



# EAST JEFFERSON FIRE RESCUE

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## NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Kala Point Area Fire Protection Class Modification**

**East Jefferson Fire Rescue** (EJFR) is pleased to announce a Fire Protection Class (FPC) modification in and around the Kala Point geographic area. In March, EJFR proposed a FPC modification to the Washington Survey and Rating Bureau (WSRB) based on recent adjustments utilizing response volunteers and off-duty career firefighters that also reside within five road miles of Fire Station 1-3 (50 Airport Road). Approval and the subsequent FPC modification was effective April 1, 2019.

In March 2018, residents of the Kala Point geographic area may have experienced an increase in their fire insurance premiums as a result of the re-rating conducted by the WSRB. If previously impacted, the modification will likely result in having their FPC restored back to its pre-2018 rating. Other small areas within the 5-mile distance of Station 1-3 have been positively affected by this change as well.

Specifically, insured structures that are within 1,000' of a fire hydrant, the FPC will be restored to a 5. If they are further than 1,000' from a fire hydrant, the FPC will be restored to a 6.

Washington State is one of a handful of states which utilize the services of an independent rating service to evaluate communities for their fire protection and suppression capabilities. Using a schedule approved by the Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner, they assign each community a Protection Class of 1 (exemplary) through 10 (insufficient for insurance credit). This Rating may be utilized by an insurance company to assist in determining fire insurance premiums for properties. However, not all insurance companies use the WSRB rating to set insurance rates. Communities are evaluated on a five-year frequency and evaluations include four major areas, fire department, water supply, emergency communications systems and fire safety control.

**In order to obtain the new FPC, area residents must take the initiative to contact their insurance provider as this modification will not be initiated by the individual insurance providers unless contacted by the insured.**

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