



OSWEGO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



3511 WOOLLEY ROAD • OSWEGO, IL 60543 • (630)554-2110 FAX: (630)554-8681

John Cornish, Fire Chief • Dick Kuhn, President • Bob Tripp, Secretary
Ken Holmstrom, Treasurer • Rodger Long, Trustee • Jason Bragg, Trustee

Press Release

**For Immediate Release
March 15, 2022**

Oswego Fire Protection District

Oswego Fire Protection District seeks a Rescue Tax increase of 1/10th of 1% or (0.10%)

(Oswego, IL) The Oswego Fire Protection District is seeking a tax rate increase of 1/10th of 1% (0.10%) on the June 28th, 2022, ballot in the General Primary Election. On March 14, 2022, the Oswego Fire Protection Board of Trustees unanimously adopted an ordinance seeking voter approval for a new rescue tax to provide funds for the Oswego Fire Protection District.

The Oswego Fire Protection District covers more than 53 square miles that include all of Oswego, parts of Montgomery, Plainfield, Yorkville, Will and Kendall counties. In all, the Oswego Fire Protection District protects more than 70,000 residents compared to the approximately 27,000 residents in 2002. The Board of Trustees has worked hard seeking all avenues of funding before approving the ordinance to move forward with the rescue tax.

The driving forces for the rescue tax are many but can be summarized by saying that it has been 20 years since the voters approved additional funding for the department. The need for additional monies to maintain the services we provide are necessary since the growth of the community, cost of apparatus/equipment and operating costs have outpaced current funding. The Oswego Fire Protection District responded to more than 6,000 calls in 2021 compared to the 2,000 calls in 2002. The growth continues significantly in our community and the cost of apparatus and equipment continue to rise.

The Oswego Fire Protection District prides itself on providing the best services possible to the people we serve. Whether it is responding to a severely injured child, a tragic house fire or a senior citizen that is having trouble breathing we will always be there. With costs continuing to rise, we are seeking these funds to ensure that we maintain current services.

The Board of Trustees have concluded without the 0.10% rescue tax and significant rise in call volume, we will not be able to provide the level of service we provide today. Ambulance availability will continue to decrease, and response times will increase. Our staff and trustees find this unacceptable and are seeking the increased funding in the best interests of our community.



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The one-tenth of one percent (0.10%) rescue tax will have an impact of about \$33 per year, per \$100,000 of a home's market value. For a \$300,000 home, the tax impact would be about \$99. The District will be offering informational meetings to various groups in the District and a Friends of Oswego Fire committee has formed. For more information or to host an informational meeting visit the district's website www.oswegofire.com or email Chief Cornish at chief@oswegofire.com.

The Oswego Fire Protection District was formed by voter referendum in March of 1936, covers over 60 square miles in the northeast portion of Kendall County and about 1.5 square miles of northwest unincorporated Will County.

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