

May 29, 2026

Fire Chief Searles
Central Mason Fire EMS

Fire Chief Searles,

Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau (WSRB) has completed its evaluation of your community's fire protection capabilities as they relate to fire insurance rating.

We're pleased to inform you that the Protection Classification (PC) for Mason County Fire District 5 has improved from PC 5 to PC 4. This new PC will also apply to the areas formerly serviced by Mason County Fire District 3 and Mason County Fire District 11 which have merged into Mason County Fire District 5. At this point, we plan to move forward with publishing new PC 4 for Mason County Fire District 5, effective October 1, 2026.

The new PC 4 rating applies to dwelling and commercial properties located within five road miles of a responding fire station that has standard fire hydrant distribution and water supply. Properties that do not meet these requirements will receive a different PC rating.

PC ratings for individual dwelling and commercial properties are available free of charge by calling WSRB Customer Service at 206-217-0101 or emailing customerservice@wsrb.com. We recommend that residents of your community contact their insurance agents to determine the relative effect this new community PC will have on their insurance premiums.

Mason County Fire District 5 was also evaluated for WSRB Tender Credit, and it was determined that the community will retain this PC rating credit.

We wish to thank you, Fire Marshal Keith Reitz, and training Captain Justin Zipperer for their cooperation during the evaluation process.

Accompanying this letter is a copy of the new Protection Class Report detailing the various items evaluated and the credit attained for each item.

Please note that WSRB evaluations aren't conducted for property loss prevention or life safety purposes. Rather, they are intended to gather information needed to determine a fire insurance relevant PC which may be used to develop fire insurance rates or loss costs. Our evaluation criteria incorporate many nationally recognized standards, including those developed by NFPA, ICC, and AWWA.

Thank you for your time and cooperation. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,



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