

Service Zone FP-5 and Proposed Measure W Fact Sheet

Proposed Measure W on the March 5, 2024 ballot seeks to repeal the special tax for San Bernardino County Fire Protection District Service Zone FP-5. A repeal would result in an approximately \$47 million annual decrease in revenues for the District. The proposed measure requires a 50% + 1 (simple majority) vote to pass.

Recent History of Service Zone FP-5:

- October 2018 – Service Zone FP-5 was expanded to its current boundaries.
- March 2020 – Measure U, which sought to repeal the FP-5 tax, was not approved because 52% of the voters opposed the repeal.
- June 2022 – Measure Z, which sought to repeal the FP-5 tax, received 60% of the vote, but the repeal effort was deemed invalid by the San Bernardino County Superior Court. An appeal is pending.
- July 2023 – The Fire Protection District Board approved a 3% increase to the FP-5 tax, which is now \$171.85 per parcel.

Facts

- Revenue raised in a particular service zone must be spent in that service zone.
- Proposed Measure W would result in an approximately \$47 million annual decrease in District revenue, and will have significant impacts on station staffing, service levels and response times.
- Owners of parcels in the Cities of Adelanto or Fontana do not pay the FP-5 tax, because these are contract cities and have not been annexed into the District.
- Owners of parcels in the City of Hesperia do not pay the FP-5 tax, but Hesperia residents are still eligible to vote on proposed Measure W because the City was annexed into the District.
- When the FP-5 tax was approved, it superseded all fire and paramedic assessments. If repealed, the previous assessments could be reinstated.

Resources

- Information about FP-5 can be found on our website at <https://sbcfire.org/fp5/>.
- Our annual reports are located on our website at <https://sbcfire.org/financialsandreporting/>
- Residents are encouraged to follow us on social media: Facebook, “X” and Instagram.

About SBCoFPD

San Bernardino County is the largest county in the continental U.S. and our jurisdiction protects about 19,278 square miles; with diverse environments that stretch from the Los Angeles, Riverside and Orange County borders to our south and west, the Colorado River and Arizona to the east, and the Nevada state line and Kern and Inyo counties on the north. We are the local fire protection service for over 60 communities, from rural towns to major cities, and all the unincorporated areas of the County. The Fire Protection District responds to nearly 196,000 calls for service a year.

SBCoFPD is an all-hazard, full-service department responding to structure fires, wildland fires, traffic collisions, emergency medical calls, hazardous material incidents; conducting fire investigations and residential and commercial inspections, county-wide CUPA; and so much more.

Fire District Budgeted Revenue FY23/24

Budget Unit/Service Zone	Property Taxes	Fees/Contracts/Other Revenue	County General Fund MOU	FP-5 Special Tax	Total Revenue
Admin/Special Ops.	14,999,458	6,334,360	0	-	21,333,818
Mountain	18,359,324	288,122	800,000	5,937,031	25,384,477
North Desert	21,350,798	8,760,163	6,800,000	12,866,648	49,777,609
South Desert	10,127,373	281,136	1,800,000	10,452,809	22,661,318
Valley	67,671,675	47,158,562	-	17,222,336	132,052,573
Medical Services	-	11,206,054	2,500,000	-	13,706,054
Total	\$132,508,628	\$74,028,397	\$11,900,000	\$46,478,824	\$264,915,849

FP-5 Revenue Breakdown FY23/34

Budget Unit/Service Zone	Helendale/ Silver Lakes	Needles	Twentynine Palms	San Bernardino	Upland/San Antonio Heights	FP-5 Expansion	Grand Total
Mountain	-	-	-	-	-	5,937,031	5,937,031
North Desert	1,280,508	-	-	-	-	11,586,140	12,866,648
South Desert		512,614	2,550,274	-	-	7,389,921	10,452,809
Valley				9,172,746	3,877,791	4,171,800	17,222,336
Total	\$ 1,280,508	\$ 512,614	\$ 2,550,274	\$ 9,172,746	\$ 3,877,791	\$ 29,084,892	\$ 46,478,824