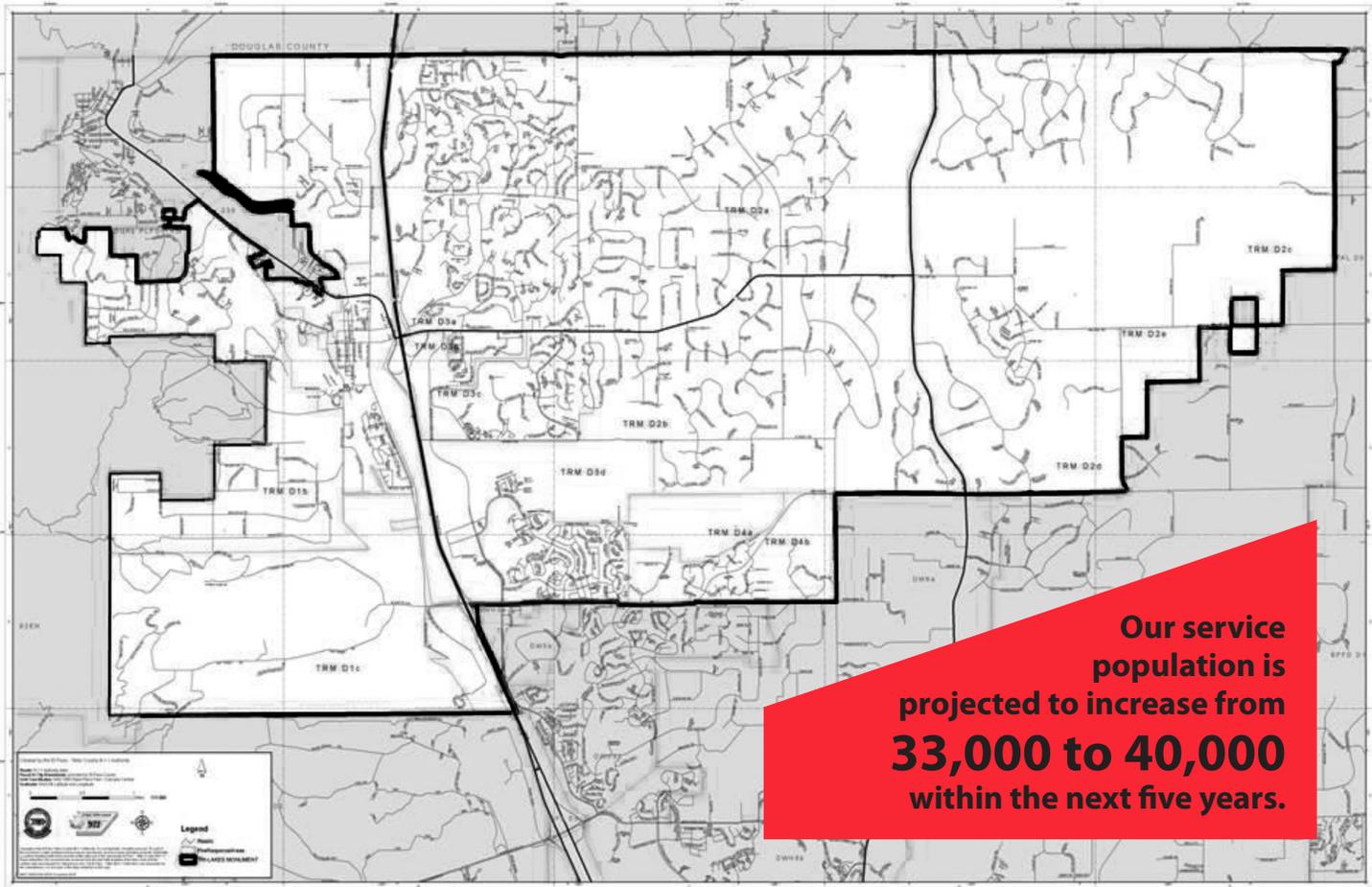


Just the Facts...



The Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District serves 33,000 residents and more than 400 businesses within a 52-square-mile area. The boundaries of the District are roughly Baptist Road on the south, the Pike National Forest on the west, County Line Road on the north and Black Forest Road on the east.

Within the next five years, the District's services area population is projected to increase by more than 20 percent, to about 40,000 residents.

TLMFPD's service population is also aging. In fact, two long-term care facilities (pictured below) will be opening in Monument in the near future. These facilities alone are projected to increase call volume by 8 percent, or about 180 more calls per year.

As a result of insufficient mitigation, and our District's growing wildland urban interface, the risk of wildfires is also on the rise. It's not a matter of "if" but "when" we'll be dealing with another wildfire in our area.

At the same time the demand for emergency services is increasing, TLMFPD is struggling with increasing costs and less grant funding. Additional development generates more tax dollars, but well below what is needed. The District has drawn down reserves to below \$200,000, barely above the required minimum.

TLMFPD is finding it increasingly difficult to attract and retain firefighters and paramedics. Since 2013, the District has lost 25 percent of its first responders to other fire districts with better pay, benefits and training. These are professionals who had more than 100 years of experience.

A significant increase in demand for emergency services, rapid employee turnover, aging equipment and facilities, and a lack of funding are precisely why the Fire District is considering placing a mill levy proposal on this fall's ballot.

The estimated tax impact of the mill levy proposal is \$3.41 per month per \$100,000 of a home's actual value.



Just the Facts...



Firefighter/Paramedic Turnover

Since 2013, TLMFPD has lost 25 percent of its firefighters to other fire districts with better pay, benefits and training opportunities. This turnover in personnel, and associated costs, is not sustainable.



Increasing Emergency Call Volume

Emergency call volume is on the rise as a result of an increase in the number of persons and businesses served. TLMFPD's aging service population is also increasing call volume, especially EMT calls.



Rising Wildfire Risk

The need for ongoing mitigation practices and a growing wildland urban interface are increasing wildfire risk in TLMFPD's service area. Having reliable vehicles and equipment to fight wildfires is critical.



Outdated Front-Line Emergency Vehicles

TLMFPD seeks to implement a vehicle-replacement program, starting with the replacement of vehicles that have already reached the end of their reliable life.



Outdated Emergency Equipment

Outdated air packs, Jaws of Life, heart monitors and mobile data computers need to be replaced. This equipment is essential to protecting both residents and first responders.



Obsolete Front-Line Communications Equipment

The Fire District's communications equipment has reached the end of its useful life. This creates many critical challenges for our first responders. There is also a need to upgrade 911 firefighter services.



Health/Life Safety Needs at Fire Stations

TLMFPD's existing fire stations are in need of health/life safety improvements, working space for first responders and energy efficiency upgrades.



Insufficient Resources

To properly maintain quality emergency services and protect response times, TLMFPD needs additional resources, including paramedics. There is also a need for training personnel and an inspector.



New Development Does Not Come Close to Providing Sufficient Funding

TLMFPD has worked hard to be prudent with taxpayer dollars, including deferring critical facility maintenance projects, putting on hold the replacement of outdated firefighting and EMS equipment, and repeated low wages. While new development generates additional tax dollars, these revenues do not come close to what is needed to address rising costs and maintain emergency services and response times.

