



ESTES VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

PREVENT PREPARE PERFORM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Steve Welchert 303-829-9495

Overwhelming Support for Fire District Sales Tax Question

Over 82% of Estes Valley Fire Protection District residents support giving the fire district its own independent revenue source through a half cent sales tax. That was the main finding in a survey the district conducted from June 9-16 of area residents. The EVFPD board of directors is evaluating a proposed sales tax for the November ballot. District leaders have said that hearing from the community is important in their decision making, which is why they conducted the survey. The poll confirmed the fire district and its volunteer firefighting staff are very popular, with 75% of district residents giving them a positive rating. Only 6% of respondents had a negative view. Estes Valley Fire Protection District Board President Sandi Smith said, "this is a clear statement from our community that they trust and support the professional volunteers who make up our firefighting force."

Residents were asked their opinion about a variety of funding priorities the fire district has for the sales tax revenue. Fighting wildfires was rated by far the most vital among taxpayers with 71% citing it as a very persuasive reason to support the sales tax. Upgrading communications systems to maintain volunteer firefighter response times was next with 60% of residents citing it as very persuasive. Voter responses also recognized that an all-volunteer force saves taxpayer money; tourists will pay 80% of the tax; and the need to maintain and replace aging apparatus as necessary were also rated as persuasive reasons to support the sales tax.

The poll of 376 district residents was conducted June 9-16 via telephone and cell/text by FrederickPolls. The margin of error is 5.1%.

The Mission of the Estes Valley Fire Protection District is to provide the citizens of and visitors to the Estes Valley with superior fire prevention, fire protection, and emergency services in a safe and efficient manner."

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