

Buncombe County Government
 Summary of Budget Request



Budget Request and Justification	
Entity	<i>Name of Department/Entity; Fairview Volunteer Fire Department</i>
Budget Request	<i>Increase Tax Rate 10.5 to .17</i>
Purpose of Request	<p><i>Describe how the increased funds will be utilized. Examples may include changes to existing services, or new services that will be offered. To enable us to work on building a reserve fund, bring salaries up to state averages, replace apparatus that has aged out, build a 4th substation on 74A to the west end of our district to meet Class 3 requirements (near The Cliffs) and to make energy saving renovations to our main station that hasn't received any improvement in over 20 years.</i></p> <p><i>To provide the following changes to services:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Increased; 9 additional Firefighting personnel to meet National and State standards.</i> <i>New; Substation toward the Minehole Gap area of US 74A.</i> <p><i>To fund the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>New equipment; We currently have 5 pieces of apparatus that are overdue for replacement. The NFPA Standard is 15 years of service and we have one that is 17 years old, three that are 22 years old, and one that is at 30 years of service. We will set up a new account just for truck replacement purposes.</i> <i>Increased salaries and benefits; In an effort to provide a commensurate wage based on the NC average for firefighters as determined by the pay study done by the NC Association of Fire Chiefs released in January 2018.</i>



Key Drivers for the Request

Describe the drivers for this request. Examples may include increased service calls, aging equipment, needs for new equipment or facilities, etc. **To establish a reserve operating fund of 3 months to 1 year (as requested by the county finance department) within 5 to 7 years. To maintain our recently acquired Class 3 DOI rating, the NC DOI has identified a need for a fourth substation. We also need to replace fire apparatus that have exceeded their service life.**

Communication

How the Department will discuss the changes with the Community during the following meetings: **Through our local newspaper (The Fairview Town Crier), which is mailed out to every address in our district. The department's website, the department's Facebook page and an informational sheet at all three of our fire stations for the public to pick up.**