

50°F | Fog/Mist | [Full Forecast](#)

[Subscribe to Suburban Life](#)

DUPAGE COUNTY COOK COUNTY WILL COUNTY LAKE COUNTY MCHENRY COUNTY
KANE COUNTY

UPDATED: Fire Protection District's future in question following referendum defeat

St. Charles, IL



Caption

By Dan Petrella,
dpetrella@mysuburbanlife.com St. Charles
Republican

The future of the St. Charles Countryside Fire Protection District is uncertain after voters Tuesday rejected its request for a tax increase and its plan to build a fire station west of the city.

The district's board of trustees placed two questions on the ballot. The first asked voters for permission to issue \$2 million in bonds to build the station. The second seeks a property-tax increase to fund equipment and operating expenses associated with the facility and to maintain the district's current service level.

Vote totals

Tax increase

Yes 1,237

No 2,047

Fire station

Yes 1,548

No 1,766

Unofficial results

For 40 years, the district has contracted with the St. Charles Fire Department to provide services to residents in unincorporated areas around the city. Without the station and tax increase, the district will have to dip into its cash reserves to maintain its current services and continue paying the city for its share of the Fire Department's emergency calls, officials said.

Officials have said that without the tax increase, the district's cash reserves will dry up in three years.

“We need to maintain our current services, and that’s going to be a challenge come 2012,” Trustee Terry Jeglum said. “We’re going to have to try again in the future before 2012 so we don’t run out of funding.”

The district will have to readdress how it is run and funded and try to re-engage constituents to come up with a workable solution, Jeglum said.

The district hoped to reduce its response times through the construction of its first fire station to be located on Route 64 just east of Burlington Road. It currently takes 12 minutes on average from the time 911 is called for St. Charles firefighters or paramedics to reach the homes in the Fire Protection District. Officials have said this length is unsafe.

District President Ed Malek said he was disappointed by the outcome, but was not surprised due to the current economic climate.

If both measures had passed, the owner of a \$350,000 home would have paid \$162 more each year — \$13.50 per month — in property taxes.

The district serves 21,000 residents and 6,600 structures in a 34-square-mile area including parts of St. Charles, Wayne and Campton townships. The district’s population has increased 23 percent in the past seven years and is expected to increase an additional 12 percent in the next five years, officials said.

[Previous Page](#) | [Next Page](#) | [Comments](#)

Get breaking and town-specific news sent to your phone. [Sign up for text alerts from the Suburban Life Media.](#)

More News

From The Web

Sponsored Links by Taboola

Kate Middleton's Decision to Leave Kensington Palace Can Only Mean One Thing
Stirring Daily

#1 WORST Exercise That Ages You Faster

MAX Workouts Fitness Guide

#1 Worst food that makes you fatter – I saw my extra pounds melt away at age 5...

Weight Destroyer

Get the Jump on New Year's Financial Resolutions with the Five Star Credit Cards o...

NextAdvisor

Comments

Local Co

WEDAAUW Used Book Sale

6 Glen Ellyn Civic C... | Glen Ellyn, IL



Local Business Guide

Featured Businesses

[Home State Bancorp Inc](#)

[Landro Productions, LLC.](#)

[Amish Furniture Gallery](#)

[Timothy O'Connor](#)

[Mattress Outlet - Crystal Lake](#)

Nightlife/Bars & Restaurants



Search for a business

Search by keyword or Zip



[Add your business here +](#)

Reader Poll

Should all workers get paid sick and/or vacation leave?

- ☐ Paid sick leave only
- ☐ Paid vacation leave only
- ☐ Both
- ☐ Workers should not be entitled to either

□

Vote!

[Show results](#)

[About Us](#) |
 [Contact Us](#) |
 [Subscriber Services](#) |
 [Privacy Policy](#) |
 [Terms of Service](#) |
 [Place a Classified Ad](#) |
 [Careers](#) |
 [Editorial Principles](#) |
 [Find Local Jobs](#)
[Business Showcase](#)
[About Our Ads](#)

Customer Service: 630-368-1144

Copyright © 2015 mySuburbanLife.com. All rights reserved. Published in Downers Grove, Illinois, USA, by Shaw Media.

See how easy building a mobile-friendly website can be with [Shaw Media Digital](#)

□