



Trailer Estates

Fire Control District

HELP US HELP YOU

Resolution 2020-02

November 3, 2020

Thank you for visiting our site.

The following slides will attempt to:

- ❖ Answer some questions you may have
- ❖ Provide some facts about our current state
- ❖ Provide the background and benefits to supporting [Resolution 2020-02](#) on November 3rd
- ❖ Help you decide who you would like to provide your Medical Assistance and Fire Support

Ballot Question:

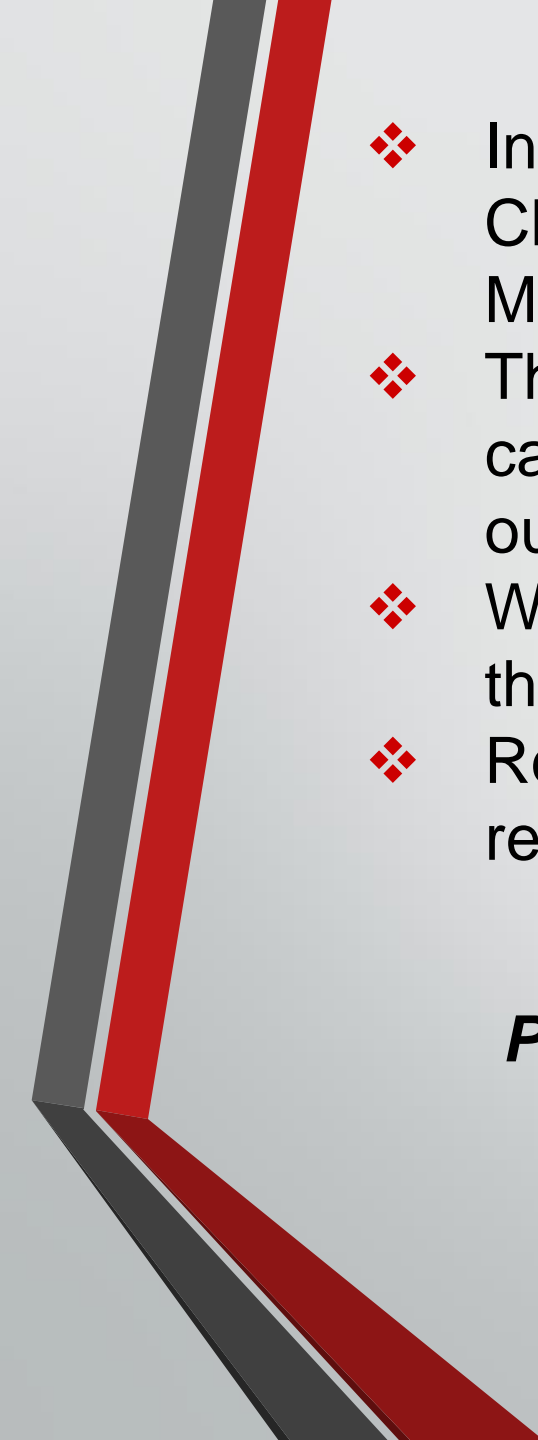
TRAILER ESTATES FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE ANNUAL SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES

Shall the District be authorized to increase its rate of assessment to \$175 per taxable property per year, to pay for the District's annual operating expenses and upgrading equipment, the fire station and facilities, purchasing a newer fire truck, improving staffing including hiring a full time fire chief, with the rate increase becoming effective for the District's fiscal year beginning October 1st, 2021 and any annual rate increases thereafter limited by section 191.009, Florida Statutes?

_____ Yes

_____ No

- 
- ❖ In order to raise the rate of assessment, we must follow The District Charter and Section 191.009 and put a resolution to the voters of Manatee County during a General Election (November 3, 2020)
 - ❖ The law states that only citizens registered to vote in Manatee County can vote on this resolution. This does mean that the owners who live out of state and are registered in their home state can not vote.
 - ❖ We have validated with our Attorney that this law must be followed and there is nothing TEFCD can do about it.
 - ❖ Renters who are registered to vote in Manatee County can vote on this resolution.

Please remember this resolution will only cost approximately

\$ 8.33 a month.

Manatee County Fire Departments

How do they obtain revenue?

	Enabling Act	Ad Valorem	Non Ad Valorem	Taxable Value			Personnel		
				\$ 75,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 125,000	Career	Reserve Responders	RR Stipend
Cedar Hammock Fire Department	2005-197	\$ 1.30	\$ 199.07	\$ 296.57	\$ 329.07	\$ 361.57	100%	NA	NA
Duette Fire Department	2006-352		\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	1	14	\$20 per Call
East Manatee Fire Rescue	2005-296	\$ 0.80	\$ 86.11	\$ 146.11	\$ 166.11	\$ 186.11	100%	NA	NA
North River Fire District	2007-280		\$ 183.81	\$ 183.81	\$ 183.81	\$ 183.81	100%	NA	NA
Parrish Fire Department	2000-400		\$ 196.11	\$ 196.11	\$ 196.11	\$ 196.11	75	11	\$10 per Call
South Manatee Fire & Rescue	2000-402	\$ 1.21	\$ 182.83	\$ 273.29	\$ 303.44	\$ 333.59	100%	NA	NA
Trailer Estates Fire Control District	2005-350		\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	NA	100%	\$3 per Call
West Manatee Fire Department	2016-255		\$ 190.57	\$ 190.57	\$ 190.57	\$ 190.57	42	30	\$65 / 12hr Shift \$100 / 24hr Shift

How do other communities support Fire Protection services?

- ❖ Residents in Bayshore Gardens for example see two “Taxes” on their Property Tax bill, First....
 - A “Non Ad Valorem Assessment” – For 2019 this was \$199.07. (The “Personal Income Growth (PIG) will be applied each year (this rate was 4.5% in 2019).
PLUS
 - An Ad Valorem Tax - \$1.30 per \$1k of Taxable Home Value (For example, a property valued at \$75k in 2019 would pay \$97.50 in a Non Ad-Valorem Tax plus \$199.07 in an Ad-Valorem Tax for a total of \$296.57)

What services does
Trailer Estates Fire Control District
provide to the residents of
Trailer Estates Park and Recreation District



- ❖ Over the past 3 years TEFCD has responded to between **180** and **220+** calls per year
 - ❖ 2018 = 222 Calls
 - ❖ 2019 = 181 Calls
 - ❖ 2020 = 128 Calls YTD
(**Trending to 205+**)
- ❖ Fire /Rescue support was available for about 75% of all calls
- ❖ We are currently a 100% Volunteer Department that is not staffed 24/7



82% of those calls are **Medical (EMS)**

38% - Patient is either unconscious, had previously lost consciousness, or the nature of the emergency is unknown when the call is received or categorized as “Sick Person”

31% - Heart/Chest Pain/Difficulty Breathing

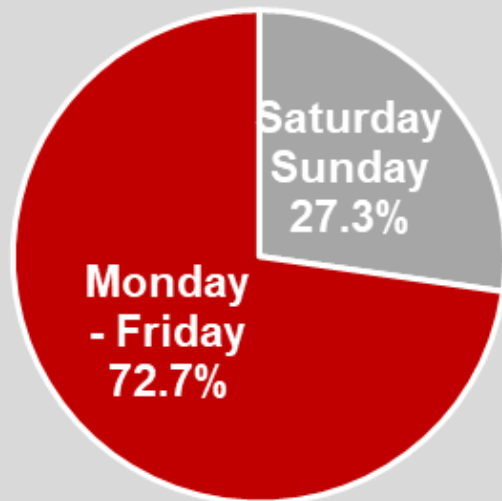
24% - Fall

7% - Back Pain, Abdominal Pain, Diabetic

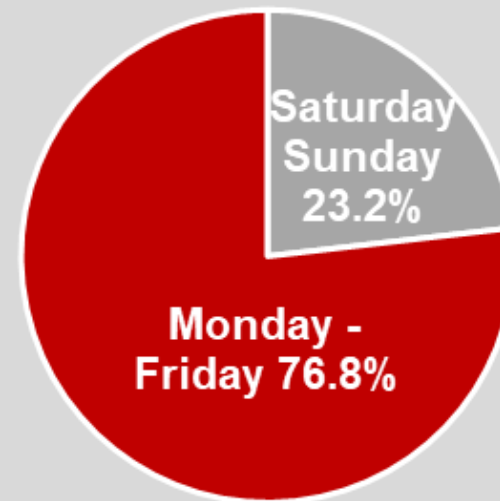
About 73-77% of all EMS calls are received Monday – Friday

- ❖ 60% between 6AM and 6PM
- ❖ 40% between 6PM and 6AM

2019 Call Volumes by Day of Week



2020 Call Volumes by Day of Week



We are a 100% Volunteer Department that is not staffed 24/7 . **So what does that mean.....**

- ❖ 25% of all Medical calls have no TEFCD response
- ❖ All 911 calls are time sensitive. As First Responders with EMS/Paramedic certifications, we can provide medical intervention during those critical minutes
- ❖ 90% of those missed calls occur Monday – Friday and 85% are between the hours of 6am and 6pm
- ❖ This is also the times when our Chief and most volunteers are working at their “Day Jobs”

Based on Data from Jan 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

We are a First Responder Operation

We **do not** provide transport to a medical facility

- ❖ **The average time for an ambulance to arrive on scene in 2017 was 6:37 min.**
- ❖ **During this review period – January 2019 through July 2020 the average time for an ambulance to arrive on scene was 8:08 min.**
- ❖ **The most recent call in TE took over 9 minutes for the ambulance to arrive.**
- ❖ **The point of these numbers is that during that 6-9 minutes of wait time, essential medical care could be being provided by the TEFCD EMS firefighters.**

Based on Data from Jan 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Why is it taking longer for help to arrive?



- ❖ Manatee County EMS unit ALPHA11 previously located at Cedar Hammock Station 1 on 26th St has been relocated to the Midtown Station located at 20th St and Cortez Rd.
- ❖ The next closest unit (ALPHA03) is located at Cedar Hammock Station 4 on US41.
- ❖ Prior to the relocation of ALPHA11, ALPHA03 responded to about 57% of TE calls.
- ❖ Since the relocation ALPHA03 has responded to about 25% of TE calls.
- ❖ Is ALPHA03 responding to calls previously covered by ALPHA11?

Why is it taking longer for help to arrive?

- ❖ If our closest available unit housed on US41 is not available, who would be the next closest and where are they located?



- ❖ ALPHA13, housed at Southern Manatee Fire Station 1 located at the corner of 15th St E and 61st Ave E ,has responded to 30% of TE calls since Jan 2019. Previous to Jan they responded to 11%.(GPS Commute Time 11 min)
- ❖ ALPHA01, housed at Midtown Station located at 20th St and Cortez Rd, has increased its response volumes in TE with 20% since Jan 2019 compared to 5% prior. (GPS Commute Time 8-10 Min)
- ❖ Changes have also been made to shift hours. ALPHA03 located on US41 no longer has 24/7 shift coverage

We have covered Medical....**How about Fire Support?**

Trailer Estates Fire Control District is part of a Manatee County Mutual Aid agreement which ensures that any department who responds to a major fire event, where help is needed, will receive it from the closest available unit.

So what does that mean.....

In the event of a structure fire, we will be provided “Assistance” to fight that fire from the closest available unit, which would be Cedar Hammock Station 1 on 26th Street or Cedar Hammock Station 4 on US 41. If, and only if they are not on a call for any reason within their district. If either unit is not available, the next closest unit would be at Southern Manatee Fire Station 1 located at the corner of 15th St E and 61st Ave E.

This is a Mutual Aid agreement providing “Assistance”. If we are unable to respond, it no longer is classified as Mutual Aid and the responding fire department can charge for the cost of response.

What else should you know about your Fire Department?

- ❖ Our Operating Budget has been funded by the current \$75 per home since 2011. Currently this generates about \$92,000 each year.
- ❖ The Fire Auxiliary through their generous volunteer time and caring effort has provided much needed financial support. The many volunteers that work to prepare items for sale, present inventory for purchase and clean up after each sale have provided the much needed financial “Band-Aids” we have needed to comply with requirements dictated by Manatee County and maintain our building. A list of the many items they have funded is available on our Website. TEFCD could not survive without the Fire Auxiliary. Even if this resolution passes, the Fire Auxiliary Team is essential to the success of TEFCD.

What else should you know about your Fire Department?

- ❖ We are currently staffed with 13 Reserve Responders
 - ❖ 5 have been with the department for 7 months or less
 - ❖ 3 have been with us for 7-12 months
 - ❖ 5 joined the department over a year ago with the most seasoned Reserve at 15 months

- ❖ Your Members are Certified as;
 - ❖ 3 Firefighter 2/Paramedic
 - ❖ 5 Firefighter 2/EMT
 - ❖ 3 Firefighter 2/EMR
 - ❖ 2 Firefighter 2
 - ❖ Volunteer firefighters are only required by Florida State Statute to be certified to the Firefighter I level and First Responder

- ❖ In addition to your current Reserve Responders
 - ❖ Department Chaplain – 20+ years of dedication
 - ❖ Captain/Deputy Fire Marshall – 10+ years of service
 - ❖ Deputy Chief/Fire Marshall – 10+ years of commitment
 - ❖ Fire Chief – 7+ years at the helm

What else should you know about your Fire Department?

Who owns the property located at 6831 American Way?

- Per a Deed executed in 1964 the land was sold to the department for a sum of \$10
- Shortly thereafter the Commissioners acquired a loan to build the station which was later paid in full
- If the department is dissolved, Chapter 17 of our Charter states, “the real and personal property of the district shall be conveyed or otherwise transferred by gift by the board of commissioners to the Trailer Estates Park and Recreation District, being a political subdivision of the state.”

So why the need for an increase now of **\$100** or **\$8.33** per month?



Proposed Budget if Resolution 2020-02 is Passed

	<u>10/1/2021</u>
Fiscal Year Ending	<u>9/30/2022</u>
<u>Income</u>	
Assessment Income	215,243.00
Investment Income	4,434.01
Auxiliary/Other Donations	22,000.00 *
Fund Balance Deposit (Loan)	35,000.00
	<u>276,677.01</u>
<u>Expense</u>	
Wages, Taxes, Service Fees	122,896.50
Bank Loan	27,336.19
Insurance, Tech Support, Acctg	41,200.00
Utilities	7,416.00
Office/Admin Expense	7,690.00
Engine, Truck, Rescue	20,000.00
Fire Fighter Physicals	2,000.00
Education & Dues	1,800.00
Building Maintenance	5,500.00
Total Expense	<u>235,838.69</u>
Net Gain/(Loss)	40,838.32

Assumptions:

- ❖ Obtain a 10 year fixed rate loan for \$300k eff 1/1/2022
- ❖ Acquire a newer Fire Truck for no more than \$225k
- ❖ Inspect and Repair all electrical violations identified to comply with local code requirements - \$20k
- ❖ Replace Equipment/Gear at end of useful life or nearing the end - \$20k
- ❖ Deposit into fund balance a contingency fund with remaining \$35k
- ❖ Staff Department according to historical call volumes with Firefighter/EMT and Paramedics receiving a stipend comparable to neighboring departments
- ❖ Employ a full time Fire Chief at a starting Salary of \$45k with no benefits

* This increase still assumes we will have the financial support from the Fire Auxiliary

Why do we need a “Newer” Fire Truck?


- Trailer Estates Park & Recreation District contains 1265 homes covering a small area.
- The close proximity of homes combined with the fact that mobile homes burn 2.5 times faster than a stick built home require quick response by a reliable truck
- TEFCD currently owns a 1995 Pierce Pumper Fire Truck (aka Big Red)
- Every time a fire truck goes out on a call it is pushed to peak performance, time is of the essence.
- The recommended life expectancy of a fire truck is 20 years. Big Red is 31 yrs. old.
- At this point break downs are commonplace. Since January 2019 it has been out of service 7 times and on 5 occasion mechanics have completed needed repairs at the station to reduce the amount of time the truck would be out of service.
- Parts for the truck have become obsolete and we spend more time performing repairs and maintenance then we do using it.
- Fire Trucks are required to undergo inspections and stress tests to certify that they comply with NFPA standards.
- We are looking to purchase a “Newer” not a New truck to work along with “Big Red” providing fire protection if service is needed.

Why do we need to offer a stipend to our volunteers

- There are currently 3 other Fire Departments in Manatee County that utilize Reserve Responders. All compensated from \$10 - \$20 per call for their time.
- Attracting volunteers by offering a competitive rate will allow us to staff more shifts and provide Medical Intervention at a time when every second counts.
- A study of historical call volumes by Month, Day and Time will help identify staffing needs to provide the best level of service within our budget.
- Obtaining funding that represents a stable department with dependable/adequate revenue will allow the department to apply for a FEMA SAFER Grant (Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response). This grant requires proof that whatever staffing program is funded will have a financial plan to continue it once grant funds have been utilized.

Why do we need to employ a full-time Fire Chief?

- Providing a seat at the table when the Fire Chiefs of Manatee County are faced with decisions that challenge a Volunteer Operation will help make sure our concerns are addressed
- Recruiting Volunteers, attending classes at Manatee CTC or Sarasota TC can only be done during normal class times.
- Developing training programs, managing resources, and applying for grants, are only a few of the responsibilities that require more than just a few hours that may be left at the end of the day.
- Assisting with the 25% of calls that we have not been able to respond to will also fill a need of the residents.
- Zip Recruiter states that the salary for a Fire Chief in Manatee County averages \$92,302.
- The budget assumption used to determine the assessment increase included a salary of about half that amount with NO benefits



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To view the video above, please click the link below.
(Make sure your sound is on)

[Click here to watch video](#)