

# A thank you letter to the people of Columbia County.



Providing 9-1-1 call answering, emergency dispatch and other support services for:

- Clatskanie Fire & Medical
- Clatskanie Police
- Columbia City Police
- Columbia County Sheriff
- Columbia River Fire & Rescue
- Mist-Birkenfeld Fire and Medical
- Rainier Police
- City of Prescott
- Scappoose Fire & Medical
- Scappoose Police
- St. Helens Police
- Vernonia Fire & Medical
- Metro-West Ambulance
- Vernonia Police
- Columbia Co. District Attorney
- Columbia Co. Emergency Services
- Columbia Co. Juvenile Division
- Columbia Co. Road Department
- Columbia Community Mental Health
- Oregon State Police
- Oregon State Forestry, Columbia Unit
- Parole & Probation
- PGE Trojan Facility

- BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
- Zone 1 (Clatskanie), Dee Wooley
  - Zone 2 (Rainier), Connie Budge
  - Zone 3 (St. Helens), Henry Heimuller
  - Zone 4 (Vernonia-Mist), Kathy Dencia
  - Zone 5 (Scappoose), Rob Anderson

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This a "Thank You" letter. Some might not expect that on the heels of the recent Columbia 9-1-1 Operating Fund Renewal election. But it is a thank you letter, indeed.

Thank you to all the friends, neighbors — people from throughout our entire county, in every community — who so overwhelmingly voted "Yes" to renew Columbia 9-1-1.

Thank you to all the community groups and organizations who listened to our information and voted their own resolutions of support for the Renewal. From Granges to service clubs, senior groups to Fire & Rescue District Boards, City Councils to Chambers of Commerce, to all the newspaper editors and many more who lent their good names and support to renewing the 9-1-1 Operating Funds.

Thank you to all the individuals who publicly voiced their support and volunteers who worked hard to get information out to citizens, put up signs, wrote letters, made reminder phone calls about voting, and many, many more things that it takes to successfully inform voters.

And thank you to everyone who did cast a ballot and participate in the election. We needed just a few more of our neighbors (only about 400!) to vote, and this measure would have reached the required 50%+1 turnout to have been approved right now.

Looking forward, clearly Columbia 9-1-1 needs operating Funds to provide you with essential 9-1-1 emergency communications service. The board and staff are pleased to be able to budget for doing that in the next five years at an even lower rate than the one you approved five years ago. We planned ahead, and put this measure before the voters now, prior to it becoming an emergency in its own right. We have time to resubmit this measure during elections when even more people can make the choice to say "Yes" to renewing Columbia 9-1-1 service.

We'll need people to take that opportunity even more seriously, as this setback puts us closer to expiration of the current operating levy. However, the 70% vote in support of 9-1-1 in this election is a clear mandate for the vital service we are privileged to provide.

So, thank you for making that support so clear. It is heartening and encouraging to our staff and all of our emergency service and public safety partners. We encourage you to remember how vital 9-1-1 service is, and then encourage even more of your friends and neighbors to vote when this renewal opportunity is again placed on the ballot.

We'll keep you informed along the way. And, once again, on behalf of the Columbia 9-1-1 Board of Directors and staff, thanks for your support! Be as safe as you can in all your activities, and remember, when seconds count, call 9-1-1, first.

Sincerely,

Sally J. Jones, Administrator,  
Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District

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