

Fire District Referendum What a Yes and No Vote Mean

A YES Vote Means . . .	A NO Vote Means
Who makes the decision regarding fire protection, emergency medical service (EMS) and ambulance transport service?	
<p>In October 2023 a Board, consisting of five members residing within the District boundaries, will oversee these services. Initially all Board members will be appointed to staggered terms by the Governor and thereafter elected by registered voters in the District.</p> <p>The Board will decide the need for and funding of equipment, personnel, supplies and future fire stations.</p>	<p>Sumter County Commissioners will decide the need for and funding of equipment, personnel, supplies and future fire stations.</p>
How will fire protection, emergency medical service (EMS) and ambulance transport service be funded?	
<p>In October 2023 each property owner will pay the District</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$124 per rooftop. The Board may increase this fee annually if Florida personal income over the previous 5 years increases. • \$0.75 per \$1000 of <u>relative improvement value</u> (i.e., market value minus land value) of the property. This 0.75 rate cannot be increased. <p>Each year the Board may generate additional funding of up to \$1 per \$1000 of the <u>taxable value</u> of the property. The Board could levy 0 mills or any millage up to a maximum of 1 mill. This 1 mill cap cannot be increased without another referendum.</p>	<p>In October 2023 property owners will pay the County</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$124 per rooftop. The County may increase this fee annually if Florida personal income over the previous 5 years increase. • property tax of which an estimated \$0.71 per \$1000 of <u>taxable value</u> will fund the Interlocal Agreement for the Villages Public Safety Department (VPSD). <p>Each year the County sets the millage rate based on the budget for County provided services. There is no cap on annual increases to the millage rate.</p> <p>Further explanation can be found on the Sumter County website.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://www.sumtercountyfl.gov/865/County-Millage-Rate-Information</p>



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If I pay the District for fire, EMS, and ambulance services, will my County taxes decrease proportionately?	
<p>The County sets the millage rate for property taxes based on the budget for all County services. When the funding for the Interlocal Agreement for the Village Public Safety Department (VPSD) is eliminated, the County budget will be reduced by an estimated \$13 million. Consequentially the millage rate, will be reduced.</p> <p>However, one millage rate applies to all county residents. Therefore, residents outside the District will also benefit from the lower budget. This makes it unlikely that the savings in County property tax for individual property owners will offset the new taxes levied by the District. The document, <i>Estimated Tax Increase</i> which can be found on https://www.lwvtrifl.org/book-a-speaker is VPSD’s estimate of likely tax increases for District property owners.</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
What entity will provide ambulance transport service?	
<p>VPSD will provide ambulance transport service as well as fire control and EMS service to residents of the District starting October 1, 2022 and continuing in subsequent years.</p>	<p>VPSD will provide ambulance transport service as well as fire control and EMS service to residents of the District starting October 1, 2022.</p> <p>In the future the County could continue the interlocal Grant Agreement with VPSD or could pursue other options, as they did when they contracted with AMR to provide ambulance and transport service.</p>