



GLACIER VIEW FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Glacier View Fire Protection District is in need of your support. I would like to take a few moments of your time today to tell you what we need and how you can be of assistance.

First, a brief history of the Fire Department:

- Prior to 1989, we were strictly Glacier View Meadows Volunteer Fire Department, operating under the Road and Recreation for the benefit of GVM only.
- In July 1989, we became the Glacier View Fire Protection District and expanded our area of response outside of the boundaries of Glacier View Meadows. We currently respond to 56 square miles.
- When we started in 1989, as Glacier View Fire Protection District the initial mill levy was 4.0.
- In 1993, our mill levy was voted to increase to 5.5
- In 2000, our mill levy was voted to increase to 6.5
- In 2003, the land for the station at 1414 Green Mountain Drive was donated so that we could move from the Mountain Meeting Place (as you know it today). This increased the mill levy by 1.15, bringing the total mill levy to 7.65.

As you can see, we have not increased our mill levy for 15 years! Our increasing expenses and a constant mill levy is making it difficult to maintain our First Responders' safety equipment, supplies (like medical supplies), tools, and equipment to do what we do. For example:

- In 2003 we purchased structure gear at the cost of \$1,200 per set, that same cost today is approximately \$7,566.
- The total cost today to give our volunteers the proper protective equipment they need to assist the community is approximately \$9,000 per person, compared to 15 years ago it was about \$2,000.
- We currently have only 13 volunteers, we would like to have a staff of 20. However, to increase our staff by 7 we need \$63,000 just to get them the proper protective clothing.

Mill levies are how our organization is funded. A mill is not a specific dollar amount - it changes as your property assessment changes. For example, our 7.65 mill levy provided approximately \$160,000 in 2006, yet just a few short years later in 2014 it dropped to less than \$125,000. Yes, we had a budget cut!

What can you do for the Fire Department? Please vote on ballot issue 6B in the upcoming election regarding an increase projected to be \$93,643 in 2018, which translates to 4 mills. While this seems like a lot of money, when that amount is broken down to each property within the Fire District, the average is about \$12 a month.

Please attend a public meetings hosted by The Support Our Local Heroes Committee. To learn more, please visit www.supportourlocalheroes.org.

Respectfully,

Vanessa Fournier, Fire Chief