

City of Kissimmee
Fire Rescue Special Assessment
(Frequently Asked Questions)

THE CITY OF KISSIMMEE HAS TAKEN A PROACTIVE APPROACH TO THE STATE MANDATED PROPERTY TAX REFORM. AS A RESULT, PROPERTY TAXES ARE PROPOSED TO BE ROLLED BACK FROM 5.5453 MILLS TO 3.7058 MILLS WHICH IS A 33% TAX REDUCTION. THE PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT, WILL GENERATE APPROXIMATELY \$3 MILLION AND ALLOW THE CITY TO ROLLBACK ITS MILLAGE RATE TO 3.7058 MILLS.

THE AVERAGE HOMEOWNER OF A PROPERTY VALUED AT \$175,000 STANDS TO SAVE BETWEEN \$120-\$130 AFTER THE ROLLED BACK RATE AND SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HAVE BEEN FACTORED IN. PROJECTIONS INDICATE THAT THIS MILLAGE RATE ALONG WITH THE PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT WILL GENERATE SUFFICIENT REVENUES TO MAINTAIN THE CITY'S CURRENT LEVEL OF FIRE RESCUE SERVICES.

Q) Why is the City of Kissimmee considering imposing a Fire Rescue Special Assessment?

A) The City of Kissimmee Commission will consider imposing an annual Fire Rescue Special Assessment for the provision of fire and rescue services within the municipal boundaries of the City of Kissimmee. This assessment will not be applied to emergency medical services.

Q) What is the amount of the Fire Rescue Special Assessment?

A) If you own a residential property, the special assessment will be \$73.00.

Non-residential properties with 1,000 sq. feet will be assessed a minimum of \$88, or \$.088 per sq. foot, if the unit exceeds 1,000 sq. feet.

Q) How will the Fire Rescue Special Assessment be billed?

A) The Fire Rescue Special Assessment will be billed monthly to the owner of a residential or non-residential property. The delivery method of the billing has yet to be determined.

Q) Is there an option to pay the Fire Rescue Special Assessment at one time, instead of on a monthly basis?

A) The City would not object to one-time payments and provisions will be made to accept these payments.

Q) Can the City place a lien on my property if I do not pay the Fire Rescue Special Assessment?

A) The Fire Rescue Special Assessment is a lien against the property and if the property owner fails to pay the assessment, the City can foreclose the lien on the property.

Q) When will the City Commission decide if the Special Assessment will be implemented?

A) The City Commission will conduct a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September, 25, 2007, in the Commission Chambers of Kissimmee City Hall, 101 N. Church St., Kissimmee, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed special assessment.

Q) How can residents comment about to the Fire Rescue Special Assessment?

A) 1.) Residents can address the City Commission during the public comment portion of the Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 25 at 6:00 p.m.

2.) Residents can file written objections to the City Commission prior to the scheduled public hearing.

3.) Residents can contact the City Manager's Office by phone at 407.518.2300.

Q) When will the Fire Rescue Special Assessment go Into Effect?

A) The Fire Rescue Special Assessment will go into effect on October 1, 2007. The billing will begin shortly thereafter.

Q) Will the owner of a duplex be assessed the Fire Rescue Special Assessment for both units?

A) No. The assessment is for each parcel of property.