



**GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Action Item Worksheet**

OLD BUSINESS

Agenda Item: II. B.
Subject: Resolution 2024-06 Future Direction of the District and Strategic Plan
Meeting Date: April 10, 2024
Prepared By: Chris Wolfe, Interim Fire Chief

Background

At the February BOFC meeting, three Board members directed Staff to update Resolution 2021-019 and bring it back for consideration. The bond language was removed and the project list was updated.

At the March BOFC meeting, the Board moved to tighten up the language so that it is strictly for capital projects, and that no future reallocation of funds can be moved to operations.

Funding Source/Financial Impact

Based on the District's 2023 taxable property valuations, the following amounts are examples of approximated annually generated funds from a millage rate increase:

.25	\$8.01M
.50	\$16.02M

Recommendation

Staff recommends approving Resolution 2024-06 authorizing a ballot question asking whether the District shall be authorized to increase its millage rate by up to 0.5 mills, to improve the District's public safety facilities, technology, and equipment.

Potential Motion

I move to approve Resolution 2024-06 authorizing a ballot question asking whether the District shall be authorized to increase its millage rate by up to 0.5 mills, to improve the District's public safety facilities, technology, and equipment.

Attachments

1. Resolution 2024-06
2. Project List- Exhibit "A" Capital Projects



RESOLUTION 2024- 06

A RESOLUTION OF THE GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS, COLLIER COUNTY, FLORIDA, CALLING FOR AN ELECTION ON AUGUST 20, 2024, TO SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT, A BALLOT QUESTION ASKING WHETHER THE DISTRICT SHALL BE AUTHORIZED TO INCREASE ITS MILLAGE RATE BY UP TO 0.5 MILS, TO IMPROVE THE DISTRICT'S PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES, TECHNOLOGY, AND EQUIPMENT.

WHEREAS, in 1982, the East Naples Fire Control and Rescue District and the Golden Gate Fire Control and Rescue District received approval to levy a maximum millage rate of 1.5 mills of ad valorem taxation on property within their respective boundaries; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District (“District”) was created through the merger of the East Naples Fire Control and Rescue District and the Golden Gate Fire Control and Rescue District, which was in accordance with Chapter 2014-240, Laws of Florida, and approved at referendum; and

WHEREAS, Section 10 of Chapter 2014-240, Laws of Florida, provided that the District maintained the authority to levy a millage rate up to 1.5 mills, as previously approved by referendum in the East Naples Fire Control and Rescue District and Golden Gate Fire Control and Rescue District, and that a subsequent referendum would be needed to increase the District’s maximum millage rate above 1.5 mills; and

WHEREAS, the ballot question that was approved in 2014 referendum on the creation of the District provided that the District would retain the authority to levy no more than the current maximum millage rate of 1.5 mills of ad valorem taxation on property located within the District; and

WHEREAS, Section 191.008, Florida Statutes, authorizes independent special fire control districts to provide for fire suppression and prevention by establishing and maintaining fire stations and fire substations and acquiring and maintaining such firefighting and fire protection equipment deemed necessary to prevent or fight fires; and

WHEREAS, the District’s charter is found in Section 4 of Chapter 2014-240, Laws of Florida (“Charter”); and

WHEREAS, Section 3.01 of the Charter grants the District the authority to establish, equip, operate, and maintain a fire department and rescue service, including, but not limited to, providing fire hydrants or other types of water supply, buildings for housing fire equipment and personnel, training facilities for fire and rescue, and other buildings deemed necessary by



the Board of Fire Commissioners to provide adequate protection from unwanted fire and to carry out rescue operations; and

WHEREAS, Section 9, Article VII of the Florida Constitution, provides that a special district may levy a millage rate authorized by law approved by vote of the electors who are owners of freeholds therein not wholly exempt from taxation; and

WHEREAS, Section 191.006(14), Florida Statutes, authorizes the District to assess and impose on real property ad valorem taxes; and

WHEREAS, Section 191.009(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes independent special fire control districts the authority to levy and assess ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the district to construct, operate, and maintain district facilities and services and to pay for general obligation bonds, with such millage rate not exceeding 3.75 mills unless a higher amount has been previously authorized by law, subject to a referendum as required by the Florida Constitution and Chapter 191, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, Section 191.009(1), Florida Statutes, requires a referendum when the proposed levy of ad valorem taxes exceeds the amount authorized by prior special act, general law of local application, or county ordinance approved by referendum and that the ballot question must state the currently authorized millage rate and the year of its approval by referendum; and

WHEREAS, Section 5.01 of the Charter provides the District the powers, functions, and duties regarding ad valorem taxation and the methods for financing the District as set forth in the Charter, Chapter 191, Florida Statutes, and in any applicable general or special law; and

WHEREAS, Section 5.02 of the Charter requires the District to levy and collect ad valorem taxes in accordance with Section 191.009, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 200, Florida Statutes, provides that the District has the authority to levy a millage rate up to 1.5 mills, and clarifies that the Charter does not prevent the levying of a millage rate as provided for in Section 191.009, Florida Statutes, which has been approved by referendum; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners has determined that it will have insufficient ad valorem tax revenues to address the immediate and future capital needs of the District associated with the construction of fire stations and facilities, improvements to existing facilities, and the purchase of apparatus, technology, and equipment (“Projects”); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners has developed a list of the Projects described in more detail in attached Exhibit "A" (Greater Naples Fire Rescue District Public Safety Facilities, Technology, and Equipment Project List), that the District must address; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners desires to increase the District’s millage rate for an eight-year term to pay for the Projects on the Project List; and



WHEREAS, to ensure that the revenues from the additional millage rate will be used to only fund the Projects, such revenues, and any interest from such revenues, will be placed in a separate capital improvement account; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Florida Constitution and Section 191.009(1), Florida Statutes, approval of the millage rate increase must be approved by a majority of votes cast at an election in which qualified electors residing in the District shall participate; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed advisable and necessary to provide for the submission to the qualified electors of the District at the primary election to be scheduled for August 20, 2024, of such a question for the increase in millage rate for a limited specified term to pay for the Projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THE GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT, COLLIER COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Section 1. The preceding "WHEREAS" clauses are ratified and confirmed as true and correct and incorporated in this Resolution.

Section 2. The District hereby finds, determines, and declares that the District needs to increase its millage rate for an eight year period as it has insufficient funds to pay for the Projects with its existing millage rate of 1.5 mills.

Section 3. Subject to the referendum and the provisions of this Resolution, the District is authorized to increase its millage rate by up to 0.5 mills for a total maximum ad valorem millage rate of 2.0 mills for eight years starting with the Fiscal Year 2025.

Section 4. Under the general laws of the State of Florida, an election is now called and directed to be held in the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District, Collier County, Florida, on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, to submit to the electorate the question set forth below (Election).

Section 5. The Collier County election officials shall conduct the Election, with acceptance of the certification of the election results to be performed by the Election Commission.

Section 6. The voting precincts in the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District for this Election shall be established by the proper and appropriate Collier County election officials. All electors shall vote at the polling places and the voting precincts as determined by the Collier County election officials.

Section 7. Under the requirements of Section 100.342, Florida Statutes, notice of Special Elections or Referendum outlined in this Resolution shall be given at least thirty days in advance of the Election and shall be presented in a newspaper of general circulation published in Collier County. The notice shall be posted at least twice, once in the fifth week and once in the third week prior to the week the Election is to be held.



Section 8. The Projects included in the Projects List in Exhibit A is hereby approved. The District may, in its sole discretion, by official action evidenced by resolution or motion of the Board of Fire Commissioners adopt or enacted from time to time, modify or amend all or any portion of the Project List to (1) delete one or more of the Projects if the District determines it is not feasible or is otherwise not in the best interest of the District to pursue such Project or Projects or (2) if general obligation bonds have been issued, in consultation with bond counsel to the District, substitute or modify one or more of the Projects on the Project List if the District determines such substitution or modification better serves District purposes, provided such modified or substituted facility, improvement or equipment is related to public safety services, including fire/rescue operations, fire prevention, fire inspection, environmental hardening of public safety facilities, community protection, and all-hazard mitigation.

Section 9. The official ballot to be used in the Election to be held on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, shall be in substantially the following form:

OFFICIAL BALLOT

Referendum to Increase the Maximum Millage Rate of the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District

Solely for the construction of new fire stations and facilities, existing facilities improvements, and purchase of apparatus, technology, and equipment, shall the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District be authorized to increase its currently authorized millage rate from 1.5 mills (\$1.50 for every \$1000.00 of assessed value), approved in 2014, up to 2.0 mills (\$2.00 for every \$1000.00 of assessed value), for an 8 year period, with such revenues held in a capital improvement account?

Yes
 No

Section 10. The Greater Naples Fire Rescue District shall pay all expenses for conducting the Election and pay to Collier County or directly to all persons or firms upon receipt of the invoice or statement of approval by the Supervisor of Elections, Collier County.

Section 11. If any word, phrase, clause, sentence, or paragraph of this Resolution shall be held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect any other word, clause, phrase, sentence, or paragraph hereof.

Section 12. If the referendum is approved, the Fire Chief, or designee, shall report the levy of ad valorem taxes approved by referendum to the Department of Commerce within 60 days after the vote.

Section 13. If the referendum is approved, revenues from the additional millage rate will only fund the Projects, and the revenues, and any interest from such revenues, must be placed in a separate capital improvement account.



Section 14. This Resolution shall be in full force and immediate effect upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED by at least a majority vote of the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District Board of Fire Commissioners of Collier County, Florida, this 10th day of April, 2024.

APPROVED BY:

Nick Biondo, Chairman

Exhibit A

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
	Target FY	Item or Project	Item Type	Status	Financial Impact Estimate	Funding Source	Notes
2	2023	Station 23	Facility	Not Funded	\$11,200,000		14000 SQ ft at \$800 a SQ ft
3	2023	Station 21	Facility	Not Funded	\$11,200,000		14000 SQ ft at \$800 a SQ ft
4	2023	Engine Purchase	Apparatus	Funded	-\$6,000,000		70,71,23,22 Lease 74 new
5	2023	Squad purchases for 20,21,70	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$350,000		21,20,70
6	2023	Tower 21	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$2,000,000		21
7	2023	Staff Vehicles	Small Fleet vehicle	Funded		Lease	FLS(3), FLEET LOGS TRAINING (4)
8	2023	Attack 23	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$250,000		
9	2023	Attack 60	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$2,500,000	Collier County	
10	2023	Attack 74	Apparatus	Funded	-\$250,000	GAC Land Trust Grant	
11	2023	Water Tender 71	Apparatus	Seeking Funding	\$500,000	GAC Land Trust Grant	
12	2023	Water Tender 74	Apparatus	Funded	-\$500,000	Impact Fees	
13	2023	IT Van	Small Fleet vehicle	Not Funded		Lease	
14	2023	Net motion	Software	Not Funded			
15	2023	Data Analytic Program	Software	Not Funded			
16	2023	Firewall VPN Routers	IT Hardware	Not Funded			
17	2023	FLS Tablets	IT Hardware	Not Funded			
18	2023	HRIS Platform Benefits Admin	Software	Not Funded			
19	2023	E File Cabinet	Software	Not Funded			
20	2023	Station 20 – concrete apron replacement	Facility	Not Funded			
21	2023	Training Division costs		Seeking Funding	\$239,600		
22	2023	Meet with NCFRD – Krape Road partnership/Joint Fire Station and Ancillary Facilities	Facility	Not Funded			
23	2024	Station 70	Facility	Not Funded	\$11,200,000		14000 SQ ft at \$800 a SQ ft
24	2024	Station 27	Facility	Not Funded	\$11,200,000	Impact Fees	14000 SQ ft at \$800 a SQ ft
25	2024	Admin Training, Fleet, Logs Complex	Facility	Seeking Funding	\$54,000,000	GRANTS	
26	2024	Ladder 72	Apparatus	Not Funded		Lease	
27	2024	Rehab Unit	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$500,000		
28	2024	Boat 90 and trailer	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$700,000		
29	2024	Boat 60 and trailer	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$700,000	Collier County	
30	2024	Staff Vehicles	Small Fleet vehicle	Seeking Funding	\$400,000		FLS(1) Training (3)
31	2024	BC Trucks 70/20	Small Fleet vehicle	Not Funded	\$250,000		70,20
32	2024	BR 73	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$250,000		
33	2024	BR 22	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$250,000		
34	2024	WT 60	Apparatus	Seeking Funding	\$500,000	Collier County	
35	2024	WT 20	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$500,000		
36	2024	light tower	Equipment	Not Funded	\$15,000		
37	2024	MDT Computers	IT Hardware	Funded			
38	2024	Station 90 – asphalt repaving	Facility	Not Funded			
39	2024	Training Division costs		Not Funded	\$190,100		
40	2024	South of GG BLVD East/West of 28 th Ave SE (3-5 acres); North of Manatee Road/East Trail – Fire Station	Facility	Not Funded			
41	2025	Station 60	Facility	Funded	-\$13,000,000	Collier County	
42	2025	Station 26	Facility	Seeking Funding	\$11,200,000	Impact Fees	14000 SQ ft at \$700 a SQ ft
43	2025	Engine 26	Apparatus	not Funded	\$1,100,000	Impact Fees	
44	2025	Squad 72	Apparatus	not Funded	\$125,000		
45	2025	Ladder 21	Apparatus	Funded			
46	2025	Mobile Command	Equipment	Not Funded	\$2,000,000		
47	2025	Marc 6 SRU	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$100,000		
48	2025	Staff Vehicles	Small Fleet vehicle	Seeking Funding			5 FLS 2
49	2025	Brush 72	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$250,000		
50	2025	Water Tender 70	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$500,000		
51	2025	Water Tender 26	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$500,000	Impact Fees	
52	2025	Domain Storage Servers	IT Hardware	Not Funded			
53	2025	MDT Computers	IT Hardware	Not Funded			
54	2025	Emergency Generator Replacements	Equipment	Not Funded			
55	2025	Station 71 – painting, driveway finishing, roof	Facility	Not Funded			
56	2025	Training Division costs		Not Funded	\$263,600		
57	2025	Station 26/Lake Park Blvd; Six L's Farm Road	Facility	Funded			
58	2026	HQ Expansion at 73	Facility	Not Funded	\$20,000,000		
59	2026	Engine 27	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$1,100,000		
60	2026	Squad 76	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$125,000	Impact Fees	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
61	2026	Brush 21	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$250,000		
62	2026	Box Truck	Small Fleet vehicle	Not Funded	\$50,000		
63	2026	Light Tower	Equipment	Not Funded	\$15,000		
64	2026	ATV's	Small Fleet vehicle	Not Funded	\$100,000		
65	2026	Dive Team	Small Fleet vehicle	Not Funded	\$100,000		
66	2026	USAR Trailer	Apparatus	Not Funded			
67	2026	Foam 63	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$100,000		
68	2026	WAPs at all facilities	IT Hardware	Not Funded			
69	2026	MDT Computers	IT Hardware	Not Funded			
70	2026	Emergency Generator Replacements	Equipment	Not Funded			
71	2026	73/Admin – Asphalt Station 72 – concrete apron, interior paint	Facility	Not Funded			
72	2026	District-wide Fuel System Upgrades	Equipment	Not Funded			
73	2026	Training Division costs		Not Funded	\$104,700		
74	2026	Station 27 (Outer Dr.) – Fire Station	Facility	Seeking Funding			
75	2027	FLS Expansion	Facility	Not Funded	\$15,000,000		
76	2027	Engine 74, 24, 73, 75, 90	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$6,000,000		
77	2027	Squad 25	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$125,000	Impact Fees	
78	2027	Brush 71	Apparatus	Not Funded	\$250,000		
79	2027	Staff Vehicles approx 20	Small Fleet vehicle	Not Funded	\$2,000,000		
80	2027	Emergency Generator Replacements	Equipment	Not Funded			
81	2027	Training Division costs		Not Funded	\$80,200		
82							
83							
84				Total Impact	\$150,583,200.00		