

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

	FY2018 Actual	FY2019 Adopted	FY2019 Amended	FY2020 Recomm	FY2020 Adopted	\$ chg	% chg
EXPENSE							
Rural Fire Protection	18,804,571	20,510,962	20,510,962	20,759,318	20,759,318	248,356	1.2%
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EXPENSE							
Operating Expenses	18,804,571	20,510,962	20,510,962	20,759,318	20,759,318	248,356	1.2%
Total Expense	18,804,571	20,510,962	20,510,962	20,759,318	20,759,318	248,356	1.2%
REVENUE							
Property Taxes	15,652,841	15,765,638	15,765,638	16,254,828	16,254,828	489,190	3.1%
Sales Tax	3,405,002	3,461,091	3,461,091	3,634,130	3,634,130	173,039	5.0%
Appropriated Fund Balance	(253,272)	1,284,233	1,284,233	870,360	870,360	(413,873)	(32.2%)
Total Revenue	18,804,571	20,510,962	20,510,962	20,759,318	20,759,318	248,356	1.2%

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

- Two fire districts – Northeast and Protection District 1 (Horneytown) – requested and received fire tax increases. Both increases are for a combination of personnel and general on-going operations.

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.

Tax Rates

Changes to tax rates are noted with a shaded box

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.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000	Kimesville Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1097	\$0.1097
Alamance Comm. Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$0.0179	\$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	\$0.0399
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	\$0.1500	Southeast Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1375	\$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	\$0.0466	\$0.0466	Whitsett Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1000	\$0.1000
Julian Fire Protection Dist.	\$0.1454	\$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

District	Property Tax	Sales Tax	Fund Balance	Adopted Budget
Alamance Community Fire Protection District	\$1,009,188	\$229,086	\$30,599	\$1,268,873
Alamance Community Fire Service District Overlay	\$180,648	\$41,006	\$0	\$221,654
Climax Fire Protection District	\$94,296	\$21,293	\$9,673	\$125,262
Climax Fire Protection Service District Overlay	\$47,148	\$10,646	\$6,007	\$63,801
Colfax Fire Protection District	\$533,448	\$121,309	\$31,606	\$686,363
Colfax Fire Protection Service District Overlay	\$191,508	\$43,550	\$7,787	\$242,845
No. 13 (Rankin) Fire Protection District	\$916,932	\$204,638	\$29,396	\$1,150,966
No. 13 (Rankin) Fire Service District Overlay	\$275,172	\$61,413	\$7,418	\$344,003
No. 14 (Franklin Blvd.) Fire Protection District	\$159,780	\$35,890	\$16,962	\$212,632
No. 14 (Franklin Blvd.) Fire Service District Overlay	\$43,944	\$9,869	\$2,842	\$56,655
No. 18 (Deep River) Fire Protection District	\$190,116	\$43,628	\$12,087	\$245,831
No. 18 (Deep River) Fire Service District Overlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
No. 28 (Frieden's) Fire Protection District	\$152,100	\$34,020	\$13,736	\$199,856
No. 28 (Frieden's) Fire Service District Overlay	\$59,064	\$13,268	\$0	\$72,332
Fire Protection District No. 1 (Horneytown)	\$38,256	\$7,520	\$2,295	\$48,071
Gibsonville Fire Protection District	\$11,556	\$2,667	\$1,147	\$15,370
Guilford College Community Fire Protection District	\$521,292	\$117,096	\$42,908	\$681,296
Guilford College Community Fire Service District Overlay	\$31,668	\$7,336	\$0	\$39,004
Guil-Rand Fire Protection District	\$124,680	\$28,606	\$4,822	\$158,108
Guil-Rand Fire Protection Service District Overlay	\$58,104	\$13,330	\$0	\$71,434
Julian Vol Fire Protection District	\$86,592	\$19,583	\$2,867	\$109,042
Julian Fire Service District Overlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Kimesville Fire Protection District	\$99,708	\$22,521	\$9,224	\$131,453
McLeansville Fire Protection District	\$780,084	\$173,023	\$94,012	\$1,047,119
McLeansville Fire Service District Overlay	\$290,196	\$64,364	\$1,258	\$355,818
Mount Hope Community Fire Protection District	\$606,912	\$134,320	\$22,916	\$764,148
Mount Hope Community Fire Service District Overlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Northeast Guil Fire Protection District	\$863,160	\$194,414	\$62,804	\$1,120,378
Northeast Fire Svc. Dist. Overlay	\$343,488	\$58,130	\$8,184	\$409,802
Oak Ridge Fire Protection District	\$1,441,668	\$321,562	\$48,727	\$1,811,957
Oak Ridge Fire Service District Overlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pincroft-Sedgefield Fire Protection District	\$1,653,708	\$378,531	\$67,138	\$2,099,377
Pincroft-Sedgefield Fire Service District Overlay	\$329,280	\$76,192	\$20,024	\$425,496
Pleasant Garden Fire Protection District	\$598,320	\$136,530	\$33,351	\$768,201
Pleasant Garden Fire Service District Overlay	\$64,020	\$14,609	\$0	\$78,629
PTIA Fire Service District	\$226,692	\$50,742	\$33,660	\$311,094

Appropriations by Source of Funds

District	Property Tax	Sales Tax	Fund Balance	Adopted Budget
Southeast Fire Protection District	\$205,596	\$46,260	\$14,034	\$265,890
Southeast Fire Service District Overlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Stokesdale Fire Protection District	\$729,876	\$158,516	\$57,988	\$946,380
Summerfield Fire Protection District	\$1,995,000	\$447,600	\$112,612	\$2,555,212
Summerfield Fire Service District Overlay	\$618,492	\$138,756	\$18,886	\$776,134
Whitsett Fire Protection District	\$527,112	\$117,520	\$43,390	\$688,022
Whitsett Fire Service District Overlay	\$156,024	\$34,786	\$0	\$190,810
Total	\$16,254,828	\$3,634,130	\$870,360	\$20,759,318