



## Rockville/Springdale Fire Protection District

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Springdale, UT 84767  
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### Frequently Asked Questions April 2016

#### 1. How much of an increase is being considered?

The RSFPD Board is proposing to raise the annual standby fee charged to every property owner by 3 percent, effective June 2016 for the period of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

If your current annual standby fee is \$300/year, it will increase by \$9 to \$309/year.

#### 2. How many revenue dollars will the increase generate?

Approximately \$14,000 in 2016

#### 3. Why raise the standby fee now?

The District's two structural fire engines are 23 and 25 years old, and the District must plan ahead for their replacement.

The estimated cost of replacing one engine is \$450,000.

Currently, the District has approximately \$100,000 reserved funds for replacing these fire engines.

#### 4. Why is the annual increase only 3%?

Public comment in all previous standby fee increases indicates that smaller, more frequent increases are preferred to sudden, large increases in standby fees.

#### 5. Where can I find the current RSFPD budget?

The approved 2016 budget is posted on the RSFPD web page via the Town of Springdale's website at [www.springdaletown.com](http://www.springdaletown.com) under "Public Safety/Fire District," or may be acquired by calling the District office at 435-772-3031.

#### 6. Where does the District get its funding?

The District is a separate entity from each of the municipalities it serves and must obtain its own funding. For 2016, revenues include:

- \$450,000 - standby fee charges. (*Approximately 70% of the fees are from commercial properties; 30% residential property owners.*)
- \$118,000 - contribution from Town of Springdale via its Transient Room Tax
- \$ 85,000 - ambulance treatment/transport collections
- \$ 53,000 - Washington County property taxes

#### 7. Why does the District need to pay firefighters and medical personnel to be available 24 hours a day?

In order to qualify for, and maintain our Advanced Life Support ambulance license from the State of Utah, the District is required to have a paramedic/advanced EMT and an EMT available 24 hrs/day. The State also requires specific vehicle types, equipment, supplies, medications and training.

The District has experienced, over the past several years, a loss of participation from residents of the District in both structural fire and emergency medical services. Currently, only one resident participates in EMS, and four residents, including the fire chief, participate in structural fire.

In order to maintain the EMS staffing mandated by the State and have a minimal response to structural fire, the District has been forced to pay individuals to be readily available to respond to emergencies. The vast majority of these individuals have been recruited from areas outside of the District.

**8. Why does the District need to have both firefighters and EMS personnel available?**

The training and certifications for each job are different.

When the ambulance transports a patient to the hospital, it is out of the area for at least two hours. The remaining firefighters offer structural fire protection and a basic EMS response.

In most cases, both fire and EMS personnel respond to a call.

The Park also relies upon District emergency personnel for mutual aid.

**9. What is the current pay the firefighters and emergency medical personnel?**

Firefighters - \$7.50/hr

EMT - \$8.50/hr

AEMT/Paramedic - \$9.00/hr