## **ELECTION DAY IS Saturday December 10, 2022**

We are urging all citizens to go to the polls! Matters important to our state and our community will be decided on that date.

In addition to electing our members of Congress, we will be asked to authorize a 4 mill tax to support operational advancements and additional equipment purchases for the St. George Fire Protection District.

Our latest PIAL Rating Evaluation confirmed what our leadership already knew: To maintain our Class 1 rating for our community, we must seek additional personnel, tools & equipment.



14100 Airline Highway Baton Rouge, LA 70817 We know many of you have seen or heard how busy we have been in the past few years. With the pandemic slowing down, we assumed our call volume would follow suit; this has not been the case. We are busier than ever.

Our new medical program featuring primarily Advanced Life Support providers (paramedics and Advanced EMTs) has efficiently pushed us above and beyond. We have seen direct results in quality of care provided and an increase in positive outcomes.

## We want to expand this program to better serve you, the people of St. George!

The addition of paramedic sprint units that will come with the authorization of a 4 mill property tax increase will bring higher quality care within a shorter response time. We will be able to provide a higher level of pre-hospital care to you or your loved ones when in need.

In order to maintain our Class 1 rating, we also must seek additional employees and additional equipment, including a Ladder truck. We are on track to fight 100 structure fires this year based on the incidents during the first quarter. When a structure fire requires more than 1 ladder truck, the district is left without this type of protection for the duration of the incident.

If you vote to authorize a 4 mill property tax to support the addition of a ladder truck, you and your loved ones will have access to critical resources that otherwise might not be available.

As with any career field, new employees are always needed. Our Class 1 PIAL rating directly correlates to the personnel we have to staff the department regularly. We are asking for 40 additional personnel to serve the community and keep St. George safe. We cannot do this without your support in voting for the 4 mill property tax.

## St. George Fire Protection District proposes a TEN year 4 mill property tax



Phone: 225-251-4800 www.stgeorgefire.com



One of the greatest challenges facing the St. George Fire Protection District is staying ahead of the growth and the changing land use within the District.

The District finds itself with identified needs that cannot be adequately addressed in a timely manner within the structure of our current property tax millages. The two most pressing needs facing the District are the purchasing of additional equipment and vehicles, and the recruitment, hiring, and retention of additional employees.

These issues need to be addressed sooner, rather than later. To that end, the District is proposing a 4 mil property tax for a period of 10 years. In doing so, the District will be able to acquire the necessary equipment and vehicles as well as hire additional firefighters and medics to serve your community. These upgrades will assist in preserving our Class 1 rating, and insure the same great quality of service you have grown accustom to since 1968.

The proposal calls for a 4 mill property tax for a period of ten years to provide for operational and equipment improvements for the St. George Fire Protection District.

COST INCREASE PER MONTH			
Home Value	250k	350K	500K
Tax Assessed	\$6	\$9	\$14

In order for us to stay ahead of growth, shorten response times, locate resources nearer critical areas, improve your protection, preserve our Class 1 Rating and to better serve YOU...

We need to train and hire 40 additional personnel. We also need to purchase and staff an additional Ladder Truck and additional Paramedic Sprint Trucks.

These changes will result in:
The high quality medical care you deserve

More available resources for emergencies

Closer and better allocated resources in critical areas of the community
Training to maintain and improve the quality of care and protection you deserve, as a community!

A BETTER, SAFER COMMUNITY FOR ALL CITIZENS OF THE ST. GEORGE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Respectfully,

Gerard C. Tarleton, Fire Chief