

Keep Fernley Safe

The Challenges

The Facts

The Solution(s)

The Plan

The Fire District

- NRS 474 tax district created in 1952– North Lyon County Fire Protection District
- Governed by elected officials- “board members”
- Provide “all risk” emergency response within the City of Fernley to protect life, property and the environment.
- Including EMS services - ambulance transport
- The Fire District and City of Fernley are separate.

Current Tax Funding

- Current tax rate of \$0.30
- For every \$100 of assessed value of a home.
- Assessed value is equal to 33% of market value.
- A \$200,000 home would have an assessed value of \$66,000.

Current Tax Funding

- 66,000 divided by 100 equals 660.
- 660 times 0.30 equals \$198 annual tax or \$16.50 monthly.
- Giving an annual budget of approximately \$1,494,000
- All of this funding is used solely by the Fire District.

Other Funding

- Ambulance Enterprise Fund – Billed for and collected service fee's. Approximate annual budget of \$1,000,000.00 (fluctuates with return rate)
- 35% to 40% return rate
- Fire Prevention-inspections, plan review, etc.
- EF Recovery- car accidents, fires, etc.
- Wildland fires – Varies each season
- Grants

Current Fire District Operations

- We have 2 fire stations in Fernley, but only the station on Main St is staffed 24-7. The fire station on Red Rock Rd and Farm District Rd has volunteer firefighters that respond from it.
- We have only 4 firefighters on everyday 24/7 stationed at Station 61 on Main St. 2 Firefighter/EMTs and 2 Firefighter/Paramedics.

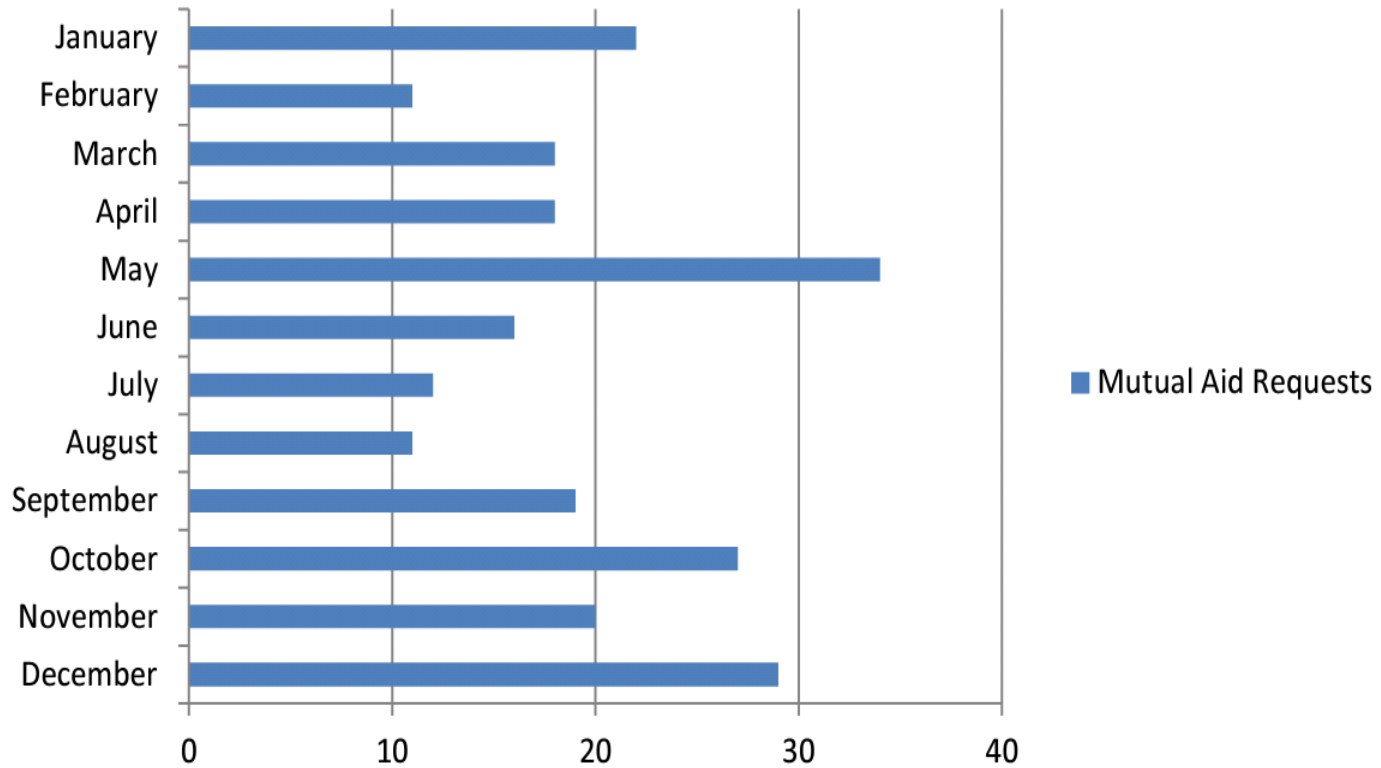
- The 4 firefighters on each day cross-staff fire engines and ambulances. If a medical call occurs, 2 firefighters take an ambulance to the call. If a fire call occurs, a fire engine will be used for the call.
- One ambulance transport will take 2 of the 4 firefighters a minimum of 2 hours to return to Fernley.

- Two simultaneous or overlapping calls will take all 4 of our firefighters out of service for a minimum of 2 plus hours, leaving our city 'uncovered'.
- It is not uncommon for 3 simultaneous 911 calls to occur!
- This presents a huge health and safety issue not only for the citizens of Fernley, but for the firefighters as well.

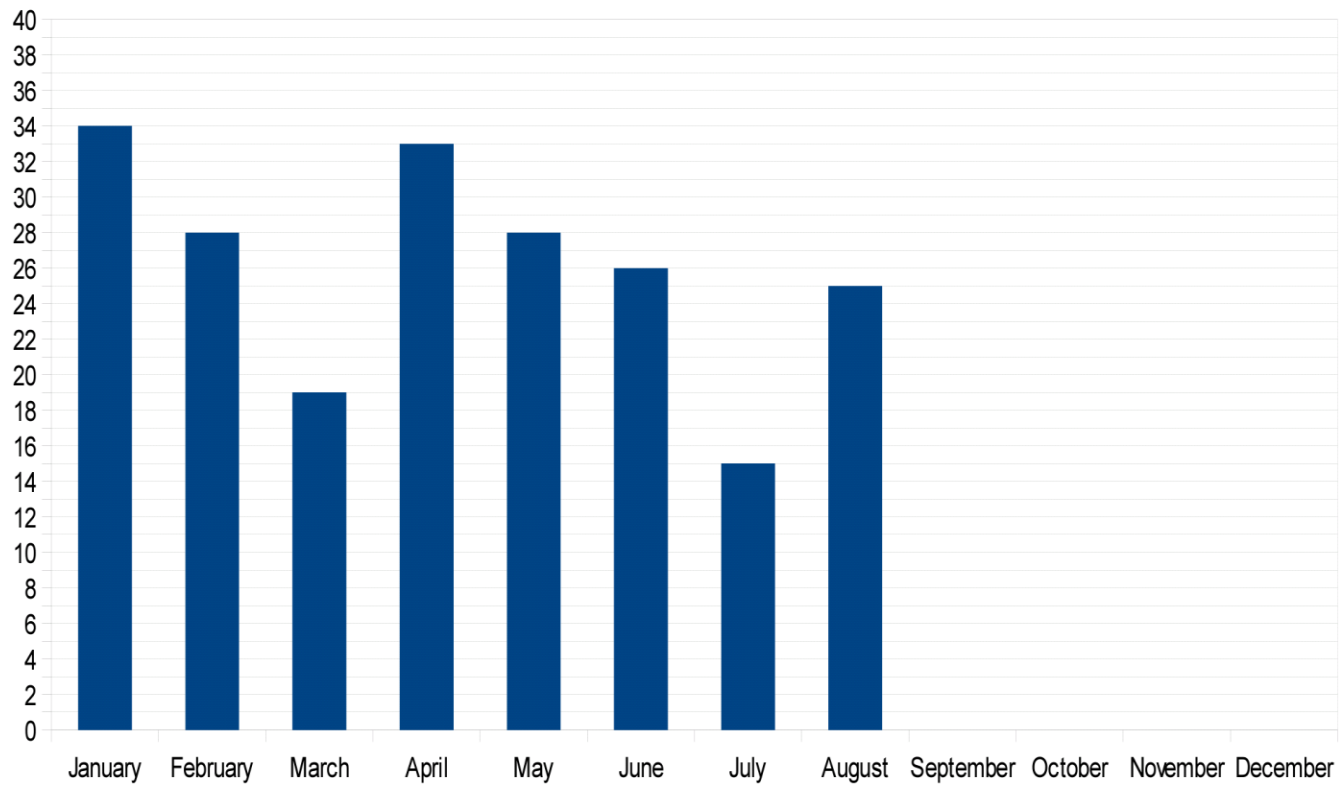
- When there are no available firefighters in our District we are "uncovered", and must request mutual aid from surrounding agencies for "coverage". These agencies are Banner Churchill, Central Lyon County Fire Protection District, Storey County Fire, and REMSA.
- The surrounding agencies we rely on are over 20 plus miles away from Fernley, and NOT ALWAYS AVAILABLE.

- When these agencies "cover" for Fernley, they only come to the County/District lines.
- When there is a lack of 'coverage', volunteers are paged, however, they are only able to respond when they are available.

Mutual Aid Requests of 2015



2016 Mutual Aid Requests



- North Lyon County does not have a Battalion Chief, Captains, Operators, Training Officers, or Fire Prevention Officers (middle and upper management).
- Our current District Fire Chief performs all middle and upper management rolls administratively and operationally. Line staff also perform administrative and operational duties.

- These rolls and positions are necessary to ensure safety, accountability and liability for the administration and operations of the Fire District.
- We do not have a Hazmat Team, Technical Rescue Team, or Water Rescue Team. We have agreements with surrounding agencies to provide these services when requested. Again these services are over 30 miles away.

District Boundaries

- 162 square miles
- Approximately 20,000 residents
- Large Industrial Park
- 3 major highways
- Major railroad
- Schools
- Residential/Housing
- Commercial/Retail
- Wild land/Urban Interface
- Hospital (proposed)

The Challenges

- Challenge #1

The Fire District does not have enough daily staffing to meet the current 911 call volume.

- Challenge #2

The Fire District is unable to keep up with the growth of the City of Fernley.

- Challenge #3

The safety of our residents and firefighters is at risk.

- Challenge #4

The North Lyon County Fire Protection District has the lowest tax rate of all the Fire Districts in Lyon County, while the City of Fernley holds more than 50% of the population in Lyon County.

Another Challenge-NFPA 1710

- The National Fire Protection Association is a United States trade association, albeit with some international members, that creates and maintains private, copyrighted, standards and codes for usage and adoption by local governments.
- NLCFPD has adopted these standards for fire protection.
- What is NFPA 1710?

NFPA 1710

- **STANDARD FOR THE ORGANIZATION AND DEPLOYMENT OF FIRE SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS, EMERGENCY MEDICAL OPERATIONS, AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS TO THE PUBLIC BY CAREER FIRE DEPARTMENTS**

NFPA 1710 Highlights

Fire Calls:

- First arriving company must consist of 4 fire fighters and arrive within 4 minutes of the initial 911 call.
- For an initial full alarm assignment (any structure fire) minimum personnel on scene should consist of 15-17 fire fighters arriving on scene within 8 minutes of the initial 911 call.

Medical Call:

- First responders and Basic Life Support (BLS) units must arrive on scene within a four-minute time frame 90% of the time for all incidents.
- The Advanced Life Support (ALS) crew that must respond within eight minutes.

What Would It Take To Meet The Challenges And Meet NFPA 1710?

1. More Cost

-To meet all NFPA 1710 standards the Fire District would need to hire 3 Battalion Chiefs, 6 Captains, 6 Operators, 6 Firefighter/Paramedics, and 6 Firefighter/EMTs.

-Cost: \$0.43 additional to the Current Property Tax Rate of \$0.30, totaling \$0.73

-Increases budget from \$1,494,000 to \$4,524,438

So, for that \$200,000 home:

- Current tax rate of \$0.30 = \$198 annual tax or \$16.50 monthly
- NFPA 1710 Compliant Cost: \$0.73 = \$482 annual tax or \$40.15 monthly

Realistically Though....

- A drastic increase would be a burden for the tax payer.
- The voters of Fernley have turned down 3 other tax initiatives to increase funding for the Fire District (2010-\$0.24, 2012-\$0.08, 2014-\$0.09).

Comparison Of Surrounding Communities And Number Of Firefighters

Community	Population	Number of FF's
• Carson City	53, 000	54
• Storey County	3,942	39
• Elko	20,074	29
• Central Lyon County	17,804	21
• Incline	8,777	42
• Mason Valley	3,035	5
• Mesquite	16,439	24
• North Lyon	19,368	12

Lyon County Fire Tax Rate Comparison

- Central Lyon County • .60 cents
- Smith Valley • .3767 cents
- Mason Valley • .3536 cents
- North Lyon • .30 cents

North Lyon Call Volume

- Since 2007 there has been a steady increase in call volume.

Year	# of Calls
2007	2,096
2008	2,170
2009	2,194
2010	2,470
2011	2,362
2012	2,230
2013	2,547
2014	2,775
2015	2,708

But Growth Equals More Taxes!

- Current tax rate .30 per \$100 of assessed value equate to \$198 a year generated to the Fire District for a home valued at \$200,000.
- At that rate 620 houses would have to be built to hire 1 Firefighter/Paramedic
- 3,720 homes would equal 6 Firefighter/Paramedics, (2 per Shift).

But Growth Equals More Taxes!

- 3,720 homes equal approximately 11,161 more Fernley residents.
- A population of 11,162 should generate 1,572 additional calls a year.
- More growth does equal more taxes, however; this amount is not sufficient to meet our needs.

The Solution:

- Increase the Fire District's funding by levying an additional property tax to be used solely for the support and funding of the North Lyon County Fire Protection District.
- The increase in funding will enable the Fire District to increase daily staffing, which will allow the Fire District to keep up with the growth of population, development, and demand for service, ensuring public and firefighter safety.
- Increasing staffing will ensure the City of Fernley is covered by professional firefighters and paramedics.

The Plan

- The North Lyon County Fire Protection District Board of Directors made it a priority to increase fulltime firefighter staffing. The Board of Directors have approved to place a ballot initiative on this year's November ballot for a 5 cent property tax increase. If approved by the voters of Fernley, this increase will solely be used to hire 2 firefighter/paramedics.

- Even though the Fire District needs more than 5¢, due to the Statutory Tax Rate Limit, 5¢ is the maximum amount that can be raised.
- This is the first of many steps it will take for the Fire District to meet minimum standards of NFPA.
- Through this advisory group, involve the voting public and gain voter support through public education.

What 5¢ Costs Homeowners

5¢

Taxable Value	Assessed Value	Monthly Increase at 0.05	Yearly total
100,000	35,000	1.45	17.40
150,000	52,500	2.18	26.16
200,000	70,000	2.91	34.92
250,000	87,500	3.64	43.68
300,000	105,000	4.37	52.44

**WE NEED YOUR HELP
TO
KEEP FERNLEY SAFE**

OUR COMMUNITY IS ASKING FOR A 5 CENT PROPERTY TAX
INCREASE TO HIRE 2 MORE FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDICS FOR
THE NORTH LYON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT.

THE INCREASE WOULD BE \$17.40 PER YEAR OR \$1.45 PER
MONTH ON A HOME WITH THE FAIR MARKET VALUE OF
\$100,000 (ASSESSED VALUE OF \$35,000).

THE LAST INCREASE PASSED BY THE VOTERS WAS IN 1995, 21
YEARS AGO.

LACK OF FUNDING HAS AND WILL CONTINUE TO LIMIT THE
NLCFPD'S ABILITY TO RESPOND TO AN INCREASING CALL
VOLUME TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY.



**VOTE YES ON
ELECTION DAY**



MORE INFORMATION AT WWW.KEEPFERNLEYSAFE.COM
SPONSERED BY BALLOT ADVISORY GROUP
PAID FOR BY PRIVATE CITIZENS

**Your “YES” Vote
Will Help
Improve Public
Safety!**

Questions, Comments, Or Concerns?

Keep Fernley Safe!