



FREDERICK-FIRESTONE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

8426 Kosmerl Place, Frederick, CO 80504

Phone: (303) 833-2742

“Leading Together, By Serving Together”

Please Read, Important Information!

January 19, 2022

Dear Residents and Business Owners:

Frederick-Firestone Fire Protection District (FFFD) will always remain committed to providing the highest quality services to our community. However, there are many challenges the Fire District faces that make it difficult to maintain quick response times and protect emergency services. This includes a rapidly growing service population that is projected to increase from 36,000 to 50,000+ residents over the next 10 years. This is precisely why your Fire District is considering seeking voter approval of a bond measure this May to strategically address our most pressing capital facility needs.

Proceeds of the proposed bond measure would allow FFFD to improve its three oldest fire stations. These upgrades would improve the health, safety and energy efficiency of these aging facilities as well as bring the stations up to current standards and codes. Funding would also go toward constructing and equipping two new fire stations, one in the Wyndam Hill area (Frederick) and the other in the Barefoot Lakes area (Firestone).

The proposed improvements would deliver many anticipated benefits, including:

- **Reversing the trend of increasing response times to you or your family’s emergency in Frederick and Firestone**
- **Allowing the District to maintain and enhance emergency services standards**
- **Making our fire stations healthier and safer for your firefighters and paramedics**
- **Improving the reliability and accessibility of emergency equipment, fire trucks, and ambulances**
- **Keeping your property insurance rates lower by maintaining and improving the District’s ISO rating**

Fortunately, FFFD has outstanding bonds that are about to be paid off at the end of 2022. Therefore, the net-tax impact of the proposed \$19.8 million bond measure would be about \$3.41 per month, or around \$41 per year, for a home with an actual market value of \$400,000. (This is the average median home price for our community.)

In December 2021, the Fire District conducted a public opinion survey to determine if local taxpayers would support a bond measure to address the District’s highest priority capital facility, equipment and apparatus needs. The results of the survey were positive, with 68% support for the funding proposal, 24% against, and 7% undecided. There were, however, four common questions that came out of our recent mail survey that we want to answer for you:

1. With new home development and rising home values, why does the Fire District still face funding challenges?

With the abolishment of the Gallagher Amendment state legislators can now change property assessment rates as they see fit. And they have. In fact, Senate Bill 21-293 will lower the assessment rate in 2022 and 2023, reducing the District’s revenues over the next two plus years. There are also limitations on how a special district like us can be funded.

2. Do my Metro District taxes help fund the Fire District?

No. Those taxes only assist subdivisions with funding infrastructure and neighborhood amenities.

3. How are the proceeds of FFFD’s most recent voter-approved mill levy being used?

These funds were used to hire firefighters and paramedics to address staffing shortages. The new funding proposal, on the other hand, is focused on addressing facility and equipment needs and not staffing needs.

4. Why didn’t the District ask for this additional funding during the 2019 mill levy request? The District requested funding in 2018 to hire firefighters, paramedics, build fire stations, and replace aging fire trucks. This request failed in 2018. The District prioritized its immediate need in 2019 of hiring firefighter and paramedics. The citizens approved this



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request in 2019 and the District hired 16 personnel in 2020, as promised. However, the need for additional fire stations and replacing aging fire and emergency medical equipment in 2018 did not go away, especially in a growing community where revenues are not increasing. And with no assistance at the state level to help special districts, we may once again be asking our local citizens and business owners to help this May. The same issues we had in 2018 are even more prevalent in 2022, and the next few years are not looking any better.

FFFD’s Board of Directors will be considering a possible ballot measure to address FFFD’s highest priorities of facility, equipment, and apparatus needs at its February 14, 2022, board meeting. District staff and the Board are committed and will continue to use analytical and predictive modeling to define a funding request that precisely bridges the current and future funding gap, allowing the District to protect response times and emergency services as the lowest possible costs to district taxpayers for years to come.

You have entrusted the Fire District with the safety of your family and property, and we are committed to providing a superior level of service districtwide. Furthermore, we will continue to be good stewards of your tax dollars, including being transparent with all funding. The District will continue to provide current budgets, budget messages, and all third-party audit reports on our website for your review.

Sincerely yours in service,

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

For more information, please visit our website at FFFD.US “2022 Ballot Update” or call 303-833-2742.

Mission Statement

To enhance your quality of life, by always earning trust, reducing loss of life, preventing harm, and protecting property with compassion and integrity.

Vision Statement

The Frederick-Firestone Fire District and its members will be a model of excellence in emergency services, risk reduction, and life safety programs. We will strategically engage the needs of our community; while remaining committed to continuous organizational development through trust, involvement, innovation, creativity, and accountability, while consistently remaining rooted in service.

Member Core Values

Service, Family, Professionalism, Compassion, and Integrity

Organizational Motto

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