

Proposed Avondale County Island Fire District – Impact Statement

The Avondale County Island Fire District (ACIFD) is proposed to be formed pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute (ARS) §48-851; Noncontiguous county island fire districts; formation.

Proposed District Boundaries: The boundaries of the district will be those unincorporated county areas within the City of Avondale’s Municipal Planning Area (MPA) as set forth in the map provided by the county assessor which identifies the county island areas to be included in the district (attached).

The ACIFD boundaries will include 877 unincorporated property parcels located within the Avondale MPA as provided by assessor’s parcel number (provided by the Assessor’s Office). The above referenced map coincides with the parcel list and identifies the geographic relationship of the total aggregate property parcels and boundaries of the proposed district in relationship to City of Avondale boundaries.

District Assessed Valuation: The net assessed Limited Primary Value (LPV) of the proposed ACIFD is \$8,803,907 as established by the Maricopa County Assessor’s Office. Values used to establish the proposed district’s property values are those set on February 10, 2016.

Estimate of Property Tax Liability: The estimated change in property tax liability for a typical resident of the proposed district is calculated on the following example:

Residential (Tax Class 3) – Total Full Cash Value (FCV): \$147,500 / Assessed LPV - \$10,199

Estimated ACIFD annual tax liability: \$382.29

The amount of estimated annual tax liability is calculated upon tax rate of 3.7483 per one hundred dollars of limited property value. The tax rate of 3.7483 will generate an initial year estimated direct property tax levy of \$330,000. An additional \$66,000 in property tax revenue will be generated via the county-wide Fire District Assistance Tax (FDAT). The total first year budget is estimated at \$396,000 (NOTE: estimates are based upon Feb. 10, 2016 property values – fiscal 17-18 financial estimates will vary based upon property values established on Feb. 10, 2017 or thereafter and Avondale Fire and Medical Department operating costs).

The majority of the property tax funding generated by the proposed ACIFD will be used to pay for fire services provided to the district by the City of Avondale through an intergovernmental agreement. The cost of these services is currently estimated at \$330,000 annually.

The costing methodology used to determine the cost of providing fire and emergency medical services is a formula substantially similar to the ones used currently by the five other existing county island fire districts in Maricopa County (Chandler, Gilbert, Queen Creek, Scottsdale, Tempe). The costing methodology employed by county island fire districts and the cities who service those districts, ensures that county island property owners pay their pro-rata share of the cost for the respective city’s fire services.

Administrative, general governance and district formation expenses account for the remainder of the proposed budget: \$66,000.

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Benefits Resulting from Proposed District: Fire and paramedic level emergency medical services will be provided by the Avondale Fire and Medical Department (AFMD). The AFMD has four fire stations and response resources strategically located within the city’s MPA to provide efficient and effective emergency response and emergency incident mitigation. This will substantially decrease response times to emergency events in the proposed ACIFD.

Improved time efficiency in response and additional response resource will provide the following benefits to ACIFD property owners and residents:

- Reduced property loss to fire.
- Reduced fire insurance premiums for homeowners.
- Improved outcome and subsequent quality of life post-acute emergency medical event.

The AFMD is a participant in the valley-wide automatic aid system, which provides additional fire and emergency medical resources as necessary to mitigate emergency events. Automatic aid participating fire departments have fire stations located in close proximity to the City of Avondale’s MPA. Fire resources are dispatched based upon the closest available and appropriate resource without regard for jurisdictional boundaries. It is anticipated that inclusion within the automatic aid system will significantly enhance emergency service delivery to the proposed ACIFD.

Homeowner fire insurance rates are anticipated to be reduced by an increased level of fire response resource provided by the AFMD and proximity of property to automatic aid partner fire stations.

Injuries Resulting from Proposed District: Direct property taxes paid to the ACIFD collectively by property owners is estimated at \$330,000 annually. There are no other known or anticipated injuries resulting from the proposed ACIFD formation.

Proposed Members of the ACIFD Organizing Board

Name	Address	Occupation
Stanley Crisher,	10923 W. Lower Buckeye Rd. Tolleson, AZ 85353	Retired
Matthew Gale	2427 N. 104 th Avenue, Avondale, AZ 85382	Business Consultant
Rebecca Haro	11215 W. Lower Buckeye Rd. Tolleson, AZ 85353	EMS Manager

Scope of Services to be Provided: The proposed ACIFD will be formed pursuant to ARS §48-851. As such the proposed district is strictly limited in scope. The ACIFD will contract with the City of Avondale for emergency services. The AFMD provides a full-range of fire, emergency medical and all-hazards mitigation services. The ACIFD will continue to contract with the City of Avondale for the foreseeable future.