

Buncombe County Government  
 Summary of Budget Request



Budget Request and Justification	
Entity	<p><i>Name of Department/Entity</i>  <i>The Upper Hominy Fire and Rescue Department INC.</i></p>
Budget Request	<p><i>Increase Tax Rate 12.5_____ to __14.5_____</i></p>
Purpose of Request	<p><i>To provide the following changes to services:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Increase Full Time Staffing from 3-6, one PT 24 HR</i></li> <li>• <i>Staffing of Station 2 24 hours a day, 7 days a week</i></li> </ul> <p><i>To fund the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Line items increases</i></li> <li>• <i>Increased salaries and benefits</i></li> <li>• <i>Only the two Chiefs did not take a pay raise</i></li> </ul>
Key Drivers for the Request	<p><i>This increase is needed due to the fact of rising call volume, and decrease in volunteers. We have 5-6 active volunteers that run calls, but if they are working or in school then there is only a paid response.</i></p> <p><i>We have received Turnout Gear and SCBA's, and a new Tanker using Federal Grants. We also remodeled our Substation, and purchased a new brush truck using the money from the sale of our old fire station on Pisgah Highway.</i></p> <p><i>The increased salaries and benefits allow us to bring our current Captains closer to the state average, and the pay for LT will allow us to be competitive to hire qualified people.</i></p>
Communication	<p><i>We will communicate to the Community through Public meetings and social media about the increase, and what the positive outcome of the increase will be.</i></p> <p><i>We also have our State Rating Inspection July 10<sup>th</sup>, and with the increase in staffing and new equipment, we will be able to lower our rating from a 6/9, which will save taxpayers much more on their insurance, which more than offsets the tax increase.</i></p>