

**OFFICIAL NOTICE AND BALLOT
INFORMATION GUIDE
FOR THE PROPOSED
FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY
RESPONSE SERVICES ASSESSMENT**



**FOR THE DUNNIGAN FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT**

Why Did You Receive This Ballot?

You are a property owner served by the Dunnigan Fire Protection District ("Dunnigan Fire" or the "Fire District"). You are being asked to vote on a proposed funding measure to ensure continued and improved fire protection and emergency response services in your area. Your ballot is your opportunity to participate in deciding whether local funding should be approved for continued and improved fire protection, fire suppression, and emergency response services. Your vote on this matter is crucial because only returned ballots will be counted.

Dunnigan Fire Protection District

Dunnigan Fire was originally formed in 1927 and provides fire protection, fire prevention and emergency response services to the community of Dunnigan and the surrounding unincorporated areas in northeastern Yolo County. Dunnigan Fire covers approximately 112 square miles and serves a population of 1,400.

Dunnigan Fire responds to over 500 service calls per year, including structure fires, brush fires, vegetation fires, vehicle fires, traffic collisions, search and rescues, hazardous materials incidents and emergency medical calls. In addition, Dunnigan FPD provides fire prevention, community education, emergency preparedness and other services relating to the protection of lives and property. Dunnigan Fire is governed by a five-member Board of Fire Commissioners that are appointed by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors.



Why Is A Funding Measure Needed?

Dunnigan Fire is funded through a small portion of local property taxes and miscellaneous fees. Due to the lack of funding, rising expenses and a growing community, the Fire District's current revenue is not adequate to continue providing services at what is considered a safe level for the community.

Dunnigan Fire is primarily staffed with reserve and volunteer firefighters. The number of volunteers available to respond to calls has decreased in recent years due to increased training demands, while call volumes have increased. In addition, social and economic changes in recent years have resulted in more people commuting to work outside the District area, making it harder for volunteers to be available to respond to emergencies in the District during work hours.

To enter a burning structure, State safety standards generally require four (4) firefighters at the scene, with two (2) firefighters entering the structure and two (2) remaining outside for support - known as the "2 in, 2 out rule". Additional funding means Dunnigan Fire would have the ability to retain and hire more firefighters to meet the required standards and to put out a fire quickly. With a typical residential fire doubling in size every minute, adequate staffing would provide our local firefighters with a strengthened layer of protection for our community, your family, and your property.

To meet the "2 in, 2 out" standard, the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) recommendation is four (4) personnel per apparatus in a community of this size and risk. The Fire District cannot meet the NFPA recommendation due to budget constraints. The next best option to align with industry standards and respond adequately to calls is to staff all apparatus with three (3) personnel. The proposed assessment is intended to provide funding for additional full-time-staffing and training. The costs for the proposed staffing increases would support advancement towards the implementation of "3 on an initial response."

Currently the Fire Station is staffed with one or two firefighters on average, 24 hours a day. The proposed assessment would provide additional funding that would allow the Fire District to hire additional full time firefighters to help respond to all emergencies. The District would maintain a 3 person engine, 24/7, 365 days a year responding to emergencies at time of dispatch.

How Was The Assessment Determined?

The total annual costs of the proposed additional firefighter staffing, apparatus and equipment replacements as needed, maintenance and improvements to the Fire Station to better support 24 hour staffing, and other services to be funded by the assessment would be allocated to each property based on the estimated special benefit received. The method of benefit allocation is based on the relative special benefit to a property in relation to a single-family home, the type of property, and its size. The total proposed assessment amount for your property is shown on the enclosed ballot. If you own multiple properties, your ballot will show the total proposed assessment amount for each one.

The types of special benefits would primarily include increased safety and protection of real properties. An Engineer's Report describing the proposed improvements, method and basis upon which the amount of the proposed assessment was calculated, special benefits, budget, and the proposed assessment for each parcel is available for review at the Dunnigan Fire Protection District, 29145 Main Street, Dunnigan CA 95937 and on the District's website (<https://dunniganfire.com/>).

How Much Is the Proposed Assessment?

The proposed assessment for your property or properties for 2026-27 is printed on the Official Ballot, which includes this notice and information guide. The typical base annual assessment for single-family homes is proposed to be \$155.74. The proposed annual assessment amount is the property's base rate adjusted by factors like relative fire risk and travel time. The proposed base assessment for other residential property types is calculated based on these factors and the number of dwelling units and parcel size. Multi-family dwellings, including mobile home parks, have a proposed base assessment of \$48.22 per unit. Agricultural, commercial, industrial, and other properties are assessed according to their parcel size and type. For example, agricultural property would be assessed at \$2.94 per acre of property size. The total estimated amount assessed to the entire area subject to this assessment would be approximately \$206,557 for 2026-27. For more information refer to the Engineer's Report which is available for review at the Dunnigan Fire Protection District, 29145 Main Street, Dunnigan CA 95937 and on the District's website (<https://dunniganfire.com/>).

What Would This Measure Provide?

The increased funding to Dunnigan Fire would be used to:

Ensure Rapid Response Times To 9-1-1 Emergencies

Funding from this measure would help Dunnigan Fire maintain and improve rapid response times. Specifically, State safety standards require that when firefighters use self-contained breathing apparatus, a minimum of 2 firefighters work as a team inside the impacted structure. A minimum of 2 firefighters must be on standby as support outside the structure to provide aid or perform a rescue. Essentially, the "2 in, 2 out rule" protects our firefighters but requires sufficient staffing levels. Funding from this measure would increase staffing within the Fire District, allowing firefighters to arrive and assemble on scene faster, effectively reducing the impact of the emergency.

Hire Full Time Firefighters

With additional funding the Fire District would hire additional full time firefighters to respond to all emergencies. The Fire District would maintain a 3 person engine, 24/7, 365 days a year responding to emergencies at time of dispatch.

Provide Updated Firefighting Equipment For Our Community

This measure would support improved maintenance, repair, upgrade, and/or replacement of outdated fire apparatus and equipment that are not up to current safety standards. Additionally, funds would maintain and improve the community Fire Station to support 24-hour staffing.

Protect Your Property From The Increasing Threat Of Wildfires

Part of our community's greatest threat is wildfires. The Fire District needs to increase its preparedness to protect properties in the wildland urban interface.

Will This Assessment Increase in the Future?

No. The assessment rate will not increase in the future.

Method of Voting

To complete the enclosed official ballot, mark the oval next to either Yes or No, sign the ballot, fold it in half and place it in the provided postage-paid return envelope, and mail it to Dunnigan Fire Protection District, 29145 Main Street, PO Box 213, Dunnigan CA 95937. You may also hand deliver it at the public hearing (see below for the times and location).

Only official ballots which are signed and marked with the property owner's support or opposition will be counted. Ballots must be received prior to the end of the public input portion of the Public Hearing scheduled on Thursday, June 11, 2026. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. If you lose your ballot, require a replacement ballot, or want to change your vote before the close of the public hearing, call Dunnigan Fire at (530) 724-3515 for another ballot. See the enclosed ballot for additional instructions.

Ballots are weighted by the proposed assessment amount and will be tabulated accordingly. The assessment will not be imposed if, upon the conclusion of the public hearing, weighted ballots submitted in opposition to the assessment exceed the weighted ballots submitted in favor of the assessment. If the ballot measure passes, the assessment may be levied for the fiscal year 2026-27 and may be continued in future years unless and until ended by the Board.

Community Meetings

In order to allow the public to obtain more information about this measure, the Fire District held a community meeting on March 26, 2026 and is holding two additional community meetings at the dates and times shown below. The meetings will be at the Dunnigan Fire Protection District Training Center, 29145 Main Street, Dunnigan CA 95937.

Thursday, April 16 at 6:30pm

Saturday, May 2 at 10:00 am, following the pancake breakfast at 9:00am

Members of the public are invited to attend one or more of these community meetings.

Written Objections

You may find more information about the proposed assessment at <https://dunniganfire.com/>. If you wish to object to this assessment on the grounds that you allege it does not comply with the California Constitution please submit a written objection to Dunnigan Fire Protection District, 29145 Main Street, PO Box 213, Dunnigan CA 95937 by May 22, 2026. Do not include your objection with your ballot. The objection must specify the grounds on which you are alleging noncompliance with the California Constitution and include an address where we can respond to your concern(s) in writing. Written objections must be received by May 22, 2026 to be considered. Timely written objections will be presented to the Board for consideration prior to the close of the public hearing. If you fail to submit a timely objection in writing, any right you may have to challenge the assessment will be barred.

Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held on Thursday, June 11, 2026, at 6:30 pm at the Dunnigan Fire Protection District located at, 29145 Main Street, Dunnigan CA 95937. The public is encouraged to attend. Ballots will not be tabulated before the close of the public input portion of the public hearing, but ballots will be public records during and after tabulation. A ballot may be submitted, changed or withdrawn by the person who submitted it before the conclusion of the public input portion of the public hearing. Tabulation of the returned ballots will commence after the close of the public input portion of the public hearing. The results of the tabulation are expected to be announced at the Board meeting that day.

Public Accountability Standards

The funds from this assessment can only be used to provide fire protection and emergency response services within the Dunnigan Fire Protection District boundaries.

Dunnigan Fire Protection District Governance and Transparency

Regular meetings of the Dunnigan Fire Protection District Board of Commissioners are held on the second Thursday of every month at 29145 Main Street, Dunnigan CA 95937. The public is encouraged to attend. Agendas are available on our website at <https://dunniganfire.com/>. Please contact the Fire District at (530) 724-3515 if you need any additional information.

Additional Information

For additional information concerning Dunnigan Fire Protection District services, the proposed assessment, or this ballot, please contact Chief David Garrison at:

Dunnigan Fire Protection District
29145 Main Street
Dunnigan, CA 95937
(530) 724-3515