

# RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS

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## Public Safety

Maintain safe and secure communities through strategically coordinated and professional public safety services.



## BUDGET SUMMARY

	FY2017 Actual	FY2018 Adopted	FY2018 Amended	FY2019 Recomm	FY2019 Adopted	\$ chg	% chg
<b>EXPENSE</b>							
Rural Fire Protection	17,487,946	18,817,436	18,817,436	20,510,962	20,510,962	1,693,526	9.0%
<b>Rural Fire Protection</b>	<b>17,487,946</b>	<b>18,817,436</b>	<b>18,817,436</b>	<b>20,510,962</b>	<b>20,510,962</b>	<b>1,693,526</b>	<b>9.0%</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>							
Operating Expenses	17,487,946	18,817,436	18,817,436	20,510,962	20,510,962	1,693,526	9.0%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>17,487,946</b>	<b>18,817,436</b>	<b>18,817,436</b>	<b>20,510,962</b>	<b>20,510,962</b>	<b>1,693,526</b>	<b>9.0%</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>							
Property Taxes	14,263,344	15,061,465	15,061,465	15,765,638	15,765,638	704,173	4.7%
Sales Tax	3,258,047	3,146,465	3,146,465	3,461,091	3,461,091	314,626	10.0%
Appropriated Fund Balance	(33,445)	609,506	609,506	1,284,233	1,284,233	674,727	110.7%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>17,487,946</b>	<b>18,817,436</b>	<b>18,817,436</b>	<b>20,510,962</b>	<b>20,510,962</b>	<b>1,693,526</b>	<b>9.0%</b>

## DEPARTMENTAL PURPOSE

The County has 24 special fire protection / service districts that provide fire response service in areas of the county not serviced by a municipal fire department. Nineteen of these districts also have fire protection service overlay districts -- funding mechanisms used to generate funds for fire protection services once the district tax rates reach the caps established when the districts were first established. Some of these original rate caps were set several decades ago and do not generate enough revenue to support adequate fire protection service, including the purchase of fire trucks, radios, and other fire safety equipment.

The primary funding for each district comes from property tax revenue generated by a special district tax. The tax, which is in addition to the County's general property tax, is levied on the property in each district and the revenues generated are dedicated for use in the district where they are raised. The Board of Commissioners establishes the tax rate for each district annually with the adoption of the Budget Ordinance. The districts also receive funding from their share of the local option sales taxes levied by the County.

## FY 2019 GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- Continue to work with Guilford County Emergency Services (GCES) to support the study of fire service in Guilford County, and, as appropriate, begin review, planning, and implementation of recommendations.

- Continue to monitor and update the comprehensive CIP plan for capital equipment that will allow a better assessment of need and long-term planning for capital purchases as well as other significant expenditures.

### **FY 2019 ADOPTED BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS**

- Four fire districts, Alamance, Guil-Rand, Julian and Southeast requested and received fire tax increases. All increases are for a combination of personnel, major equipment, and capital including SCBA and turnout gear and trucks.

### **FY 2018 SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

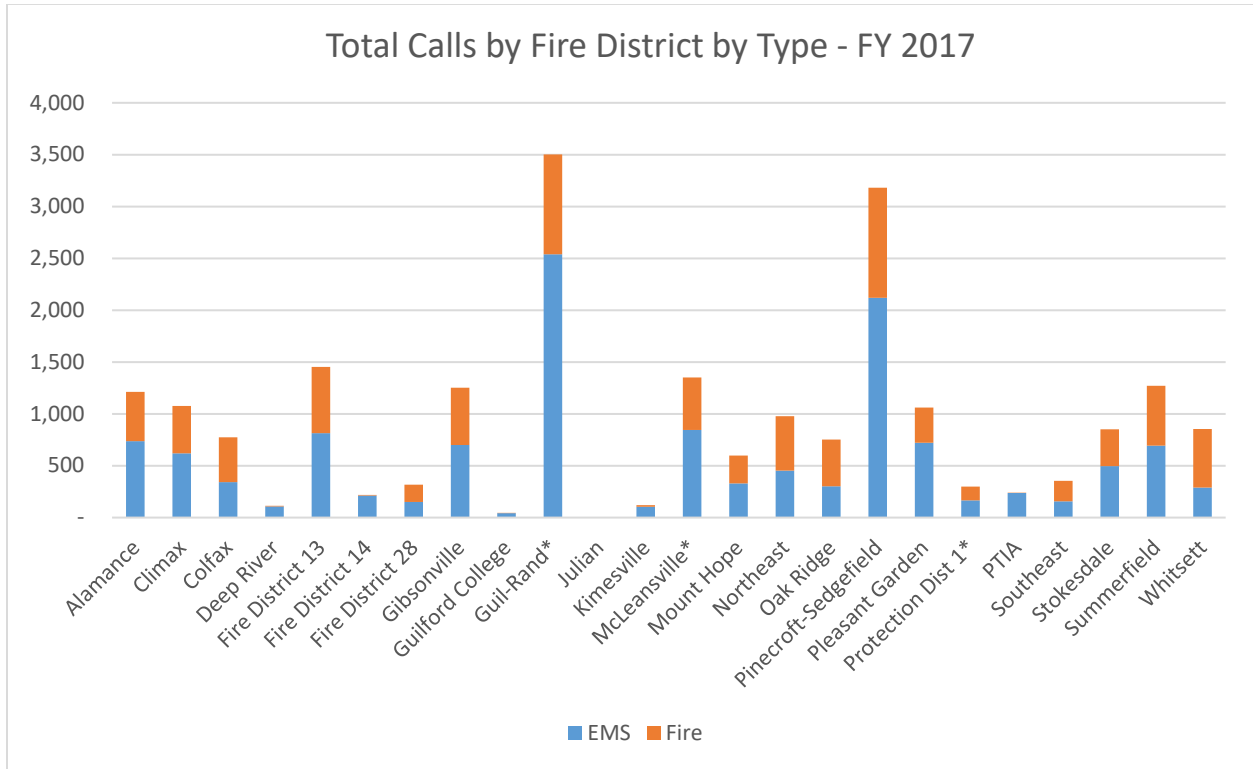
- Continued to work with Guilford County Emergency Services (GCES) to support the study of fire service in Guilford County including participation in RFP processes as well as data gathering and “check-ins” at major project milestones.
- Participated in the County’s Emergency Response Plan update process that was formally completed in FY 2016, as well as participation in the accreditation site visit for County Emergency Management
- Involvement of Guilford County Chiefs in the NC Legislative Day

### **FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES**

- Staffing will continue to be a significant challenge both in terms of operational capacity and in terms of funding. The number of new volunteers is expected to continue its decline while the median age of current volunteers continues to increase. In addition, volunteer tenure is decreasing while the minimum training for interior structure fire operations has increased so fewer volunteers are capable of working inside of an active structure fire. At the same time, competition for paid staff with Greensboro, High Point, Raleigh, Charlotte, and other municipal fire departments has increased. These municipal departments draw experienced staff because they can offer more standardized State retirement and insurance benefits as well as more long-term career opportunities by virtue of the larger size of their operations.
- Operating and personnel costs have continued to increase leaving little room in the budget for replacement of capital assets. In addition, new NFPA standards have set maximum service life for critical and potential expensive equipment including breathing apparatus and turnout gear. These replacement requirements coupled with the advancing age and maintenance costs of many fleet assets creates a reinforcing cycle that leaves progressively less funding for major replacement purchases.
- Municipal annexation presents a threat to departments revenues. In addition, while involuntary annexation is still under moratorium at the state level, municipalities are able to voluntarily annex areas where they have provided certain services such as water and sewer. Many of the areas subject to this voluntary annexation have high property value

which will compromise the tax base of the respective districts in which the areas are located.

**CALL VOLUME BY DISTRICT**



**Tax Rates**

Fire Protection/Service District	Current Tax Rate	Adopted Tax Rate	Fire Protection/Service District	Current Tax Rate	Adopted Tax Rate
Alamance Comm. Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.0998	\$0.1000	Kimesville Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1097	\$0.1097
Alamance Comm. Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0000	\$0.0179	McLeansville Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000
Climax Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000	McLeansville Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0372	\$0.0372
Climax Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0500	\$0.0500	Mount Hope Comm. Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.0800	\$0.0800
Colfax Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000	Mount Hope Comm. Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
Colfax Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0359	\$0.0359	Northeast Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000
No. 13 (Rankin) Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.0963	\$0.0963	Northeast Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0299	\$0.0299
No. 13 (Rankin) Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0289	\$0.0289	Oak Ridge Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.0977	\$0.0977
No. 14 (Franklin Blvd.) Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000	Oak Ridge Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
No. 14 (Franklin Blvd.) Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0275	\$0.0275	Pinecroft-Sedgefield Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000
No. 18 (Deep River) Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.0941	\$0.0941	Pinecroft-Sedgefield Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0200	\$0.0200
No. 18 (Deep River) Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	Pleasant Garden Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000
No. 28 (Frieden's) Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000	Pleasant Garden Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0107	\$0.0107
No. 28 (Frieden's) Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0390	\$0.0390	PTIA Service District	\$0.0495	\$0.0495
Fire Protection District #1 (Horneytown)	\$0.1300	\$0.1300	Southeast Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1250	\$0.1375
Gibsonville Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.0945	\$0.0945	Southeast Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
Guilford College Comm. Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000	Stokesdale Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000
Guilford College Comm. Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0500	\$0.0500	Summerfield Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000
Guil-Rand Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000	Summerfield Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0310	\$0.0310
Guil-Rand Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0200	\$0.0466	Whitsett Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000
Julian Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1354	\$0.1454	Whitsett Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0296	\$0.0296
Julian Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0000	\$0.0000			

**Appropriations by Source of Funds**

<b>District</b>	<b>Property Tax</b>	<b>Sales Tax</b>	<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>Adopted Budget</b>
Alamance Community Fire Protection District	\$993,822	\$223,563	\$110,636	\$1,328,021
Alamance Community Fire Service District Overlay	\$177,895	\$0	\$0	\$177,895
Climax Fire Protection District	\$92,375	\$20,610	\$7,224	\$120,209
Climax Fire Protection Service District Overlay	\$46,188	\$10,305	\$0	\$56,493
Colfax Fire Protection District	\$526,265	\$116,745	\$54,316	\$697,326
Colfax Fire Protection Service District Overlay	\$188,931	\$41,911	\$28,786	\$259,628
No. 13 (Rankin) Fire Protection District	\$887,762	\$198,184	\$87,006	\$1,172,952
No. 13 (Rankin) Fire Service District Overlay	\$266,422	\$59,476	\$29,233	\$355,131
No. 14 (Franklin Blvd.) Fire Protection District	\$155,700	\$35,344	\$10,552	\$201,596
No. 14 (Franklin Blvd.) Fire Service District Overlay	\$42,818	\$9,719	\$5,871	\$58,408
No. 18 (Deep River) Fire Protection District	\$189,269	\$43,130	\$13,338	\$245,737
No. 18 (Deep River) Fire Service District Overlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
No. 28 (Frieden's) Fire Protection District	\$147,589	\$33,124	\$19,217	\$199,930
No. 28 (Frieden's) Fire Service District Overlay	\$57,560	\$12,918	\$5,351	\$75,829
Fire Protection District No. 1 (Horneytown)	\$32,625	\$7,149	\$1,737	\$41,511
Gibsonville Fire Protection District	\$11,571	\$2,626	\$284	\$14,481
Guilford College Community Fire Protection District	\$507,988	\$111,534	\$81,829	\$701,351
Guilford College Community Fire Service District Overlay	\$31,826	\$7,245	\$2,245	\$41,316
Guil-Rand Fire Protection District	\$124,099	\$28,043	\$6,046	\$158,188
Guil-Rand Fire Protection Service District Overlay	\$57,831	\$5,608	\$3,468	\$66,907
Julian Vol Fire Protection District	\$84,956	\$17,550	\$4,743	\$107,249
Julian Fire Service District Overlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Kimesville Fire Protection District	\$97,702	\$22,201	\$6,093	\$125,996
McLeansville Fire Protection District	\$750,608	\$170,305	\$25,662	\$946,575
McLeansville Fire Service District Overlay	\$279,227	\$63,353	\$19,186	\$361,766
Mount Hope Community Fire Protection District	\$582,709	\$129,435	\$28,033	\$740,177
Mount Hope Community Fire Service District Overlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Northeast Guil Fire Protection District	\$843,409	\$188,316	\$77,468	\$1,109,193
Northeast Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$252,181	\$56,306	\$28,221	\$336,708
Oak Ridge Fire Protection District	\$1,395,002	\$299,251	\$126,312	\$1,820,565
Oak Ridge Fire Service District Overlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pincroft-Sedgefield Fire Protection District	\$1,642,143	\$373,191	\$114,033	\$2,129,367
Pincroft-Sedgefield Fire Service District Overlay	\$330,536	\$74,639	\$0	\$405,175
Pleasant Garden Fire Protection District	\$592,295	\$134,425	\$55,327	\$782,047
Pleasant Garden Fire Service District Overlay	\$63,377	\$14,383	\$3,978	\$81,738
PTIA Fire Service District	\$220,130	\$48,070	\$19,139	\$287,339

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**Appropriations by Source of Funds**

<b>District</b>	<b>Property Tax</b>	<b>Sales Tax</b>	<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>Adopted Budget</b>
Southeast Fire Protection District	\$200,685	\$41,264	\$34,168	\$276,117
Southeast Fire Service District Overlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Stokesdale Fire Protection District	\$687,676	\$149,763	\$97,550	\$934,989
Summerfield Fire Protection District	\$1,941,779	\$431,850	\$122,158	\$2,495,787
Summerfield Fire Service District Overlay	\$601,952	\$133,873	\$39,487	\$775,312
Whitsett Fire Protection District	\$509,826	\$112,409	\$15,536	\$637,771
Whitsett Fire Service District Overlay	\$150,909	\$33,273	\$0	\$184,182
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,765,638</b>	<b>\$3,461,091</b>	<b>\$1,284,233</b>	<b>\$20,510,962</b>