



## **Fire and Paramedic Funding Committee Meeting 3 Summary Notes**

### **DECISIONS**

- The Committee would like to meet with the City Attorney at the October 17, 2016 meeting and review redlined versions of the Ballot Measure.
- The Committee decided to maintain the City Council's ability to increase the Base Amount and the Improvement Rate up to a 6.2% annual ceiling.
- After receiving a report and viewing a presentation from NBS regarding alternative methods for calculating the Fire and Paramedic Special Parcel Tax, the Committee decided to maintain the current methodology for calculating the Fire and Paramedic Special Parcel Tax.
- The Committee decided to remove the sunset clause on the basis that the City has a 30-year track record of responsible use of tax funds, as audited by both the specialized auditor (NBS) and the City's external auditor.

### **MAJOR CONCLUSIONS**

- The Committee concluded that maintaining the same formula and text for a parcel tax would be preferable over changing the formula, which may potentially confuse voters.
- It was noted that if the City ultimately found another way to fund fire and paramedic services, the tax could be discontinued. However, without such a funding source, the tax would always be needed.
- The Committee also understood that approximately \$40,000 of election cost would be saved if an election was not necessary.
- The Committee is open to scheduling additional meetings as needed to prepare for the November 8<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting and to finalize educational materials.

### **NEXT STEPS**

- The intent of the Committee is to review ballot measure language at its next meeting and discuss with the City Attorney.
- With review of the ballot measure text at the next meeting, the Committee will begin to discuss public educational materials.
- The Committee will discuss whether to host public outreach meetings in Council Chambers.
- The Committee will discuss dates for public outreach meetings.