economy or any economy is not good for the citizens. KFD struggles now with responding to simultaneous calls. If this measure passes; who will handle the increasing emergency calls? If their fire engine begins responding to calls in the Clear Lake area who is going to respond to the central and south end of Keizer in a timely manner or vice-versa?

Supporters of this measure state they will staff the Clear Lake station. However finding volunteers is not the same as hiring firefighters. Volunteers must live close to the station for quick response. They must be willing to give up personal time. They are required to be trained at the same level as paid firefighters, and be committed to the safety of our city without expectation of reimbursement.

**There isn’t a problem with the level or quality of current service** so it appears KFD wants to annex the Clear Lake area only to try and solve their massive budget problems. After supporting increased fees on your water bill and cell phone bill, both of which were defeated, now they’re resorting to taking a fire station they didn’t pay for and forcibly annexing a community.

Don’t let this happen. **PLEASE VOTE NO.**

Dave Zahn  
 Captain, Clear Lake Fire Station  
 President, Marion County Volunteer Firefighter’s Association

*(This information furnished by Dave Zahn, President, Marion County Volunteer Firefighter’s Association.)*

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**Argument In Opposition**

**PLEASE VOTE NO ON MEASURE 24-325 and 24-326.**

This forced annexation isn’t in Keizer residents’ best interests. It’s definitely not a good idea for homes in Clear Lake which is why the Vineyards Phase 1 Home Owners Association Board of Directors unanimously voted to oppose the measures.

**Less Service for Keizer Residents**

If these measures pass, all Keizer residents will have less service. Residents living north of Chemawa Road will see diminished service. Further, if KFD is responding in Clear Lake, it means they’re unable to respond in the rest of Keizer. To ensure there are enough resources available Marion County Fire District #1 (MCFD#1) and Keizer Fire District now both respond to calls north of Chemawa Road.

If these measures pass, MCFD#1 firefighters will likely have to respond from the Brooks station or another station further away, adding significant time to responses. When your house is on fire, those extra minutes are precious. Fires double in size every five minutes.

**No Real Savings**

Supporters of these measures claim taxpayers living in the Clear Lake area will save about \$4 a month in property taxes. For the cost of a cup of coffee there’ll be fewer emergency resources which could mean the difference between a small, controllable fire or one that destroys your entire home.

**Decrease in Ambulance Service**

With MCFD #1 at the Clear Lake station, Keizer residents have two full-time ambulances and one part-time ambulance available. If these measures pass, MCFD #1 will be forced to vacate the Clear Lake station, leaving only two full time ambulances serving Keizer.

Going from two and a half ambulances to two ambulances is not better service for Keizer. All this for the cost of a cup of coffee? No thanks!

Keizer is best served by two fire districts. Two fire districts have enough resources to respond to residents’ emergencies.

Join us in saying **NO** to these measures.

Mike Welter  
 President, Vineyards Phase 1 Home Owners Association

*(This information furnished by Mike Welter, Vineyards Phase 1 Home Owners Association.)*

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**Argument In Opposition**

**PLEASE VOTE NO** on Measures 24-325 and 24-326.

As the Fire Chief for Marion County Fire District #1 (MCFD#1), I fully understand the fire and life safety issues facing the City of Keizer and the Clear Lake neighborhood. Here are some extremely important facts that may help you make your decision.

**FACT:** The Clear Lake area and a major portion of Keizer are now and have been well served by MCFD#1 for over 60 years.

**FACT: Clear Lake residents are not being allowed to vote on their own whether they want to be annexed.** This forced annexation is being done so KFD can take property tax revenue away from MCFD #1 because of KFD’s budget problems.

**FACT:** MCFD#1 has 20 firefighters assigned to the Clear Lake fire station, along with a full-time paramedic staffed ambulance, all of which routinely respond to help Keizer with emergencies. KFD said it will add 3 personnel for their second ambulance.

**FACT: A yes vote** will mean **less ambulance service**, and **fewer firefighters** available to keep Keizer safe.

**FACT:** Firefighting is dangerous work, and KFD regularly relies on support from other agencies for structure fires. Fire Districts routinely help each other and MCFD#1 has responded for decades, at no charge, to emergencies in the City of Keizer. MCFD#1 Clear Lake Fire Station is the closest and most immediate source of help in most instances.

**FACT:** If these measures pass, help from MCFD#1 will likely come from further away, and take as much as 10 minutes longer. Those extra minutes make a critical difference in life-threatening medical emergencies and fighting fires.

Keizer residents currently have a very effective arrangement that works by receiving immediate response from both MCFD#1 and KFD, and that shouldn’t change.

**Voting “NO” will keep Marion County Fire District #1 at the Clear Lake Station, keep more firefighters and first responders closer and keep Keizer residents safer.**

Vote “NO” on Measures 24-325 and 24-326. Let’s keep Keizer safe.

*(This information furnished by Kevin Henson.)*

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