

ATTENTION GILBERT COUNTY ISLAND FIRE DISTRICT RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS

FISCAL YEAR 2019 / 2020 BUDGET AND TAX LEVY NOTICE

On July 23, 2019 the Gilbert County Island Fire District (GCIFD) Governing Board adopted a budget in the amount of \$880,300 to fund the operation of the district for fiscal year 2019/ 2020 (fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, ending June 30, 2020). The FY 19/20 budget is based on a primary property tax levy of \$726,000 and a tax rate of 1.6800 based upon the district's net assessed value of \$43,215,034 as established by the Maricopa County Assessor's Office as required by law. The primary property tax levy is a 7 percent tax reduction from the previous fiscal year (FY 18/19).

In FY 18/19 primary property taxes for the GCIFD were under-levied by the Maricopa County Treasurer's Office in the amount of \$116,000 (15% of tax revenue). The cause was a change in the district's NAV. The law requires fire district governing boards to set the primary property tax levy based upon the NAV established by the county assessor the previous February. These values are subject to change as established by law. Changes to the district's NAV are attributable to property classification changes, tax appeals and annexation of properties into the Town of Gilbert. Unfortunately, districts are required by law to adhere to the February NAV. The reduction in NAV subsequently caused the under-levy of \$116K in property taxes required to operate the district and necessitated the GCIFD to expend all on-hand contingency / reserve funds during FY 18/19.

The FY 19/20 GCIFD budget replenishes a majority of the district's reserve fund. While there is a 7 percent reduction in overall primary property tax levy, the under-levy of funds in FY 18/19 prevented the GCIFD Governing Board from further reducing the tax liability for property owners this fiscal year. The replenishment of the district's reserve fund to a level of 10 percent of total operating cost is planned to occur in FY 19/20 and FY 20/21, the bulk of which is occurring this year (*reserve funds restored to 8 percent of operating in FY 19/20*). The GCIFD anticipates restoring the remaining 2 percent of reserve funding in FY 20/21.

The changes to the NAV and tax levy does not impact the delivery of fire and EMS to the GCIFD, which is provided by the Town of Gilbert Fire and Medical Department.

The FY 19/20 GCIFD budget can be reviewed in the document section of the website. Shown below is a comparison of the FY18/19 tax levy and rate and the FY 19/20 tax levy and rate. Please contact us if we can be of further assistance: (480) 447-3303.

	Net Assessed Value	Tax Rate		Tax Levy	
Fiscal 18/19	\$ 46,527,557.00	1.6850		\$ 784,000.00	
Fiscal 19/20	\$ 43,215,034.00	1.6800		\$ 726,000.00	(-7%)