

Supporters For A Safe Sylvania



Fire Department Operating Levy Fact Sheet



- ✓ In January 2007, Sylvania Township Trustees cut staffing further below nationally accepted safety standards.
- ✓ These cuts eliminated TWO responding units in our community. One of those units provided basic transport services, at no out of pocket expense to residents. Since the removal of the Fire Department transport unit, the equipment has been sold for a loss and residents have returned to being billed for services, by private ambulance companies.
- ✓ Trustees have refused to return laid off firefighter/ paramedics, even though the cuts have caused a considerable strain to the overtime expenses of the Fire Department.
- ✓ Multiple studies and professional consultants, including NFPA standards, have shown that increased staffing levels are needed to provide adequate Fire and EMS protection to our community. 14-firefighters/ day are currently on duty and 21 have been recommended.
- ✓ Vital required testing and equipment upgrades have been deferred due to the financial restraints on the Fire Department budget.
- ✓ The 0.5mil levy, approved by the Board of Trustees for the November ballot, will not provide needed staffing and equipment. This amount would also keep the department in a deficit spending budget (3-5 year projections) as projected by the Township's own fiscal officer.
- ✓ The 1.5mil levy, initiated by our Citizens group, has been recommended by one of the three Sylvania Township Trustees, the Township Fiscal Officer, and its cause has a unanimous endorsement by the Sylvania City Council.
- ✓ The 1.5mil levy would only be for a period of five years, at a cost of just under \$52/ year per \$100,000 of property evaluation.
- ✓ The 1.5mil levy amount could return staffing back to previous levels and allow for equipment repair and replacement, including return of the Fire Department transport service. These services could be provided without putting the Fire Department into a budget deficit in five-year budget projections. This would also allow the department to function while long term funding options can be explored.

**Support Adequate and Safe Fire/ EMS Protection by Voting for the
1.5mil Fire Department Operating Levy on November 6th**

Paid for by Supporters For A Safe Sylvania - Joseph J. Allotta, Treasurer
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