



FREDERICK-FIRESTONE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

8426 Kosmerl Place, Frederick, CO 80504

Phone: (303) 833-2742

“Leading Together, By Serving Together”

Please Read, Important Information!

August 2, 2019

Dear Residents and Business Owners:

Since our last letter to you in April 2019, the Fire District has been gathering input and listening to our community members and leaders by conducting, hosting and providing the following:

- 1) A Community Opinion Survey
- 2) A Public Opinion Research Study on Assessing Community Perceptions and Needs of the Fire District
- 3) Two (2) Community Public Opinion Forums held both in Frederick and Firestone
- 4) Monitoring and listening to social media and community events for public opinion and input being shared
- 5) Local citizens concerned, formed a Citizen Action Committee – Citizens for a Safer Frederick-Firestone

The population served by your firefighters in the Frederick-Firestone Fire District (FFFD) is almost seven times bigger than it was in 2000, and this growth has been outpacing the fire district’s budget on a two-to-one basis. That’s because of Colorado’s Gallagher Amendment, which has the unintended consequence of limiting revenue that special districts like FFFD can collect. Even when a community grows, revenue is restrained for special districts by the conflicting mix of Gallagher and Tabor together.

If revenue for your Fire District isn’t increased to keep pace with growth in the community, it could endanger emergency response times and the quality service that has made the District so successful in keeping the community safe. And it could make it more difficult for first responders to get the equipment they need to do their jobs and keep themselves safe in the line of duty.

The Fire District receives no funding from the Towns of Frederick or Firestone, Weld County, or the State of Colorado to provide service for you and your family. The Fire District’s revenue comes from property taxes. We are unable to impose a sales tax or impose a developer impact fee. **Without additional funding, FFFD will not be able to hire enough firefighters and paramedics to staff all of its fire stations.** That means instead of building two additional fire stations to keep up with population increases and new neighborhoods, the District may have to close some stations to consolidate current personnel.

We are committed to providing the highest quality services to our community, but our growing community needs support:

- **To ensure our community’s safety, we need to immediately fill vacant firefighter and paramedic positions.**
- **To reverse the trend of increasing response times, we need additional fire stations in Frederick and Firestone.**
- **To provide recruitment and retention of well-trained firefighter salaries in line with nearby communities.**
- **To keep your property insurance rates lower by maintaining our ISO rating for insurance companies.**
- **To replace your aging fleet of fire trucks and ambulances that have reached their life-span of 17 or more years.**
- **To purchase necessary life-saving medical and rescue equipment for our community.**
- **To hire more firefighters and paramedics to staff new fire stations, and to ensure quick response and arrival times to you and your family’s emergency.**

FFFD’s Board of Directors will be considering remedies, including a possible ballot measure to provide more funding at the August 12 Board meeting. We are utilizing information and data for analytical and predictive modeling to provide the best-case outcome for our citizens by only requesting what is needed to bridge the current funding gap. Data shows a \$400,000 home equates to a \$70.00 increase to their property taxes for fire and emergency medical services for you, your family and the entire community.

You have entrusted the Fire District with the safety of your family and your money. We have listened and will continue to remain fiscally responsible, good stewards and transparent at every level with all funding. The District will ensure current budgets, budget messages and all third-party audit reports are available on the District’s website for our citizens.

Sincerely yours in service,

Jeremy A. Young, MS, EFO, CFO
Fire Chief

For more information, please visit our website at FFFD.US “2019 Ballot Issue Update” or call 303-833-2742.