

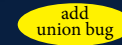
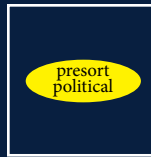
O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

PROP. **F**

ZERO-TAX-RATE CHANGE



O'Fallon Fire Protection District
 111 Laura K Drive
 O'Fallon, MO 63366
 ofallonfire.org • 636.272.3493



O'FALLON

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Committed to protecting our community

Remember to Vote
TUESDAY, APRIL 4

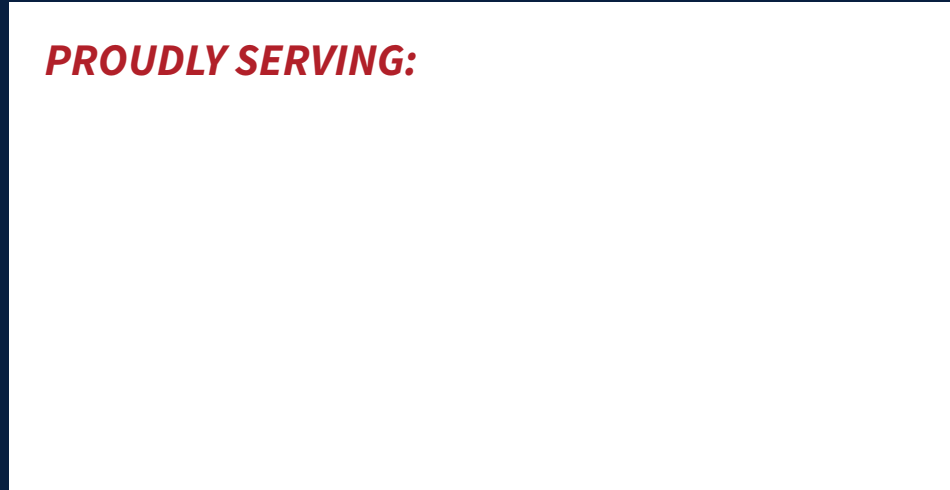
Be In The Know!

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram



This information was prepared and paid for by the O'Fallon Fire Protection District, 111 Laura K Dr., Thomas Vineyard, Chief, O'Fallon, MO 63366. This information is intended solely to educate and inform residents about a question that will be before voters. It is not intended to advocate, support or oppose the passage or defeat of the measure. Each voter should vote for or against the question based on his or her own judgment.

PROUDLY SERVING:



Easter Bunny Photos

April 1 • 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Station 4, 1306 Sunview Dr., O'Fallon, MO 63366

Trivia Night

April 15 • 6 p.m.
 St. Paul Knights of Columbus Hall

For more event details, visit facebook.com/ofallonfire.

Who Do We Call?

In an emergency, having quick access to your emergency contact information can be crucial for providing you with the best possible care. To assist us in helping you, follow these simple steps to add an emergency contact to your cell phone. This will ensure that we have the information we need to help you in an emergency, even if you are unconscious or unable to communicate.

To add an emergency contact to an IPHONE:

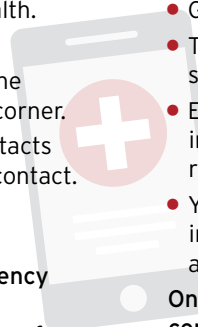
- Go to settings and click on Health.
- Tap the Medical ID tab.
- If you're a first time user, tap the Edit button in the upper right corner.
- Scroll down to Emergency Contacts and tap the + button to add a contact.
- Fill in the contact information and tap next, then Done.

Once you have added an emergency contact, you can access this information from the lock screen of your iPhone by tapping Emergency and then Medical ID. This information will be available to emergency services even if your phone is locked.

To add an emergency contact to an ANDROID device:

- Go to your phone's settings app.
- Tap on Safety and Emergency, and select Emergency Contacts.
- Enter your emergency contact information, including name, relationship, and phone number.
- You can also add additional information, such as blood type, allergies, and any medical conditions.

Once you have added an emergency contact, the information will be available to emergency services through your lock screen. This can be accessed by tapping the Emergency or Emergency information button on your lock screen.



Staying Safe On The Road

Did you know that you play an important role in helping us get to an emergency scene safely? When you see an emergency vehicle, it's crucial to move to the right side of the road as soon as possible to clear the way for first responders. However, this can be challenging during busy times, especially at intersections.

Thanks to a project led by St. Charles County, our community has a new tool to help make intersections safer for us and you, emergency vehicle preemption (EVP). This innovative technology uses sensors on the fire trucks and smart traffic light systems to clear intersections and turn traffic lights green as emergency vehicles approach with their lights and sirens on.

"This system is helping save lives every day by making our roads safer and emergency responses faster," says OFPD Fire Chief Tom Vineyard.

Studies have found that EVP systems can reduce response times by 30% or more,

and they help reduce crashes by nearly 20%. The county funded the installation of the system on emergency vehicles and stoplights throughout the community with a combination of federal grants and the county's transportation sales tax.

How It Works

All of our trucks are equipped with a cutting-edge sensor that was provided by St. Charles County. Once our lights and sirens are activated, the sensor instantly communicates our location and destination to the county's network of traffic lights. As a result, the traffic lights along our route are able to clear intersections and turn green, allowing us to pass through without delay. Once we have passed, the traffic lights return to their normal cycle.

District Details

From Feb. 1, 2022 until Feb. 1, 2023, OFPD provided emergency and rescue services to:

- 5,849** Total Calls
- 11** Rescues
- 207** Fires
- 400** Motor Vehicle Accidents
- 2,959** Emergency Medical Service Incidents
- 1,576** Citizen-Assist Occurrences
- 498** Fire Alarms
- 240** People Were Taught CPR
- 12,369** Firefighter/Paramedic Training Hours

See The Lights, Get To The Right

Pull over to the right side of the road and stop.

- ▶ **Clear the intersection.**
If you're approaching or in an intersection, do not block it. Make sure it is safe and drive through the intersection and pull over to the right side of the road.
- ▶ **Avoid sudden stops.**
When you pull over, do not stop suddenly; gradually come to a stop if possible.
- ▶ **Wait for us to pass.**
Watch the fire truck and do not move until it is passed and it is safe to reenter traffic.



O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

PROP. F

ZERO-TAX-RATE CHANGE

PROPOSITION F: *Maintain Our Emergency Services With Zero-Tax-Rate-Change*

Prop. F is a zero-tax-rate-change bond proposal on the Tuesday, April 4 ballot. If it is approved by the community, the district will:

- Replace aging fire trucks.
- Update aging emergency medical and firefighting equipment and gear.
- Provide additional emergency medical, fire and rescue training equipment and opportunities.
- Update, repair and maintain the district's four fire stations.

AGING FIRE TRUCKS, EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Fire Trucks and Vehicles

OFPD's fire trucks are among the oldest in the area. Many of the frontline fire trucks have been in service for nearly a decade or more, while reserve trucks that are used almost every day are over 20 years old. The cost of maintaining these vehicles has risen over 70% since 2020 and continues to increase. With the process of designing and building a new fire truck taking over two years and becoming more expensive, it is essential that we plan for the future now.

Emergency Medical, Fire & Rescue Equipment

While the district has a thorough maintenance and repair program, equipment and facilities wear out and eventually need to be replaced. Important lifesaving equipment like heart monitors, radios and fire hoses and nozzles are in need of replacement, with some equipment being so outdated that parts are no longer available for repair.

Fire Stations

Our fire stations require constant maintenance and upkeep. Immediate priorities include updates and repairs to Station #3 and Station #5, including HVAC systems and pavement. Looking ahead, we must maintain a proactive approach to maintaining our buildings, which involves future updates to roofs, windows, pavement, HVAC, electrical and plumbing systems.

HOW TO VOTE

In-Person

Election Day is Tuesday, April 4.

Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Remember, you will need a photo ID to vote.

Absentee

Absentee voting is available now at the St. Charles County Election Authority.

For more information on how and where to vote, visit sccmo.org/electionauthority or call (636) 949-7550.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PROP. F visit our website at ofallonfire.org.

A ZERO-TAX-RATE-CHANGE SOLUTION

The last bond issue was more than a decade ago, in 2011. Proper equipment, facility and truck maintenance combined with conservative spending allowed these funds to address equipment and facility needs since then. If Prop. F is approved by voters, it would allow the district to issue \$16 million in general obligation bonds. Because of the structuring of current debt, the district can issue these bonds without changing the tax rate. These funds can only be used for facilities, equipment and capital improvements.

BY THE NUMBERS

AVERAGE AGE OF FIRE TRUCKS:

16 YEARS

INCREASE IN CALLS SINCE 2011:

33%

INCREASE IN MAINTENANCE COSTS SINCE 2020:

70%

MILES TRAVELED BY FIRE & RESCUE TRUCKS:

744,430

Addressing these challenges now will save money in the long run and ensure firefighter/paramedics have the equipment, training and facilities required to keep our community safe.



Remember to Vote TUESDAY, APRIL 4

Ask The Board:

How does the district take care of its equipment and facilities?

William "Bill" Laughlin

Our community has made a significant investment in the fire district's equipment and facilities, and it is our responsibility to ensure their proper upkeep. The district has established a maintenance and replacement program to keep equipment up-to-date, but occasionally larger expenditures such as new trucks or building upgrades may be required. We also work closely with our financial advisors to plan for these situations. Our goal is to minimize the impact on our local taxpayers while still ensuring that we have the resources necessary to provide quality emergency services to our community.



Matt Simmons

Our yearly budget of over \$415,000 for ongoing maintenance of our facilities and equipment is a testament to our commitment to ensuring their longevity. By taking a proactive approach to maintenance, we are able to keep our equipment and buildings in good working order as long as possible. Regular inspections and maintenance also help us to identify potential issues early on, allowing us to address them before they become bigger problems.



Matt Gober

Every day, our firefighters conduct a comprehensive maintenance check of their trucks and equipment before starting their shifts.



This attention to detail enables them to identify potential issues early on and prevent them from becoming major problems. Our firefighters receive extensive training in basic truck and equipment maintenance, and they are equipped to handle minor repairs as needed. However, if the issue is more complex, we bring in specialized technicians to ensure that the equipment is in top working condition. We are committed to ensuring that our equipment is always ready to serve our community.

Celebrating Dedicated Service Retirements



Rick Miller, Battalion Chief



Ed Kues, Captain



Steve Wilson, Engineer



Kaylee Ellison, Inspector



Julie Meyer, Administrative Assistant

Promotions



Gary McCutchen, Battalion Chief



Kern Swafford, Captain



George Toelke, Captain

New Firefighters/Paramedics



Dan Chudy



Dave Lawton



Joe McCune

New Administrative Assistant



Amy McCulloch