



STAR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
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STAR, IDAHO 83669
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July 10, 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

The Star Fire Protection District would like to express our sincere appreciation and respect for Mayor Chadwick and the City Council Members of the City of Star. The City of Star has made it very apparent that one of their top priorities is the safety of its citizens.

The Mayor and City Council recognize the financial challenges created by legislative changes that were put into place in 2021 that limit local taxing district's budget authority. These changes to legislation removed our ability to grow our annual budget capacity at the same rate as the growth we are experiencing and to keep up with the increased demand for services throughout our community.

In 2018, the City of Star was very supportive of the Fire District by implementing Impact Fees on our behalf and had the foresight to see the need for funding fire stations and equipment that would be needed as the community expanded. Those fees are restricted and were designed to be a one-time funding mechanism to pay for additional infrastructure tied to the growth. The legislative changes took away the District's ability to increase the annual budget at a rate to pay for the required firefighters needed to provide emergency services from those locations.

We are attempting to pass a levy override that will give us the budget authority to allow us to provide adequate staffing that is currently needed and that will be needed in the future. We are very thankful for and supportive of the current mitigation fees, and proposed increase in these fees, the City of Star is receiving from new development. This gives us the ability to request those supplemental (temporary) funds from the City to augment the cost of firefighter and supporting positions until permanent funding sources are secured to maintain the necessary staffing levels needed, due to the explosive growth we are experiencing.

We are very appreciative of the collaborative efforts and relationships we have developed with the Leadership of the City of Star that support our need to provide essential emergency services to our community.

Sincerely,

Greg Timinsky
Fire Chief