

SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-06

A RESOLUTION ADVOCATING VOTER APPROVAL OF SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT'S BALLOT INITIATIVE 7A DURING THE NOVEMBER 4, 2025 ELECTION

WHEREAS, the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District ("SMFR") provides fire and emergency services to over 570,000 residents across 287 square miles, in parts of Arapahoe, Douglas, and Jefferson counties, 12 municipalities, and other major areas including Centennial Airport, the Denver Tech Center, Park Meadows, Highlands Ranch, Daniels Park, and Cherry Creek and Chatfield State Parks; and

WHEREAS, SMFR is a quasi-municipal corporation and political subdivision of the State of Colorado and a duly organized and existing special district pursuant to Title 32, Colorado Revised Statutes that relies on property tax to fund operations and capital needs; and

WHEREAS, the number of emergency incidents and demand for SMFR's services have increased by 25% since 2019, with the majority being emergency medical services (EMS) incidents; and

WHEREAS, SMFR has experienced dramatic increases in the cost of medical supplies, equipment, facilities, and vehicles, such as an 80% increase in the cost of a fire engine since 2019 with a 4-year waiting period to receive the fire engine; and

WHEREAS, SMFR currently has a property tax rate of 9.25 mills, which has been in effect since 2004 and has allowed the reduction or containment of taxes during consolidations of fire protection districts in the south metro area; however, that mill levy is no longer sufficient to fund SMFR's current and future needs; and

WHEREAS, recent changes in property tax law will result in significant reductions in revenues starting January 1, 2026 which, combined with increasing expenses to maintain service levels, will result in an average shortfall of \$50 million per year over the next 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of SMFR have conducted extensive stakeholder presentations, polling, focus groups, social media posts, interactive websites, and other outreach to inform and obtain feedback on options to fund SMFR's services, and feedback has indicated strong support for an increase in SMFR revenues; and

WHEREAS, the SMFR Board has affirmed its commitment to prioritize the protection and well-being of all personnel, acknowledging that the safety, security, and professional development of personnel are essential to the effective operation and success of SMFR and the safety of residents and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the SMFR Board recognizes the necessity of maintaining a high level of fire and emergency services to the community, and understands the importance of funding fire and emergency service to meet standards of excellence, reliability, and responsiveness in all services provided by SMFR; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Fair Campaign Practices Act expressly authorizes local governments to adopt and distribute in normal fashion a Resolution regarding any ballot issue of import to that local government.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the **Board of Directors for the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District** supports the 2025 Ballot Initiative 7A to increase the mill levy rate for SMFR by 3 mills from 9.25 mills to 12.25 mills and further demonstrates its support by approving this Resolution and disseminating its action to its residents and constituents.

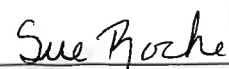
ADOPTED this 6th day of October 2025.

**SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT**

By: 
Jim Albee, President

Date: Oct 6, 2025

ATTEST:

By: 
Sue Roche, Secretary

Date: 10-06-2025