

**Oak Cliff Fire Protection District  
13425 S. Bryant Ave.  
Edmond, OK 73034**

**Millage Increase Proposed for the August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Election**

Citizens who live within the boundaries of the Oak Cliff Fire Protection District (OCFPD) will have the opportunity to vote for a millage increase that will benefit the OCFPD at the August 27, 2024 election. On the ballot will be a question with the language,

“Ratifying the annual assessment rate for the Oak Cliff Fire Protection District from seven and twenty two hundredths (7.22) mills in Logan County to ten (10) mills on the dollar of assessed value of the property in the entire district. This rate will result in an increase of two and seventy eight hundredths (2.78) mills for the Oak Cliff Fire Protection District in Logan County. The additional millage will be used for the operation of the district, the maintenance of the fire department and its equipment, and for payment of salaries of the employees of the district per Oklahoma State Statute 19-901.19 Levy of Assessments.”

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, for the proposal

\_\_\_\_\_ No, against the proposal

The OCFPD respectfully requests that our citizens support this proposal by voting “yes.”

After a tragic house fire in the Oak Cliff Estates subdivision in January of 1982, the homeowners in the Oak Cliff Estates subdivision saw the need for better and more reliable fire protection for the area. A vacant lot in the subdivision was donated and the home owners association and firefighters solicited funds from the residents of Oak Cliff Estates to fund the construction of a two bay shop building we called a fire station located at 9501 Charter Oak Circle. The fire station was built by the firefighters and home owners association, and the first formal organizational meeting was held in May of 1982.

In December of 1982, the voting residents of the Oak Cliff Fire District approved the formation of the Oak Cliff Fire Protection District as outlined in Title 19-901 FPD’s. We began receiving funding through special assessment fees, collected like ad valorem property taxes. Title 19-901 FPD’s are required to start their special assessments at 7 mills. Due to a correction at some point, Logan County bumped our millage up to 7.22 mills. However, the OCFPD has never requested a millage increase in 42 years. If this millage increase is approved, it will be placed on the 2025 tax rolls and our district will begin receiving the additional funding at the end of 2025 or the beginning of 2026. We are requesting a millage increase to 10 mills for the entire District. This is currently the maximum millage that a fire protection district can receive per Title 19-901 statute.

Our district is one of the fastest growing areas in Logan County and in the state. From 2000 to 2020 our district has experienced a 131% growth in population (6,500-15,000) and a 206% increase in call volume (334-1022). All of this growth came without having a particular school district or community to rally around. While having funding that is based on property values has ensured that our budget has increased steadily over the years, the funding we receive is still many years behind what we see being built. This makes staying in front of growth and planning for the future more difficult. *[Learn more about our growth in FAQ’s]*

Our primary goals for the increased funding are to increase staffing, plan and purchase capital improvements, and providing an ambulance service for our district.

Staffing: The additional funding would allow us to steadily add full-time staff and staff our station 2. We currently only have 9 full-time firefighters. This means that we only have three paid firefighters on each of the three 48/96 shifts. The rest of our 4-person minimum staffing is made up of volunteers. *[Learn more about our staffing in FAQ's]* Adding staff allows us to do our jobs more efficiently and more safely, which in turn lets us serve our citizens in the same manner. It also factors into our ISO (Insurance Service Office) public protection classification which is used to help insurance companies determine property insurance rates. The better (lower) our classification score is, the cheaper the insurance rates will be. *[Learn more about our ISO PPC rating in FAQ's]*

Capital Improvements: We are currently looking for land to build our third station, which will place all of our Northeastern district within 5 driving miles of a fire station. That 5 driving miles correlates again to the ISO PPC rating and insurance rates. This additional funding would help us in securing funding to purchase land and build that third station. Because of the low staffing and higher call volume our firefighters respond to emergencies in Fire Engines. This gives them the best opportunity to have a firefighting apparatus with them at all times and reducing response times to fire related emergencies. Fire apparatuses have doubled in price from 2018 to 2023. In fact, our Engine 91 was bought in 2020 for \$580,000. To build an exact replica of that engine today would cost around \$1,100,000. It will also take about 3 years from the point of ordering the engine to take delivery, which only adds to the difficulty of planning for the future. Since that engine went into service in 2020 it has responded to thousands of emergency calls. Replacement of aging and high mile fire apparatus is imperative to insure quality equipment is responding to your emergencies and gives us the ability to have reliable reserve equipment when needed.

Ambulance Service: On December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, at 11:59:59pm, EMSA stopped servicing the citizens that live within the OCFPD. This was a business decision for them due to the city of Edmond contracting with AMR for ambulance service. Fortunately, by working with Oklahoma County District 3 Commissioner Davidson and Deer Creek Fire Protection District, we were able to contract with Deer Creek and Miller EMS to ensure there would be no gap in ambulance coverage for our district. Commissioner Davidson's office has recently been able to secure ARPA funds to pay the subsidy payment to Miller EMS through 2026. That timeline coincides with when we should be receiving the millage increase funding, which will allow us to pay the subsidy and continue to ensure that our citizens will have an ambulance available to respond to any emergency. Without the additional funding, the OCFPD cannot guarantee uninterrupted first response and ambulance service to the district after 2026.

So, what will this millage increase cost our citizens? We are glad you asked. Here is a table showing what the difference should be.

<b>Oak Cliff Fire Protection District</b>							
Examples of Property Assessment Fee Funding							
<b>OCFPD</b>							
<b>Market Value</b>	<b>Net Assessed Value 11% of MV</b>	<b>7.22 Mils Yearly (\$7.22/\$1000)</b>	<b>7.22 Mils Monthly</b>	<b>10 Mils Yearly (\$10/\$1000)</b>	<b>10 Mils Monthly</b>	<b>Yearly Difference (7.22 vs 10)</b>	<b>Monthly Difference (7.22 vs 10)</b>
\$100,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$79.42	\$6.62	\$110.00	\$9.17	\$30.58	\$2.55
\$200,000.00	\$22,000.00	\$158.84	\$13.24	\$220.00	\$18.33	\$61.16	\$5.10
\$300,000.00	\$33,000.00	\$238.26	\$19.86	\$330.00	\$27.50	\$91.74	\$7.65
\$400,000.00	\$44,000.00	\$317.68	\$26.47	\$440.00	\$36.67	\$122.32	\$10.19
\$500,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$397.10	\$33.09	\$550.00	\$45.83	\$152.90	\$12.74
\$600,000.00	\$66,000.00	\$476.52	\$39.71	\$660.00	\$55.00	\$183.48	\$15.29
\$700,000.00	\$77,000.00	\$555.94	\$46.33	\$770.00	\$64.17	\$214.06	\$17.84
\$800,000.00	\$88,000.00	\$635.36	\$52.95	\$880.00	\$73.33	\$244.64	\$20.39
\$900,000.00	\$99,000.00	\$714.78	\$59.57	\$990.00	\$82.50	\$275.22	\$22.94
\$1,000,000.00	\$110,000.00	\$794.20	\$66.18	\$1,100.00	\$91.67	\$305.80	\$25.48

According to ACOG, the average home value in the OCFPD area is \$419,043.

*Should you decide to perform calculations based on your home, please remember that market value and taxable market value are not the same and there is no uniform calculation to determine it. The assessed value is 11% of the taxable market value. Then divide the assessed value by 1000 and multiply that number by the millage rate (7 or 10) to determine the amount paid to the fire district. The County Assessor's websites are useful for this.*

We hope this information will help inform our citizens as they vote on August 27<sup>th</sup>. If you have further questions or would like to invite our Fire Chiefs to an HOA meeting to discuss this further, please reach out through email at [info@oakcliffd.com](mailto:info@oakcliffd.com).

Thank you.