

Fire Lines



2008 A Publication of Jackson County Fire District No. 5

www.jcfd5.com

The Chief's Report

By Fire Chief Dan Marshall

City of Phoenix Annexation



March 11, 2008, Fire District 5 voters will decide whether to annex the City of Phoenix into the Fire District. The ballot measure number is #15-81. Also, the City of Phoenix voters will vote on the same issue and the ballot measure number for the City is #15-82. In order for the annexation to occur, voters in both the City and Fire District must approve the measures.

BACKGROUND

Since the 1960's Phoenix Fire Department and Jackson County Fire District 5 have worked side by side to provide fire protection and emergency medical services to their respective customers. Although each department has done an excellent job, the two departments are duplicating efforts in many areas such as administration, training, fire prevention, public education and emergency response. Additionally, due to budget constraints and increased costs of providing quality emergency services, each agency has been looking at creative ways of becoming more cost effective and operationally efficient.

Since October 1, 2007, Jackson County Fire District 5 has been providing fire protection and emergency medical services to the City of Phoenix on a contract basis while retaining all City Fire Department employees. The contract has been very successful in terms of maintaining staffing levels, providing services, reducing costs, cost

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Headquarters Station in Phoenix, Oregon

Restoration of District's First Fire Engine Continues



1946 Chevy as donated by Gary Rigotti to Fire District 5 in 2004.

This is the first fire engine used by the District when it was formed in 1963, providing fire suppression to rural Talent, Phoenix and Ashland for more than 30 years. When this restoration is complete, it will not only be a lasting historical piece, but we will use it in fire prevention and other community events.

The restoration is being done by a small group of Firefighters who have sought professional help with the motor rebuild and body work. It will take plenty of elbow grease, and money too, to return her to a drivable state, let alone a parade-worthy state. But with the tremendous support and generosity of individuals and businesses in our area, that is exactly what is being accomplished.

How can you help? We could use donations of knowledge and money. Do you have old photos of this rig at a fire scene? Do you know some

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JCFD#5

STATION 1 - 5811 S. PACIFIC HWY
STATION 2 - 40 NEIL CREEK RD
PHOENIX STATION: 116 W 2ND

PHOENIX OR
ASHLAND OR
PHOENIX OR

535-4222
482-5991
535-8400

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avoidance and reducing duplication of efforts and services for both departments. Contracting for services and ultimately annexation of fire and emergency medical services to a neighboring department is not new, and has proven to be cost effective in numerous regions of the United States including Oregon, California and Washington. In fact, in Jackson County during the past ten years many small cities have successfully accomplished annexation to local fire districts.

Discussions have been ongoing for years regarding whether Fire District 5 and Phoenix Fire Department should become one fire department. Finally, after establishing the contract for service (effective through June 30, 2008) the Phoenix City Council and the Board of Directors of Fire District 5 have called for an election on the issue.

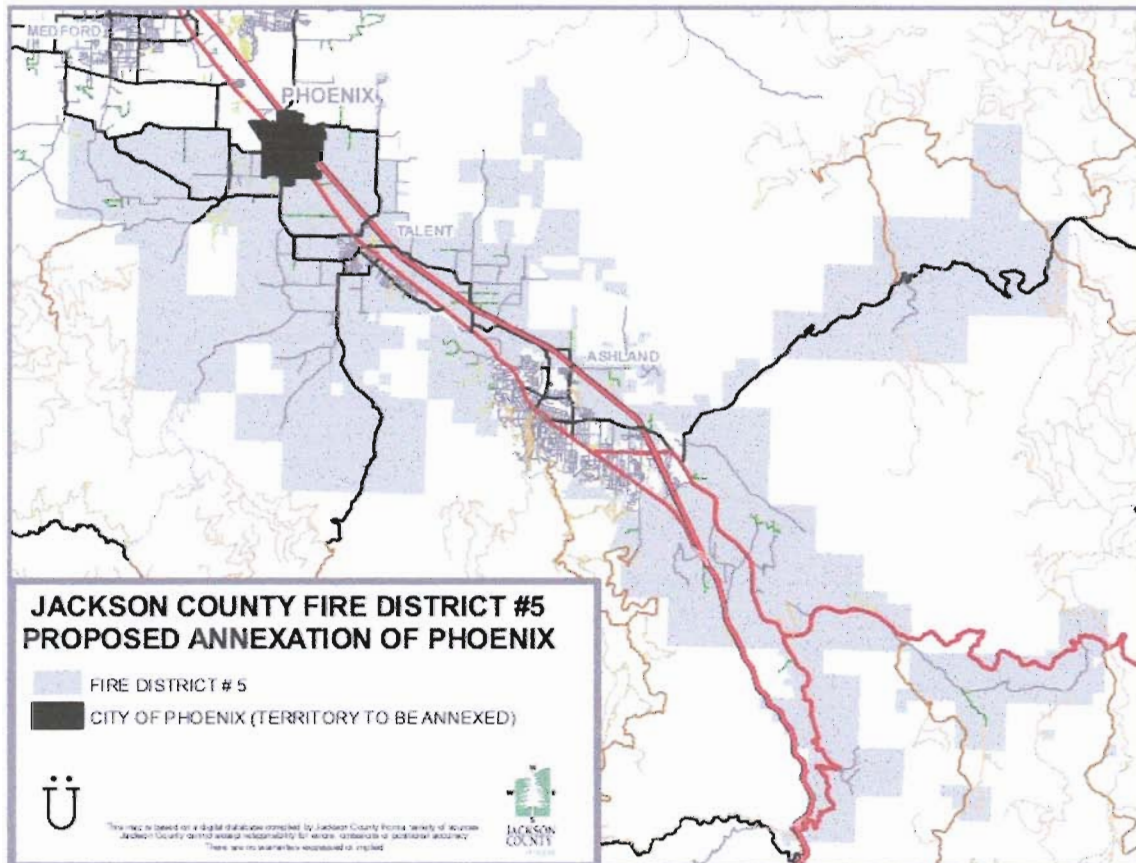
Today, including the fire and emergency medical services contract with the City of Phoenix, Fire District 5 has grown to over 115 square miles and provides fire and life safety services for approximately 22,000 people in south Jackson County. Fire District 5 responds to approximately 2,100 calls per year out of three stations and employs twenty-eight full-time Firefighters and fifty Volunteer Firefighters.

ANNEXATION OBJECTIVES

- Provide 24-hour fire protection and emergency medical services for the City and Fire District
- Provide long-term financial stability
- Eliminate duplication of services
- Improve services and reduce costs

SERVICES PROVIDED / COSTS

The annexation of the City of Phoenix into the jurisdictional boundaries of Jackson County Fire District 5 will enable Phoenix residents to continue to receive twenty-four hour fire and life safety services effective July 1, 2008. Fire District 5 will provide fire prevention, public education, code enforcement, fire suppression, hazardous materials response and emergency medical services for both City and rural residents. The tax rate will not exceed \$3.1976 per one thousand dollars of assessed value on improved property. For example, a home assessed at \$150,000 would cost a homeowner \$596.40 per year.



Ballot Measure 15-81

“Shall Jackson County Fire District 5 annex the City of Phoenix into the District’s boundaries effective July 1, 2008?”

Measure Summary

The Board of Directors of Jackson County Fire District 5 (“District”) has determined that fire suppression, emergency medical services, fire prevention, public education and hazardous materials response can be provided efficiently to the city of Phoenix (“City”) by the District.

The governing bodies of the City and District have both unanimously approved resolutions calling for an election within both the City and the District on the question of annexation of the City to the District effective July 1, 2008.

There will be no increase in cost to District patrons if the annexation is approved. The current permanent tax rate, which may not exceed \$3.1976 per one thousand dollars of assessed value on improved property, will not change as a result of the annexation.

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stories from the early days that involve this truck? We are looking for any information about the rig’s history and would appreciate old photos of the vehicle in action or of Firefighters using it.

The truck is currently at our Headquarters Station One in Phoenix. We welcome visitors, and invite you to stop in and take a look at history coming alive! Call Brian Bolstad at 535-4222 for more information.



The same truck as of January 2008



Since October 1, 2007, the City of Phoenix Fire Department and Fire District 5 have been working together to provide improved and cost effective emergency services for both City and Rural Customers.