

CARBONDALE & RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 4B

SHALL THE CARBONDALE & RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO \$1,081,158 ANNUALLY (FOR COLLECTION IN CALENDAR YEAR 2014), AND BY SUCH ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY AN AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX INCREASE IMPOSED AT A RATE OF 3.902 MILLS AND SHALL THE DISTRICT'S EXPIRING TAX IMPOSED AT A RATE OF 2.233 MILLS BE EXTENDED, ALL FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THE COSTS OF:

- MAINTAINING CURRENT LEVELS OF ESSENTIAL FIRE FIGHTING SERVICES, AND

- MAINTAINING CURRENT LEVELS OF ESSENTIAL AMBULANCE AND PARAMEDIC SERVICES,

WHICH INCREASE AND EXTENSION SHALL ESTABLISH THE DISTRICT'S TOTAL AUTHORIZED MILL LEVY FOR OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE PURPOSES AT 12.038 MILLS, AND SHALL THE REVENUE FROM SUCH TAXES CONSTITUTE PERMANENT VOTER-APPROVED CHANGES 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?

Yes _____ No _____

ACTUAL HISTORICAL AND CURRENT ESTIMATED FISCAL YEAR SPENDING INFORMATION:

Fiscal Year

2013 (estimated)	\$ 3,985,949
2012 (actual)	\$ 4,555,874
2011 (actual)	\$ 3,380,679
2010 (actual)	\$ 3,365,853
2009 (actual)	\$ 3,399,584

Overall Percentage Change In Fiscal Year Spending Over the 5 Year Period from 2009 through 2013:
17%

Overall Dollar Change To Fiscal Year Spending Over the 5 Year Period From 2009 through 2013:
\$586,365

Estimated First Full Fiscal Year Maximum Dollar Amount of Increase for Ballot Issue 4B: \$1,081,158

Estimated 2014 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$3,050,994

Summaries of Written Comments Filed With the Election Officer For Ballot Issue 4B:

This ballot question will allow the Fire District to maintain its delivery of essential emergency medical and fire response services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. These service standards require training, certification and the provision of appropriate equipment and supplies to adequately meet the needs of our community.

This ballot question will replace an expiring tax override and provide additional funds to meet existing service levels. The District has operated under a modest growth operational budget for the past 5 years while acquiring two fire trucks to meet ISO standards. With declining property values, the District has had no increase in tax revenues while facing a steady increase in calls for service over the past five years. To ensure continued fire and ambulance service levels, this property tax request is equivalent to an additional \$31.00 per \$100,000 of residential property value over last year's residential property tax.

District Facts:

- Annual calls for service
 - 2013 – 1208 (estimated)
 - 2012 - 1168
 - 2011 - 950
 - 2010 - 1069
 - 2009 - 1112
 - 2008 - 1201
- Fully certified paramedic level response 24/7
- Average 4 minute turn-out time for ambulance calls
- 325 square miles and a permanent population of 15,000
- 6 Fire Stations
- 4 Advanced Life Support Ambulances
- 12 Fire Trucks
- 95 personnel – 75 volunteers and 20 paid staff
- Fire and Ambulance services
- Over 6,000 volunteer hours annually
- Approximately 8,000 hours of training annually (medical and fire)
- Maintenance of low ISO fire rating (based on District's response abilities) thus preserving lower fire insurance premiums

Without this request, the District will experience a decline in revenues resulting in:

- Extended response time for fire and ambulance calls
- Delayed equipment replacement
- Potential reduction of paid staff
- Elimination of community education programs such as CPR classes
- Elimination of initial attack wildfire program
- Increase of ISO rating resulting in an increase in fire insurance premiums
- Reduced open burning regulation

Please Vote “YES” for ballot question #4B

Summaries of Written Comments Filed With the Election Officer Against Ballot Issue 4B:

No comments were filed by the statutory deadline.