



CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES

FIRE AND PARAMEDIC SPECIAL PARCEL TAX

MUNICIPAL ELECTION MARCH 7, 2017

FACT SHEET 2

Fire & Paramedic Services History

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History of

Fire and Paramedic Services Parcel Tax

In the mid-1980s, Proposition 13 property tax cuts became too severe to continue staffing and operating fire and paramedic services in the community. In May 1986, the City closed its Fire Department and entered into a contract with the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD) to provide fire protection, paramedic services, and the enforcement of the Fire Code inclusive of brush inspection, emergency response, rescue, building construction-related services, and all personnel and equipment.

Currently, these essential public safety services provided by LACoFD cost the City approximately \$4.7 million a year. The contract is evergreen; in other words, recognizing fire and paramedic services are an essential public safety need, the contract continues indefinitely unless, with 12-months advance notice to the LACoFD, it is canceled.

Over the decades, following the recommendations of several independent Citizen Committees – each one assembled for evaluating funding alternatives-- the City instituted a variety of mechanisms to pay the on-going cost of fire and paramedic services. During the 1980's, voter-approved parcel taxes for police/fire/paramedic and parklands maintenance covered a portion of the costs of these municipal services. In 1991 and then again in 1996 (July), property owners voted their approval of a Fire Suppression Benefit Assessment District (FSBAD) that covered 100% of the cost of the contract with LACoFD through 2001. With voter approval of Proposition 218 in November 1996, the FSBAD could only be used to fund fire protection, not paramedic services. Paramedic services represent 40% of the cost of the fire contract, and they are essential to our community. In 2001, after examining long-term financing options, the City placed before voters a ballot measure to fund fire and paramedic services through a parcel tax. Voters overwhelmingly approved the tax (by 87%) and renewed it again in 2007 for ten years (again by 87%), expiring in June 2017.

At its November 8, 2016 meeting, following the recommendation of the Citizen Committee comprised of Ronald Buss (Chair), Tom Connaghan, Kristin Curren, Robin DeBaal, Amy Friedman, Valerie Gorsuch, Helaine Lopes, Clark Margolf, Ellen Perkins, Lynn Solomita, William Um, and David Wagman, the City Council voted to again place a parcel tax on the ballot for funding our fire and paramedic services. The City Council included a 12-year sunset provision through 2029. Given a new State requirement to consolidate local and county elections in November of even years beginning in 2020, the measure will again be evaluated in November 2028.

CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES																
FIRE & PARAMEDIC FUNDING COMMITTEE																
TEN YEAR HISTORY OF BASE AND IMPROVEMENT AMOUNTS																
Fiscal Year	Inflation Fac	Base Rate	Improvement Rate	Improvement	2450 Sq Ft.			3500 Sq Ft.			6000 Sq Ft.					
					Base Amount	Imprv. Amt	Total	2,595	3,000	ase Amount	prv. Amt	Total	4,000	ase Amount	prv. Amt	Total
2007/08	N/A	250.41	0.143422	0.143422	250.41	351.38	\$ 601.79	372.18	430.27	250.41	501.98	\$ 752.39	573.69	250.41	860.53	\$ 1,110.94
2008/09	4.20%	260.9272	0.149446	0.149445	260.92	366.14	\$ 627.06	387.81	448.34	260.92	523.06	\$ 783.98	597.78	260.92	896.67	\$ 1,157.59
2009/10	4.20%	271.8862	0.155723	0.155723	271.89	381.52	\$ 653.41	404.10	467.17	271.89	545.03	\$ 816.92	622.89	271.89	934.34	\$ 1,206.23
2010/11	4.20%	283.3054	0.162260	0.162260	283.30	397.54	\$ 680.84	421.06	486.78	283.30	567.91	\$ 851.21	649.04	283.30	973.56	\$ 1,256.86
2011/12	0.00%	283.3054	0.162260	0.162260	283.30	397.54	\$ 680.84	421.06	486.78	283.30	567.91	\$ 851.21	649.04	283.30	973.56	\$ 1,256.86
2012/13	3.50%	293.2211	0.167940	0.167940	293.22	411.45	\$ 704.67	435.80	503.82	293.22	587.79	\$ 881.01	671.76	293.22	1,007.64	\$ 1,300.86
2013/14	3.23%	302.6921	0.173366	0.173366	302.69	424.75	\$ 727.44	449.88	520.10	302.69	606.78	\$ 909.47	693.46	302.69	1,040.20	\$ 1,342.89
2014/15	3.15%	312.2269	0.178827	0.178827	312.22	438.13	\$ 750.35	464.06	536.48	312.22	625.89	\$ 938.11	715.31	312.22	1,072.96	\$ 1,385.18
2015/16	2.69%	320.6258	0.183637	0.183637	320.62	449.91	\$ 770.53	476.54	550.91	320.62	642.73	\$ 963.35	734.55	320.62	1,101.82	\$ 1,422.44
2016/17	2.35%	328.1605	0.187953	0.187952	328.16	460.48	\$ 788.64	487.73544	563.86	328.16	657.83	\$ 985.99	751.81	328.16	1,127.71	\$ 1,455.87
2017/18	0.0432	342.3371	0.196073	0.196072	342.33	480.38	\$ 822.71	69.951992	80.87	342.33	686.25	\$ 1,028.58	107.83	342.33	1,176.43	\$ 1,518.76
Base amount increase are impacted by Inflation Factors.																
Changes in Improvement Rates are based on Inflation Factors.																
The inflation factors used are based upon the percentage increase from the LACoFD.																

Explanation of Parcel Tax Change

The following are the major elements affecting the City's net payment changes year to year:

2007-08

The Board of Supervisors (BoS) approved an amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the firefighters' union providing a 3.75% net salary increase. There was also an increase in employee benefits due primarily to cost increases for Retiree Health Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and cafeteria plans.

2008-09

The BoS approved an amendment to the MOU with the firefighters' union that provided a 3% net salary increase. There was also an increase in employee benefits due primarily to cost increases for Retiree Health Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and cafeteria plans.

2009-10

The BoS approved an amendment to the MOU with the firefighters' union that provided a .25% net salary increase. There was also an increase in employee benefits due primarily to cost increases for Retiree Health Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and cafeteria plans.

2010-11

Increase in employee benefits primarily for cost increases for Retiree Health Insurance, Workers' Compensation and cafeteria plans. There was also an increase in the District Overhead (DOH) due primarily to salary increases and the purchases of personal protective equipment and radio equipment.

2011-12

Increase in employee benefits primarily for retirement contributions for safety employees. There was also an increase in the DOH, due primarily to overtime as well as the purchase of timekeeping and staff replacement software.

2012-13

Increase in employee benefits primarily for cost increases for Retiree Health Insurance, Workers' Compensation, cafeteria plans; and retirement contributions for safety employees. There was an increase in the DOH due primarily to Very High Frequency Radio Replacement Project.

2013-14

The BoS approved a MOU with the firefighters' union which provided a salary increase of 2%. There was also an increase in employee benefits primarily for cost increases for Retiree Health Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and cafeteria plans (included a \$250 one-time bonus).

2014-15

The BoS approved a MOU with the firefighters' union which provided a 3% net salary increase. These salary increases were partially offset by an increase in salary savings. There was also an increase in employee benefits, due primarily to cost increases for Retiree Health Insurance, cafeteria plans (included a \$250 one-time bonus), and Health Insurance Tax.

2015-16

The BoS approved two MOUs with the firefighters' union that provided a 3.5% total net salary increase. Also approved was a 40-hour assignment bonus for fire captains and firefighter specialists impacting fire prevention charges resulting in a net increase of .83%. There was also an increase in employee benefits, due primarily to cost increases for Retiree Health Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and cafeteria plans; as well as a \$250 increase to the uniform allowance.