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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**New Fire Station Progressing  
Construction bids due March 20**

CLARKSTON, WASH. – Those served by Asotin County Fire District #1 are about to see changes at the new fire station located on Appleside Boulevard. The fire district began advertising for construction bids last week and expects to have a contractor selected in March.

The fire district will open bids on March 20, 2018 for the \$3.6 million project and then begin due diligence with the low bidder. If all goes to plan, they expect construction to begin in April and be completed by early 2019.

Thanks to a voter-approved fire levy lid lift last November, the fire district has the funding for the estimated costs of renovating the building at 2377 Appleside Boulevard. About 20 percent of the project is being funded by a Community Development Block Grant for \$750,000 that the fire district applied for and was awarded in 2016.

The renovated building will serve as a new, larger fire station to accommodate volunteer firefighters, apparatus and equipment for the next 50 years. The construction plans add bays onto the existing structure to provide emergency equipment and apparatus storage too.

The fire district has outgrown its current station, also on Appleside Boulevard, which has been remodeled three times since 1950. The fire district spent two years searching for a property large enough to accommodate its emergency operations and equipment and purchased 8-acre parcel with a 22,000 square foot building in 2014. Once the new station is operational, the fire district will pursue selling the current station.

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*Asotin County Fire District 1 provides fire suppression and prevention, emergency medical service (EMS), river rescue, oil spill response and wildland fire protection to 14,000 people over 120 square miles of land and 35 miles of shoreline. Thirty-two volunteer firefighters, 28 emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and 35 paramedics (through a partnership with Lewiston) respond to an average of 2,600 calls per year. The fire district operates under a balanced budget and has passed all financial and accountability audits by the state. Learn more about Asotin County Fire District 1 by visiting their web site [www.acfd1.org](http://www.acfd1.org) or on Facebook at @asotincountyfd1.*