#### ARRSHALL J KRAMER ESD #48 ADMINISTRATION HARRIS COUNTY BUILDING BUILDING

# YOUR VOTE COUNTS

## **ABOUT US:**

Harris County ESD 48 (HCESD 48) serves over 150,000 people in a 29 square mile portion of the greater Katy area 25 miles west of Houston, Texas. HCESD 48 is a full service 24/7 combination fire department that provides fire suppression and prevention services, emergency medical services (EMS), technical hazardous materials rescue, (HAZMAT) response, emergency management, and fire and life safety education to the citizens of its territory.



### THE COST:

Today, firefighting gear including protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), or breathing equipment, can average over \$20,000 per person. The cost of EMS equipment on an ambulance averages about \$100,000.

Costs of replacing and updating apparatus have also increased, with a current price of almost \$2,000,000 for a fully equipped ladder truck, compared to a previous cost of just over \$1,000,000 in 2015. The average cost today for an ambulance is \$287,000.

HCESD 48 is funded primarily by property taxes. If the proposition passes, a property owner will pay an additional \$13.09 per \$100,000 on a home. That means a property owner with a home valued at \$300,000 will PAY NO MORE THAN an additional \$40 for the YEAR, which helps fund Firefighters and EMS personnel to provide fire protection and rescue services to the Community.

### THE OBSTACLE:

- 1. Population growth and increased call volume
- 2. Aging apparatus and station needs
- 3. Recruitment and retention of firefighters and medics
- 4. Aging emergency communications infrastructure
- 5. Rising costs with limited resources



## **EMERGENCY CALL VOLUME**



## SAVE THE DATE

Early Voting: Oct. 23 - Nov. 3 Election Day: November 7, 2023 Visit www.harrisvotes.com for polling locations and hours





#### TOP THREE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THIS ELECTION

- 1. With new companies moving into the District regularly, HCESD 48's community is growing, and the need for advanced life support EMS and ambulance services, along with fire protection is increasing.
- 2. With volunteerism in fire protection down, current funding is limiting the District's ability to serve the needs of the growing community.
- 3.If the District does not get additional funding, emergency response times may be affected.

#### **PROPOSITION A**

"Approving the ad valorem tax rate of \$0.10 per \$100 valuation in Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48 for the current year, a rate that is \$0.01912 higher per \$100 valuation than the voter-approval tax rate of Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48, for the purpose of maintaining fire protection and rescue services. Last year, the ad valorem tax rate in Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48 was \$0.086911 per \$100 valuation."

#### WHAT HAPPENS IF THE PROPOSITION DOES NOT PASS

If the proposition does not pass the property tax rate would decrease from 0.10/100 valuation to 0.080880/100, which is a total revenue loss of 4,807,112 for the District to maintain fire protection and rescue services.

#### HOW WILL MY PROPERTY TAXES BE USED

Revenue from your taxes will provide funding for ALS and ambulance transport services within the ESD, along with offsetting costs of fire protection services. These costs include paying firefighter personnel, firefighter gear, paramedics and other EMS personnel, professional training, apparatuses (such as ambulances, fire trucks, boosters, rescue boats, and support vehicles), medical equipment, facilities, community outreach and education, administration, and other support services that help make our community safe.



## HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 48 21201 MORTON RD, KATY, TEXAS 77449







Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48 Voter