



Snohomish County Council

Committee: Planning & Community Development **Analyst:** Ryan Countryman
ECAF: 2022-0656
Proposal: Proposed Motion 22-283 **Date:** July 5, 2022

Consideration

Proposed Motion 22-283 states that the Snohomish County Council does not oppose the full statutory merger of Snohomish County Fire Protection District #23 (“Fire District 23”) into Snohomish County Fire Protection District #17 (“Fire District 17”) and will not invoke the jurisdiction of the Boundary Review Board (BRB). It also directs the Council Clerk to file the motion together with a staff report from Snohomish County Planning and Development Services (PDS) with the BRB.

Background and Analysis

Fire District 23 seeks to merge with Fire District 17 to provide more effective delivery of governance, management, and services by creating efficiencies in administration and operations as well as allowing for more specialization. These anticipated benefits are details in the Notice of Intent for the merger annexation. Fire District 23 provides service to a relatively small area around Verlot whereas Fire District 17 covers a larger area nearby that includes Granite Falls and its surroundings (see map next page).

RCW 52.06 includes provisions governing the merger of fire districts. On April 23, 2022, the board of commissioners for Fire District 17 approved a petition requesting to merge into Fire District 23. On May 9, 2022, the board of commissioners for Fire District 17 approved a resolution approving the requested merger. Notice of Intent for the merger was received by the BRB on May 24, 2022 and was deemed legally sufficient with an effective filing date of June 6, 2022. The 45-day review period will end on July 21, 2022. The proposed merger would become effective on January 1, 2023 at which time Fire District 23 would dissolve and become part of Fire District 17. There are no known conflicts with policy or other reasons for the merger annexation not to proceed.

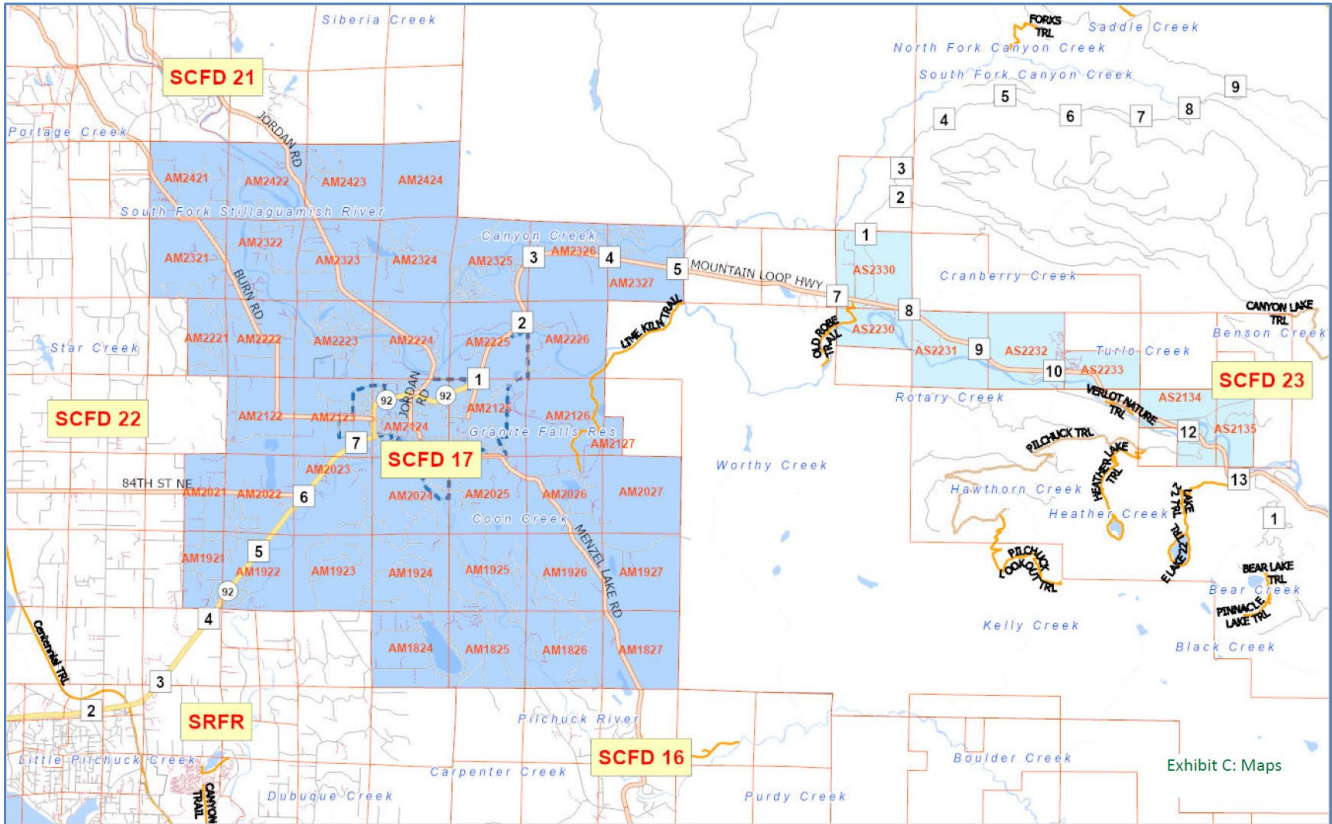


Figure 1 – Map of Fire Districts #17 and #23

Current Proposal

Summary and Scope: The motion states that the County Council does not oppose the fire district merging and directs the Council Clerk to file the motion with the BRB.

Effective Date: The merging would become effective January 1, 2023

Deadline: The 45-day period for Council action ends July 21, 2022

Fiscal Implications: None

Handling: NORMAL

Risk Management: APPROVE

Executive Recommendation: APPROVE

Request: Consideration of proposed Motion 22-283 at General Legislative Session on July 13, 2022.