



OFFICIAL ELECTION MATERIAL FOR THE TIMBERLINE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NOVEMBER 6, 2018 MAIL BALLOT ELECTION

This Notice contains a summary of statements regarding the
TIMBERLINE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE A
as required by Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution (TABOR).

The TIMBERLINE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT election is being conducted as an independent mail ballot election. All voted ballots must be mailed or hand delivered directly to the TIMBERLINE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT at:

**Timberline Fire Station No. 7
660 Highway 46
Black Hawk, Colorado 80422**

DO NOT RETURN THE TIMBERLINE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BALLOT TO THE GILPIN COUNTY CLERK OR THE BOULDER COUNTY CLERK.

Ballots will be mailed to each active eligible elector of the Timberline Fire Protection District, whose eligibility could be determined, between October 15th and October 22nd.

If you have any questions regarding the election or do not receive a ballot and believe you are an eligible elector of the Timberline Fire Protection District, please contact Micki Mills, the Designated Election Official, at 303-218-7206 or mmills@cccfirm.com.

If you have any questions regarding the Timberline Fire Protection District or how to become a volunteer, please contact Jennifer Hinderman or Chief Paul Ondr at 303-582-5768 or jhinderman@timberlinefire.com or pvondr@timberlinefire.com. Or visit the District's website at <https://www.colorado.gov/timberlinefire>.

If you have not placed your voted ballot in the mail by October 30th, it is not guaranteed that the ballot will be received by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 6th. Ballots must be RECEIVED by an Election Judge by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day in order for your ballot to be counted. Ballots received after 7:00 p.m. on Election Day will not be counted. Postmarks do not count.

TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

NOTICE OF ELECTION ON A REFERRED MEASURE FOR TIMBERLINE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Election Date: Tuesday, November 6, 2018 **Election Hours:** 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Fire Station No. 7, 660 Highway 46, Black Hawk, Colorado 80422; telephone: 303-582-5768

Designated Election Official: Micki L. Mills, 390 Union Boulevard, Suite 400, Lakewood, Colorado 80228; telephone: 303-218-7206

Ballot Title and Text:

TIMBERLINE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE A

SHALL TIMBERLINE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO INCREASE OR DECREASE ITS CURRENT 8.342 GENERAL OPERATING MILL LEVY BEGINNING IN TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2020 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER TO OFFSET ANY REVENUE LOSSES RESULTING FROM REFUNDS AND ABATEMENTS, AND IF THERE ARE ANY CHANGES TO THE PERCENTAGE OF ACTUAL VALUATION USED TO DETERMINE ASSESSED VALUATION, SO THAT TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE THE ACTUAL TAX REVENUE COLLECTED IS THE SAME AS IF SUCH CHANGES HAD NOT OCCURRED, FOR THE PURPOSES OF:

- MAINTAINING EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT;
- MEETING INCREASED DEMAND FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES;
- PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING SAFETY GEAR, FIRE ENGINES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT FOR FIREFIGHTERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS; AND
- TRAINING, RECRUITING AND RETAINING VOLUNTEERS, AS WELL AS MAINTAINING AN ADEQUATE STAFF TO SUPPORT YOUR VOUNTEERS?

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue A:

Timberline Fire Protection District covers 175 square miles encompassing Gilpin County and part of Boulder County and consists of 3 full-time and 2 part-time employees and 64 volunteers. Since 2012 Timberline Fire Protection District has experienced a 10% increase in population and a 57% increase in call volume.

Timberline Fire Protection District currently has the lowest mill levy as compared to other Fire Districts in surrounding mountain communities, which are:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Lefthand Fire Protection District | 16.000 mills |
| Nederland Fire Protection District | 14.857 mills |
| Evergreen Fire Protection District | 12.501 mills |
| Indian Hills Fire Protection District | 12.000 mills |
| Fairmount Fire Protection District | 11.939 mills |
| Coal Creek Canyon Fire Protection District | 10.000 mills |
| Sugarloaf Fire Protection District | 9.800 mills |
| Foothills Fire Protection District | 9.196 mills |
| Golden Gate Canyon Fire Protection District | 9.016 mills |
| Timberline Fire Protection District | 8.342 mills |

The Gallagher Amendment to the Colorado Constitution has inadvertently created a situation where the main funding source for special districts (like Timberline) is decreasing at a rate that is creating a significant decrease in revenue. Voting YES on Ballot Issue A means the mill levy for the Timberline Fire Protection District will increase ONLY if the Residential Assessment Rate decreases. The intent is to stabilize the amount of revenue that Timberline Fire Protection District receives.

Voting YES allows Timberline to continue their exceptional work keeping Gilpin/Boulder residents and their properties safe.

For the past 20 years my wife and I have been part of the Gilpin County community and we have supported our local volunteer fire department. Timberline Fire Protection District (TFPD) provides emergency responses 24/7 - 365 days of the year on a professional level in every aspect of an emergency situation.

The incredible volunteer efforts are truly being challenged in terms of sustainable funding by the Gallagher provisions to property taxes. TFPD has developed a revenue stabilization plan for the District and I am fully committed in voting YES on TFPD Ballot Issue A. This revenue plan will maintain current funding.

I not only value the emergency responses provided by the department, but their commitment to public education, as well as community services projects, enhance our community on every level.

There are so many reasons to vote YES on Ballot Issue A. For my family, it is the right thing to do.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Total District Fiscal Year Spending:

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| 2018 (estimated) | \$1,044,120* |
| 2017 (actual) | \$ 908,061 |
| 2016 (actual) | \$ 932,887** |
| 2015 (actual) | \$ 764,388 |
| 2014 (actual) | \$ 822,113 |

Overall percentage change from 2014 to 2018: 27%
Overall dollar change from 2014 to 2018: \$222,007

*Fiscal year spending in 2018 increased following the 2017 inclusion of the remaining unserved portion of Gilpin County.

**Fiscal year spending in 2016 increased following the Counties' reassessment of property values and the District's receipt of a grant for capital replacement in the amount of \$121,243.

Proposed District Tax Increase or Decrease:

Estimated first full fiscal year (2019) maximum dollar amount of increase/decrease: \$0
Estimated first full fiscal year (2019) spending without the increase/decrease: \$969,782***

***The 2019 estimate is based upon preliminary total District assessed valuation and 2019 budget estimates, and does not account for increased property assessed valuation and receipt of grants, donations and other charitable contributions or other unanticipated revenues.