

BETHESDA FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT

REPORT pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §153A-302

Map:

Attached is a map of the proposed Bethesda Fire and Rescue Service District, showing its proposed boundaries.

Standards Related to the Proposed Service District:

(1) Resident Population - 7,550

Population Density - 389 per square mile

Households - approximately 2,321

(2) Appraised Value of Property subject to Taxation within the District - \$1,661,651,335.00

(3) Present Tax Rates in which the District or any portion thereof is located

Durham County - \$.7444

Bethesda Rural Fire District - \$.10

Research and Production Service District - \$.0374

(4) The proposed Bethesda Fire and Rescue Service District (the "Service District") will have the ability to sustain the additional taxes necessary to provide for fire and rescue services for the District. The 2013-2014 budget for these services in the Service District would equate to approximately \$.13 per \$100 valuation, meaning that a home valued at \$100,000 would be assessed approximately \$130.00 per year.

The tax rate in the Bethesda Rural Fire District is currently at the maximum level of \$.10. Once the Service District is established, the tax rate for the Bethesda Rural Fire District will be \$.0.

Plan for Services:

Upon enactment of the Bethesda Fire and Rescue Service District, the County plans to provide fire and rescue services to the District utilizing its own forces, but reserves the right in the future to contract with another county, city, state agency or volunteer fire departments for the provision of fire and rescue services.

Ambulance services are currently provided by Durham County EMS. The County will acquire the two stations, located at 1724 South Miami Blvd. Durham, NC 27703 and 7305 Leesville Rd. Durham, NC 27703, as well as fire suppression equipment and vehicles. The County plans to employ a staff of approximately 32 firefighters and up to 20 volunteers to provide fire services in the District.

The Durham County Board of County Commissioners plans to hold a public hearing on June 10, 2013, to discuss the creation of the Bethesda Fire and Rescue Service District. Following the hearing, the Board will determine whether the following criteria for creation of the District, as set forth in N.C. Gen. Stat. §153A-302(a), have been met:

- (1) There is a demonstrable need for providing fire and rescue services to the resident in the District;
- (2) It is impossible or impracticable to provide those services on a county-wide basis;
- (3) It is economically feasible to provide the proposed services on the District without unreasonable or burdensome annual tax levies; and
- (4) There is demonstrable demand for fire and rescue services in the District by persons residing in the District.