



**Fire District Millage Request Application**

**Contact Information**

District Name: Clear Spring Fire Rescue State FDID Number 23233  
Fire Chief's Name Michael Huppmann Email: clearspringfirehuppmann@gmail.com  
Mailing Address 3008 Woodruff Road City, State, Zip Simpsonville, SC 29681  
Contact Person's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial Operations**

*Please Check One of the Following Options:*

- Our district is seeking to maintain our current millage rate
- Our district is seeking a millage rate increase
- Our district is seeking bond, lease purchase transaction approval

FD Annual Budget \$2,094,001.00 Value of One Mill \$86,218  
FD Current Millage Rate 23.9 Value of Total Millage \$2,060,210  
Taxes collected last fiscal year (July 1-June 30) \$2,038,110  
Supplemental non-tax income last fiscal year (grants, fundraisers, etc.) \$51,575

**Staffing**

Deployable:  
Number of Paid Firefighters 15 (FT) 12 (PT) Number of Volunteer Fire Fighters 22  
Non-Deployable:  
Number of Administrative Staff 1 Administrative Assistant Communications \_\_\_\_\_

*For the following financial measurements, please provide a dollar amount.  
(Any additional pertinent information can be detailed in an attached sheet.)*

Debt Service \$253,708  
(include annual amount of any/all payments on stations, apparatus, and equipment)

Operating Expenses \$1,824,117  
(include all normal operating expenses, including operational overhead and salary expenses)

Reserve/Savings \$1,855,122  
(include any/all reserve and/or savings currently on hand for breakdowns, purchases or replacements)

When did your district last request a millage increase? 2018

Was your request granted? No

If so, please detail your accomplishments with the additional revenue? (You may attach a separate sheet if necessary.)

**Performance Data**

ISO Rating 3/9

Year Rating Received 2015

Population Served (daytime) \_\_\_\_\_

Population Served (nighttime) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Households \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Businesses 58

Total Number of Calls Last Year (fiscal year?) 723

Number of Structure Fires 7

Number of MVA's 77

Number of Medical Calls 360

Number of Brush Fires 8

Number of Vehicle Fires 5

Number of Public Service Calls 72

Number Mutual Aid Calls Sent 14

Number Mutual Aid Calls Rec'd 5

Number of Hazmat Calls 15

Number of Rescue Calls 6

*For the following questions, please circle or highlight "Y" for Yes or "N" for No.  
(Any additional pertinent information may be provided in a separate sheet.)*

- Is your district registered with the State Firefighter Mobilization? Y / N
- Does your district participate in the South Carolina Fire Incident Reporting System? Y / N
- Is your district in compliance with the SC Firefighter Registration Act? Y / N
- Does your district meet requirements of OSHA Standard 1910.30 for Infectious Disease Control? Y / N
- Does your district perform annual SCBA fit testing on all active personnel? Y / N
- Do your district's firefighters meet minimum OSHA training requirements? Y / N
- Does your district perform annual testing on all ground and aerial ladders to meet NFPA standard? Y / N
- Does your district meet all NIMS requirements? Y / N
- Does your district have a fire prevention program? Y / N
- Does your district have a Fire Safety inspection program? Y / N
- Does your district have a pre-fire plan program? Y / N
- Does your district meet minimum hose testing requirements? Y / N
- Does your district meet minimum pump testing requirements? Y / N
- Does your department meet minimum apparatus requirements? Y / N
- Does your district meet minimum equipment on apparatus requirements? Y / N
- Does your district have a preventive maintenance program for your apparatus? Y / N
- Does your district provide physicals to all members? Y / N
- Do all of your members meet the minimum training requirements for their specific job titles? Y / N
- Does your district meet minimum communication requirements? Y / N
- Does your district meet Narrow Band Requirements? Y / N
- Does your district house an EMS vehicle? Y / N

*For the following questions, please provide the more detailed information necessary to understand the complexities for your district. You may attach separate sheets as necessary to fully answer the questions.*

Please describe any businesses or structures which require special equipment or represent potentially dangerous calls. Although our district is predominantly made up of single family dwellings, there are several structures within the district that due to its occupancy would pose a high life hazard in the event of a fire: Memory Care of Simpsonville, Larkspur Point Apartments, Monarch Elementary School, Publix Grocery Store, Kiddie Academy Day Care, Sports Club at Fire Forks, Clear Spring Baptist Church, New Pilgrim Baptist Church, Old Pilgrim Baptist Church, Immanuel Lutheran Church, and Palmetto Hills Presbyterian Church.

There are also a number of commercial businesses within the district which present special hazards such as storage and usage of petroleum products and compressed gasses to products associated with manufacturing. Those businesses are: Citgo Gas Station, Glider Creek Dental, Peace Medical Center, Southeastern Polymers, Lawrence Fabrication, M&E Products.

In addition there are several automotive repair businesses in the district: Beamers N Benzs, Finline Automotive, Five Forks Auto Sales, and Swedish Automotive.

We have a Renewable Water Resources (ReWa) facility within our district on East Georgia Road. On site are the chemicals and processes associated with the handling treating waste water as well as numerous confined spaces which present special hazards as well.

The Insurance Auto Auctions location on Scuffletown Road also poses a special hazard due to the sheer volume (nearly 2000) of salvage vehicles stored on the property and their proximity to each other.

During a fire, a single motor vehicle presents a series of special hazards to our personnel. Each vehicle has a fuel, batteries, hydraulic and pneumatic shocks, drive shafts, and the plastics and polymers that are used in their construction. All of these components can react violently under fire conditions.

These hazards are compounded at this location due to the fact that there are numerous vehicles parked in close proximity to each other. As a result, if one vehicle becomes involved in fire, it rapidly spreads to those vehicles nearby.

Please list any mutual aid agreements or operational or resource sharing agreements your district participates in with other fire districts.

In November of 2018, our Command Staff met with the Chiefs of all of the fire departments surrounding the Clear Spring Fire District in an effort to re-establish a regular working relationship.

As a result of these meetings, we established (5) response zones within our fire district boundaries and set up an automatic mutual aid response plan that consisted of (2) additional mutual aid engines for all reported structure fire call types in that zone.

In these areas, we will receive automatic aid from the following agencies: Fountain Inn Fire Department, Simpsonville Fire Department, Mauldin Fire Department, Pelham Batesville Fire Department and the Reidville Fire Department

There are some "high hazard" structures within the district (apartments and memory care facilities) that we also added automatic mutual aid response in the form of ladder trucks for the purposes of victim rescue and elevated master streams.

The fifth zone has several populated areas that do not have an established hydrant system or water supply. In that area, we are working to add a "tanker box" or automatic mutual aid response from neighboring Spartanburg and Laurens Counties to provide tankers (in addition to the two engine companies) in an effort to establish and maintain a water supply in the event of a fire. It is this area that resulted in the "9" portion of our last ISO rating inspection due to the lack of water.

1. Please describe how, if at all, the requested millage increase will impact your district's ISO ratings. It is our hope that with the additional funds obtained from the proposed millage increase that we will be able to lower our overall ISO rating allowing for improved service and lower fees for the residents in our community.

One of our goals is to continue to increase the number of on duty personnel for each shift. Currently, we have five full time and two part time on each shift in addition to our two Command Staff.

Additional staffing will assist us in meeting the ever increasing demand for responses as well as work to ensure that we are able to deploy the appropriate number of apparatus and personnel in the time frame prescribed by ISO for structure fires.

Having the additional staffing will also assist us in providing for the safety of our personnel while on the scene of an incident.

We also will be looking at the costs associated with the replacement of our some of our aging fleet, including our 2004 aerial ladder truck which is a key component to our ISO rating requirements as we have several structures within the district that are 3 stories in height and have a high life hazard.

Our long term plan will necessitate the replacement of our 2001 Rescue truck and our 2006 Engine. Our goal would be to spec and purchase a rescue pumper, which is a "combination" piece of apparatus, combining the equipment and capabilities to these two vehicles into one new vehicle. This would allow us to maintain our ISO pump capacity as well.

2. Please describe the tax-exempt properties in your district and the services you provide to these entities.

There are several churches and a school within our district that are representative of tax exempt properties within the Clear Spring Fire District. They include:

Clear Spring Baptist Church, New Pilgrim Baptist Church, Old Pilgrim Baptist Church, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Palmetto Hills Presbyterian Church and Monarch Elementary School.

Please assign a priority rating to your millage increase request from the following options: Priority 3

**Priority 1:** Without the increase, we cannot continue to provide the level of service that we are giving currently. Our ISO ratings could be affected negatively. The need is dire.

**Priority 2:** Without the increase, we cannot purchase needed equipment to improve the level of service we are currently giving. ISO ratings may or may not be improved. This priority level also allows for needed specialty equipment to be acquired.

**Priority 3:** Without the increase, we can continue to provide excellent service to our district, but the increase will allow us to improve our operation in an exemplary way. ISO ratings may potentially be improved.

Opportunity for Council person(s) statement:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, County Council representative to this fire district, **Support / Do Not Support** this request.

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I, \_\_\_\_\_, County Council representative to this fire district, **Support / Do Not Support** this request.

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**Please include with your application the following documents:**

- A formal letter from the Commission stating the intentions to either maintain or increase millage;
- Last year's financial audit;
- A five-year plan (spreadsheet) showing projected revenues as well as operating and capital expenditures;
- Any background information necessary to justify the need of a millage increase; and
- A signed resolution from the governing body approving the operating/capital plan and millage increase.

**All applications should be mailed or emailed to:  
Greenville County Finance Committee  
Attn: John Hansley, Deputy County Administrator**

**301 University Ridge, Suite 2400  
Greenville, SC 29601  
or  
[jhansley@greenvillecounty.org](mailto:jhansley@greenvillecounty.org)**