

Letter to Residents

We heard the voters loud and clear. You voted NO on August 26th and rejected the \$ 6.5 million bond proposal for a new fire station to replace Midway's Central Avenue Station. What happened? We talked with residents and found out that there is support for replacing our current outdated and deteriorating facility but at a substantially reduced size and cost. We have responded with a new plan that ensures fire protection for the community at an affordable price.

We are proposing a 29% space reduction that will result in a \$ 3.5 million bond. That is a 54% reduction in our earlier proposed tax increase, from \$0.49 to \$0.26 per thousand of assessed value. This equates to a reduced additional fire tax on an average home of \$31.25 per year or \$2.60 a month. As with the earlier plan, the Fire District will contribute \$1.5 million from our Building Fund for a project total of \$5.0 million.

This new proposal will have fire service space only. The large community room is gone. A smaller multi-purpose training/meeting room can be used by the public by arrangement. The museum is eliminated along with one complete fire apparatus bay. This proposed building has three apparatus bays and offices necessary to perform day-to-day operations. It will be functional not fancy.

Please note that this affects your fire tax, not your whole property tax.

The money collected from your fire tax goes toward equipment, fire protection gear, and maintenance of fire stations buildings. For your fire tax, we are there 24/7 for YOU! Daily, holidays, weekends, nights and we are all volunteers not paid for our service. We answer calls for fires, EMS assists, CO alarms, and pump-outs.

We would like to build a new building because we want to put \$3.5 million into a new building rather than make repairs to the existing building at a cost of over \$3 million. Repairs would include but not limited to new roof structure and roof, replace existing beams for the 2nd floor, remove exterior walls and replace, remove the entire EFIS system on the exterior of the building, chop out existing floors, remove old oil tank and replace floor, remove interior ceilings in offices and remove asbestos and reinstall ceilings, remove concrete floors and replace entire underground sewer systems and rebuild bathrooms and replace entire building plumbing system, replace existing generator and the list goes on and on. The repairs to this building would not last as long as replacing the entire building. A new building would last 75 to 100 years!

The Bond Vote will be March 10th from 6 to 9 PM at 1956 Central Ave. There will be a Public meeting at 7pm on March 3rd. Please come with any questions that you have.

We heard your voice - We need your support.

For questions or concerns, please email us at buildingcommittee@midwayfd.com.

Thank you.