

LOVELAND FIRE RESCUE AUTHORITY



Johnstown Town Council

PROPOSED LOVELAND RURAL FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT MILL LEVY INCREASE

Tim Sendelbach – Fire Chief
Frazier Spearman – Business & Finance Manager

AGENDA



- **Overview of current funding model**
- **Intro to Loveland Fire Rescue Authority**
- **The economics of today's fire service**
- **Ballot Initiative Survey Results**
- **Raftelis Report: Tax Recommendations**

OUR FUNDING



City of Loveland – 82%

Loveland Rural Fire District – 18%

+

Service Fees

Total Budget for 2023 – \$22.4M

Fees

Loveland Rural Fire District
18%

City of Loveland
82%

PERSONNEL SERVICES

Salaries Benefits (74.8%)

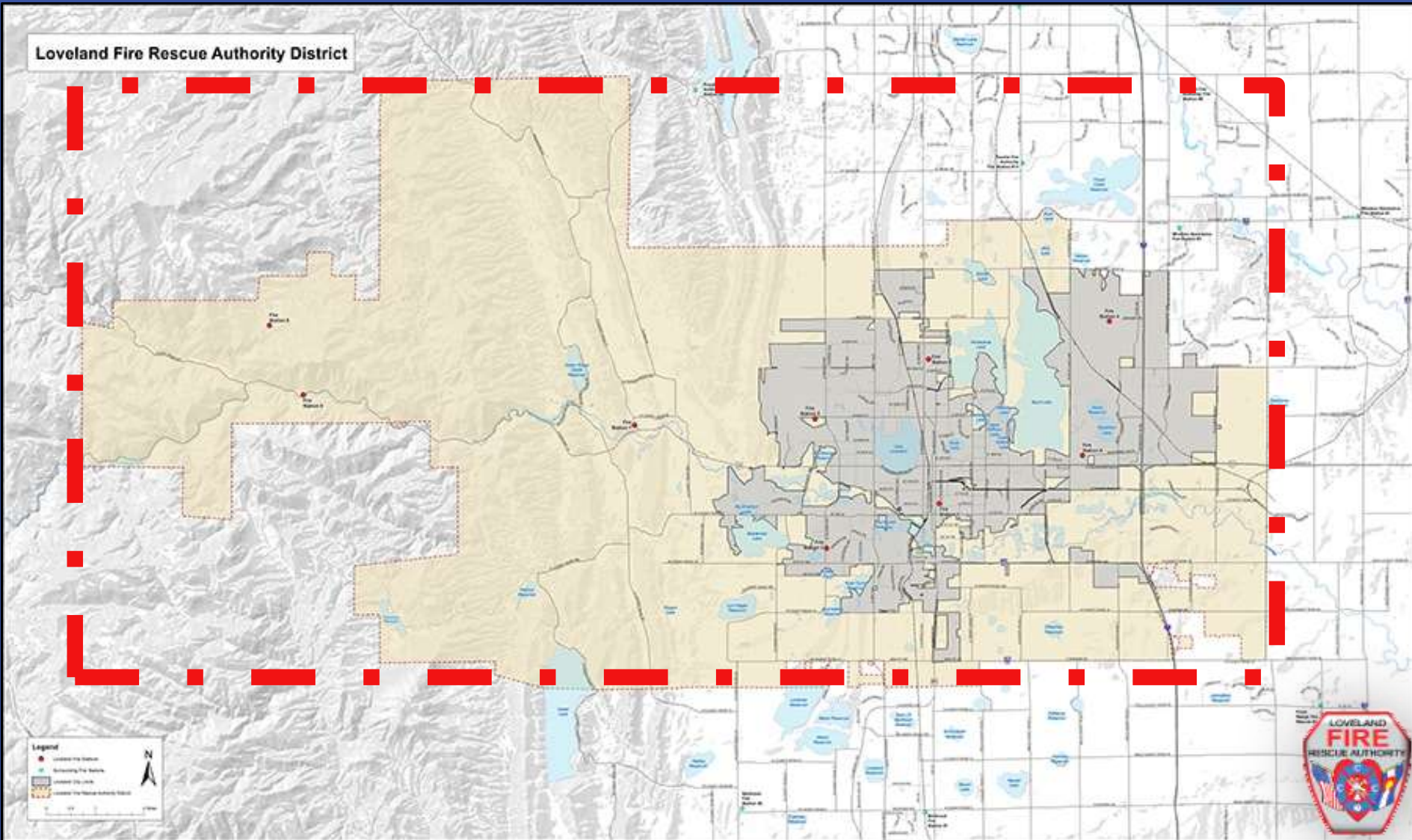
OPERATING FUNDS

Supplies, Purchased Services, Capital Equipment (25.2%)

TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2023 – \$22.4M

Courage - Commitment - Compassion

Loveland Fire Rescue Authority District



LFRA Response Area – 187 Sq. Miles

Loveland Fire Rescue Authority
Insurance Services Office (ISO)
Public Protection Classification (PPC)
System Ratings - February 2021

Airport Station
Staffed As Needed
1 Engineer

Full-time Staffed Stations
Minimum 3 Firefighters
On-duty

Volunteer Stations
Canyon Battalion

Johnstown Station
Opened
September 2022

Public Protection Classification (PPC)

- Class 2
- Class 3
- Class 4



Public Protection Classification (PPC) is a rating system used by insurance companies to determine the risk of fire loss in a community. It is based on the fire department's ability to respond to fires, the fire department's equipment, and the fire department's personnel. The rating is based on the fire department's ability to respond to fires, the fire department's equipment, and the fire department's personnel. The rating is based on the fire department's ability to respond to fires, the fire department's equipment, and the fire department's personnel.



Fire Station Locations

DOLLAR VALUE 2023



**\$1.6-2.4
Million**

\$1-1.25 Million



\$100-125k

\$85-100k



\$750-950k

\$500-650k



\$185-265k

\$150-225k

Courage - Commitment - Compassion

DOLLAR VALUE



2023

Helmet: \$350

Protective Hood: \$120

Bunker Coat: \$1,900

Hand Light: \$220

Halligan & Axe: \$640

Misc. Tools
\$600

Boots: \$600

Radio: \$7,500

Self-Contained
Breathing Apparatus:
\$12,000

Gloves: \$170

Bunker Pants: \$1,400

**ESTIMATED
TOTAL TO PROTECT A
STRUCTURAL FIREFIGHTER**

\$25,500.00

+

Wildland Gear - \$2,710

Tech Rescue - \$1,400

Ballistic Vest - \$700

2nd Set of PPE - \$3,559

\$33,760.00

+

**15 Weeks of
BASIC Training**

Courage - Commitment - Compassion

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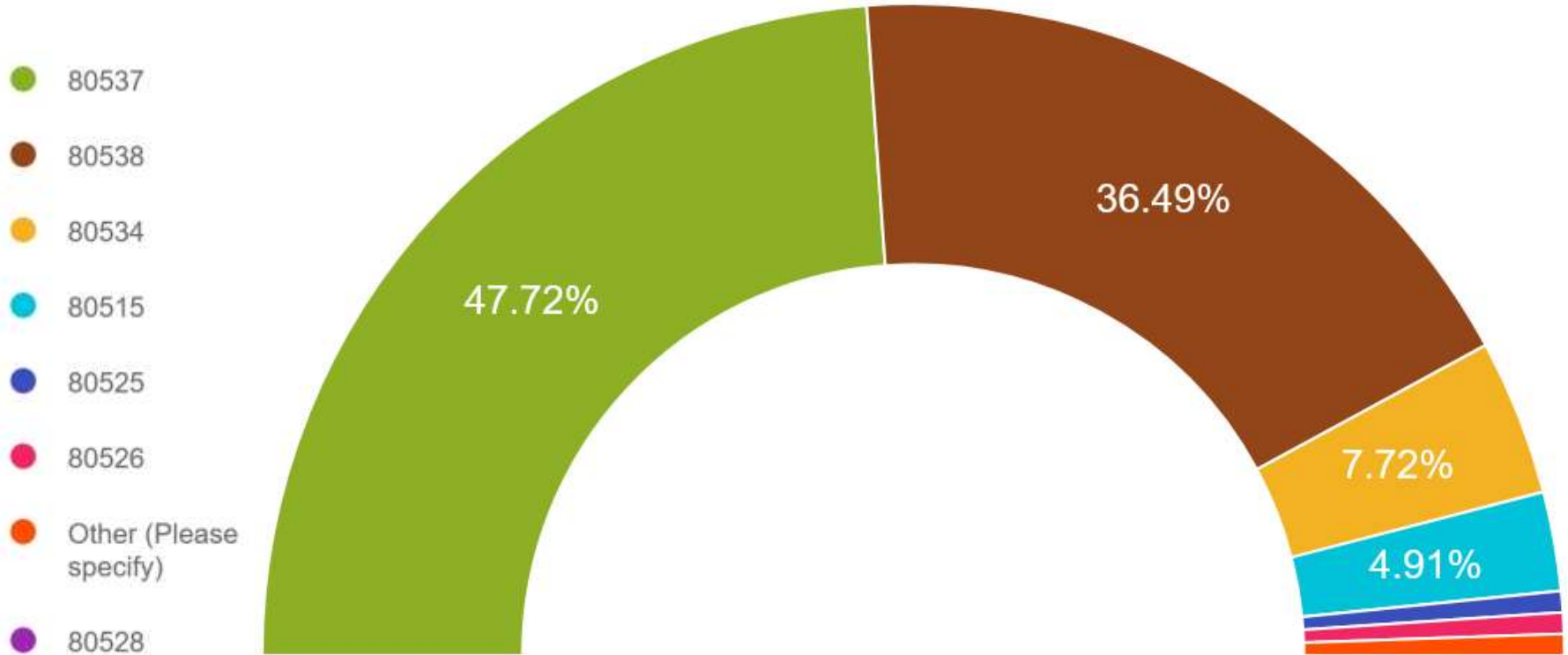


Citizen Survey Results

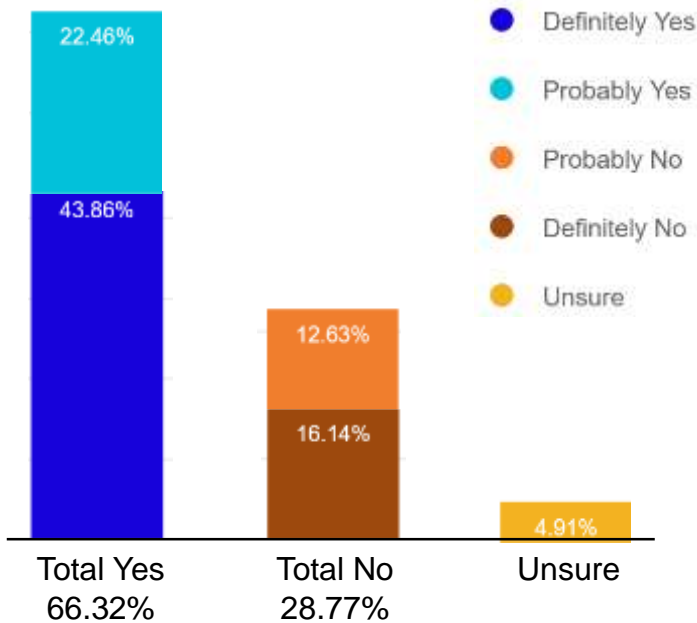
Survey Takeaways

- 1. Exceptional approval ratings:** Voters in both Loveland and the rural district strongly approve of the job LFRA does protecting the community. LFRA can leverage this good will among community members to raise awareness about its funding needs and proposals.
- 2. Support for ballot questions:** Survey respondents in both the City and Rural district had 60 percent+ support for respective ballot questions.
- 3. Funding priorities:** There was strong alignment in both the City and Rural surveys for the priorities set forth by LFRA—primarily addressing staffing needs and wildfire readiness. Training center was least important priority in both surveys.
- 4. Tax concerns:** Respondents who are opposed generally express concerns about overall taxation levels, living on fixed incomes and upcoming increases in property taxes.
- 5. Additional education:** LFRA may want to address concerns around double taxation (rural residents paying sales tax on purchases in the city), growth in Johnstown not “paying its share” and how increases in assessment rates impact LFRA funding.

ZIP Code of Respondents



LRFPD Mill Levy Ballot Question



Shall Loveland Rural Fire Protection District taxes be increased by up to \$1,455,687 in 2024 and in each year thereafter from an increase in the district's mill levy imposed to a rate of 11.186 mills with such tax proceeds to be used for the following district operational and capital expenses to maintain service levels in the district, address staffing needs, and improve training for professional firefighting staff, including:

- *Hiring, training, and equipping additional sworn firefighters to meet minimal staffing levels for the Authority's current and future service demands;*
- *Modernizing and equipping the existing training facility with the necessary instructional props and facilities to offer realistic training for firefighters and fire officers of all experience levels; and*
- *Providing equipment, staffing, training, and mitigation resources to address wildfires and to help reduce wildfire risk across the Authority's service area;*

and shall all expenditures be made by the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority board with the requirement that the funds will be subject to an annual independent audit published on the Authority's web site, and shall the proceeds be allowed to be collected by the district and spent not withstanding any other limitation provided by law?

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LFRA Fire Safety Tax

RAFTELIS RECOMMENDATIONS



RECOMMENDATIONS		
City of Loveland	Base	Proposal
Property Tax (Mills)	9.564	14.478
Sales Tax (%)	3.00%	3.37%
LRFPD	Base	Recommendation
Property Tax (Mills)	8.708	11.186
No Sales Tax Option	X	X

COMPARABLE MILL LEVIES



Local Fire District Mill Levies

Comparative Data 2022	
Department	Mills
Windsor-Severance Fire Protection District	8.25
Loveland Rural Fire Protection District	8.837
Loveland Rural Fire Protection District (proposed)	11.19
Front Range Fire Rescue	11.64
Loveland City	9.564
Poudre Valley Fire Protection District	10.82
Berthoud Fire Protection District	13.850
Wellington Fire Protection District	15
Boulder Rural Fire Protection District	15.75
Mountain View Fire Protection District	16.25

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