

PLATEAU VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



49084 KE ½ RD
P.O. Box 210
Mesa, Colorado 81643
970-268-5283
Fax: 970-268-5055



FACTUAL SUMMARY NOVEMBER 4, 2025 ELECTION FOR VOTER AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY

THE FIRE DISTRICT. Since 1967, the Plateau Valley Fire Protection District ("*Fire District*") has provided the community with fire suppression, rescue, extrication, hazardous materials, emergency medical, ambulance, and community risk reduction services. The Fire District currently has 11 full- and part-time paid firefighters and 14 volunteer firefighters.

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE. The Fire District's operating mill levy has not increased since it was organized in 1967. Over the last 58 years, as the communities within the Fire District's service area have continued to grow, call volumes have continued to increase and the Fire District has faced substantially increasing operating costs. To ensure continued funding for the Fire District's operational needs and to prevent service cuts, the Fire District has determined that it must increase its mill levy rate to increase property tax revenues.

By way of illustration and based upon the Fire District's current assessed valuation, the requested mill levy increase is anticipated to result in approximately the following annual increase in property tax per household:

\$100,000 Residence = \$30.19
\$200,000 Residence = \$60.39
\$300,000 Residence = \$90.58
\$400,000 Residence = \$120.78
\$500,000 Residence = \$150.97

THE BALLOT ISSUE. During its meeting on September 3, 2025, the Fire District's Board of Directors adopted a Resolution to formally seek voter approval of a 4.831 mill levy increase during the upcoming coordinated election to be held on November 4, 2025, through the following ballot issues:

Plateau Valley Fire Protection District Ballot Issue 6C

SHALL PLATEAU VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED \$952,308.77 (FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR DOLLAR INCREASE) ANNUALLY, BEGINNING IN LEVY YEAR 2025 (FOR COLLECTION IN CALENDAR YEAR 2026) BY INCREASING THE DISTRICT'S EXISTING PROPERTY TAX BY 4.831 MILLS, FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

MEETING THE SAFETY NEEDS OF OUR GROWING COMMUNITY BY INVESTING IN APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT, STAFF TRAINING, AND RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES; REPLACING AGING SAFETY GEAR AND EQUIPMENT; MAINTAINING ADEQUATE STAFFING; AND OTHER OPERATIONAL AND CAPITAL NEEDS,

AND SHALL ALL REVENUE AND ANY EARNINGS ON THIS TAX CONSTITUTE A PERMANENT VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE WITHIN THE MEANING OF ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITATIONS SET FORTH IN SECTION 29-1-301 OF THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, AND ANY OTHER LAW, WITH THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE FUNDS WILL BE SUBJECT TO AN ANNUAL INDEPENDENT AUDIT PUBLISHED BY THE DISTRICT?

___ YES/FOR
___ NO/AGAINST

ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE PROPOSAL. If successful, the proposal will increase property taxes within the Fire District's jurisdiction. For voters who support less taxes and "smaller" government, the Fire District's proposed mill levy increase may be contrary to this objective. The increased tax revenues from the proposed mill levy increase would be used to support a number of Fire District priorities, including maintaining current staffing levels and accounting for increasing staffing costs including the increasing costs of benefits and salary adjustments to account for increased costs of living and maintaining and potentially expanding the Fire District's life-saving equipment, vehicles, and facilities. Some voters may be opposed to raising additional tax revenues in order to fund some or all of these stated goals and might instead prefer that the Fire District reduce services rather than increase property taxes.

ARGUMENTS FOR THE PROPOSAL. If successful, the mill levy increase will provide additional property tax revenue to support the Fire District's life-saving services. The Fire District has never increased its mill levy rate since the Fire District was founded in 1967. Since that time, service call volumes have increased significantly and additional tax revenue is now needed to maintain the same level of service that the Fire District has historically provided. More recently, external economic conditions have resulted in significantly increased personnel and operating costs at the same time that changes to state law have reduced the amount of property tax revenues that are available to support the Fire District's operations. If the mill levy increase does not pass, the Fire District may have to reduce services and critical life-saving personnel and equipment. Voters may choose to support the mill levy increase to ensure that the Fire District is not forced to reduce services, which in turn could negatively impact Insurance Services Office ("ISO") ratings and result in significant increases to property insurance rates for homes and businesses within the Fire District's service territory.