



## **ESTES VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

**PREVENT PREPARE PERFORM**

### **ESTES VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT MILL LEVY PROPERTY TAX FACT SHEET**

#### **Fact #1: Revenues for improved emergency response**

- In the last 10 years the full-time population of the Valley has increased 20% (now 12,000) and visitation has increased by over 50% (now over 4.5 million).
- As a result, call volume has increased 45% since becoming a fire district in 2010.
- Fire District response times average 7-10 minutes for our first engine to leave the station
- The Fire District currently operates below National Fire Protection Association staffing and response standards due to lack of in station staffing
- This funding would support new full-time positions and further enhance our volunteer model, continuing the tradition from 1907.

#### **Fact #2: Revenues for increased Community Risk Reduction**

- Our community is home to more than 1,000 unique businesses and 7,500 homes
- Our updated Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) identifies a number of prevention programs that could be implemented to reduce community risk
- Funds would support additional education, outreach, and implementation of safety and risk reduction programs

#### **Fact #3: Revenues for maintenance of District equipment, apparatus, and facilities**

- The District has worked hard to improve and replace our fleet without incurring any debt
- The cost of a new fire engine is now \$945,000, an increase of 72% since 2017, representing nearly 40% of our annual budget
- With annual cost increases of over 10% on many essential pieces of equipment, additional funds are needed to maintain the quality and level of gear for our responders
- These funds will be used to maintain our fleet with escalating costs and supply chain issues.

#### **Fact #4: Fire District cost to taxpayers**

- The District is funded by a mix of sales tax (50%), property tax (40%), and construction fees (10%)
- Sales tax is provided by the Town of Estes Park and is mostly paid by visitors
- Estes Valley Fire has one of the lowest property tax rates in the state of all fire agencies, and is currently less than half the Library and less than a third of the Rec District
- On a median priced home of \$750,000, a homeowner currently pays \$107 per year
- The proposed mill levy increase is 2.9 mills, bringing the total mill levy to 4.9
- For a residential property, 2.9 mills is \$20.15 per \$100,000 of valuation per year
- For a commercial property, 2.9 mills is \$84.10 per \$100,000 of valuation per year
- This vote for 2.900 mills would increase a median priced home annual cost by \$156, or \$13 per month

*Serving the Residents and Visitors of the Estes Valley with Superior Fire and Safety Services*

**901 N. SAINT VRAIN AVE. ESTES PARK CO 80517 970-577-0900 FAX 970-577-0923**