



Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Department Community Risk Reduction

Proposed new or increased municipal taxes and
fees; notification



Background:

Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Department's Community Risk Reduction Division underwent an Internal Audit in 2015. Recommendations from the audit included updating and developing a methodology for fire permit and inspection fees. The current fee structure was adopted in 1993 and has had no significant changes since its adoption. The intent of the updated fee schedule is to create a fair and equitable fee assessment methodology in accordance with the City of Tempe's Internal Audit recommendations and create a fee structure that is comparable with other valley fire department's practices. Tempe Fire Medical Rescue conducted a fee case study comparing the current fee structure with Phoenix Fire and Gilbert Fire Rescue Departments. The methodology for how fees will be assessed were established and outlined in the new Schedule of Permit and Inspections Fees and are now consistent with how other fire departments assess fees. Factors including size, complexity, and times associated with completing tasks are now also reflected accordingly in the fee restructure. The new fee schedule aligns with the newly adopted 2018 International Fire Code.

Future Action:

Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Department's Community Risk Reduction will post to its site a draft of the Schedule of Permit and Inspection Fees to elicit public comment and feedback. Tempe Fire Medical Rescue will also conduct a minimum of two public forums to provide information on the proposed changes and to obtain feedback on the new schedule of permit and inspection fees. Tempe Fire Medical Rescue will then send a request to repeal the current ordinance and replace it with a new schedule of fees for council review and approval. The new ordinance will also request to establish a perpetual, automatic annual fee adjustment at the beginning of each fiscal year based on a published Consumer Price Index (CPI) provided through the City of Tempe's Financial Services Department.