



Ozark Fire Protection District

Proposition: FIRE - Fact Sheet



Ballot Language: Shall the Ozark Fire Protection District issue its general obligation bonds in the amount of Twelve Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$12,500,000) for the purpose of acquiring real property, constructing, renovating, improving, equipping and furnishing fire stations, a training center, and related facilities, purchasing, replacing or repairing vehicles, emergency rescue and medical equipment, fire protection and firefighting apparatus and auxiliary equipment, and refunding outstanding lease obligations of the District?

- During the 2021-2026 strategic planning process, a long-range capital improvement plan was developed. This bond will provide the funding to achieve critical needs of the long-range plan and improve our services.
- Estimated Tax Impact of \$12,500,000:
 - **\$0.17 Levy Increase** with 20 Year Maturity at 4%
 - Results in cost of **\$2.69/Month** on a residence with market value of \$100,000.
- Critical Projects w/ Estimated Cost:
 - Re-Locate Station #1 = \$5 Million (Include Administrative Offices and Community Room)
 - Build Station #4 = \$2 Million
 - Build a Training Facility = \$1.5 Million (Co-Located with Station 1)
 - Purchase an Aerial Apparatus= \$1.5 Million
 - Purchase Two (2) Fire Engine Apparatus = \$1.5 Million
 - Refund Outstanding Lease Obligations - \$1 Million
- Challenges and Opportunities:
 - **Station #1:** The current facility was built in 1983 and is no longer adequate for staffing needs, apparatus storage, training needs or administration.
 - **Station #4:** Will serve the southern portions of the District that are currently served by Station #3. Staffing from Station #3 will be relocated to Station #4. The problems with Station #3 include:
 - Moisture damage and air quality issues creating firefighter health and safety concerns.
 - Not designed or built to accommodate full-time staffing of four (4) firefighters.
 - Land and station are too small to allow for expansion.
 - **Training Facility:** We do not currently have a training facility, which reduces the opportunity to improve and maintain basic firefighting skills. Provides opportunities for local and regional collaboration.
 - **Aerial Apparatus:** Based on the risk associated with our community, an aerial apparatus with pumping capabilities is needed for rescue, fire control, and firefighter safety.
 - **Fire Engines:** Our fleet replacement plan requires a 20-year replacement schedule. We currently have two front-line engines that will reach the end of their service life within the next 10 years.
 - **Staffing:** Refunding outstanding lease obligations associated with Station #2 would allow operational funds to be used towards staffing each apparatus with four (4) firefighters.
- These funds will improve firefighter health & safety, strategically locate resources to decrease response times, and enhance staffing levels. This will enable us to reduce our Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating, which could reduce insurance premiums for businesses and homeowners while enhancing economic development.

