



# St. George Fire Protection District

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## **Residents Pass Both St. George Fire Tax Initiatives**

On Saturday, May 2nd residents voted to pass two separate ballot measures proposed by the St. George Fire Protection District.

The first proposition, which will assess a new 2mill property tax for the purpose of capital improvements and general operations, passed with 58 percent of the votes cast. The second proposition will allow assessment of 1.25 mills to replace the revenue stream of a measure which expires this year. It passed with 61 percent of the votes cast. Both will last for 10 years.

We are very grateful to the citizens of the District for entrusting us move their fire department to the next level.

Among the first orders of business is the calling of a State Civil Service test to identify the pool of applicants from which we will hire our next Fire Academy class. We plan to hire at least 12 new firefighters this year.

Since we were able to get voter approval of these taxes in time to be placed on this year's tax rolls and collected in 2016, (Had we waited until fall, we would not have had that ability.) we will be able to avoid having a one year delay in the construction projects included in the plan.

As promised, the Fire Chief will ask the Board of Commissioners to not assess the 1.25mill tax just approved, until after the existing millage it replaces has expired so as not to "double tax" our constituents. The net increase to tax-payers will be kept down to 2mills. The Board of Commissioners has already made this intention known.

We, again, thank the citizens of the St. George Fire Protection District for their display of confidence. We offer the same pledge we do whenever the public entrusts us with their tax dollars; to be good stewards of the public's money.