

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF BASALT, COLORADO,
SUPPORTING THE BASALT AND RURAL FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT AND SNOWMASS-WILDCAT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BALLOT QUESTIONS TO STABILIZE PROPERTY TAX REVENUE**

**Town of Basalt, Colorado
Resolution No. 23
Series of 2018**

WHEREAS, the Basalt and Rural Fire Protection District and the Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District (collectively the "**Districts**") are quasi-municipal corporations and political subdivisions of the State of Colorado and are duly organized and existing special districts pursuant to Title 32, Article 1, C.R.S.; and

WHEREAS, the Roaring Fork Fire Rescue Authority (the "**Fire Rescue Authority**") was created by the Districts pursuant to the Roaring Fork Fire Rescue Authority Creation Agreement, as amended, as a separate legal entity that is a political subdivision and public corporation of the state, separate from the Districts, organized pursuant to 29-1-203.5 C.R.S; and

WHEREAS, as of January 1, 2019 the Fire Rescue Authority will provide all fire rescue services within the Districts, primarily funded by the Districts' property tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, in 1982 a provision was added to the Colorado Constitution known as the "Gallagher Amendment," which requires adjustments to the rate at which residential real property is assessed for property tax purposes; and

WHEREAS, since 1982 the residential assessment rate has been reduced from 21% to 7.2 %, which is a 66% drop and has resulted in a reduction of property tax revenue to the Districts necessary to provide critical emergency services; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 the residential assessment rate is again expected to drop to approximately 6.1%, which is a 15% reduction from the current rate, and which will reduce the Districts' revenues in 2020 needed to provide emergency services through the Fire Rescue Authority by approximately \$652,407; and

WHEREAS, if Fire Rescue Authority revenue drops \$652,407 because of the anticipated 2019 adjustment to the residential assessment rate, the Fire Rescue Authority will be forced to take offsetting measures which will likely reduce the availability of emergency fire, medical and rescue services to Fire Rescue Authority residents; and

WHEREAS, instead of reducing Fire Rescue Authority services, the voters of the Districts can authorize the Districts, without increasing net tax revenues, to adjust their mill levy rates to offset future reductions to the residential assessment rate required by the Gallagher Amendment and thereby stabilize Fire Rescue Authority revenue; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of Town of Basalt, Colorado, that:

1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as findings of the Town Council.
2. Ballot Issue 7F and 6B. The Town Council urges electors of the Districts to VOTE YES on Basalt and Rural Fire Protection District Ballot Issue 7F and Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District Ballot Issue 6B at the November 6, 2018 election.

READ AND ADOPTED by a vote of 7 to 0 this 9th day of October, 2018.

TOWN OF BASALT, COLORADO

By: 
Jacquie R. Whitsitt, Mayor



ATTEST:

By: 
Pamela K Schilling, Town Clerk