## ARIZONA FIRE DISTRICTS

#### Arizona Fire District are authorized by Arizona Revised Statues Title 48 Chapter 2:

- As special taxing districts that are independent of any city or county government
- To cover a specific geographic area, sometimes including multiple communities and/or unincorporated areas
- To be governed by a non-partisan elected board who hold public meetings at least once a month and in addition to others duties, may
  - Provide fire protection services
  - Provide emergency medical services (as outlined in A.R.S. Title 36 Chapter 21.1)
  - Enforce the fire code adopted by the district
  - Assess and levy a secondary property tax to pay for the costs of services provided

## ARIZONA FIRE DISTRICTS

#### **Response Types and Services Include:**

- Fire suppression response
- Emergency medical services, including Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance transportation
- Special Operations (rope rescue, swift water rescue, confined space rescue, trench rescue, emergency building shoring, industrial machinery/ heavy extrication, hazardous material response)
- Wildland fire response (locally and responding to requests for assistance from other communities)
- Community Assistance Programs (to address community member needs and provide access to resources during and after an emergency)
- Fire prevention services (community risk reduction, building plans review)
- Public education (serving all ages through classroom lessons and community events)

# **ASSESSED VALUES**

<u>Authority Name</u>			Residential Net Assessed (Class 3-6)	Total Limited Net Assessed	
ARIVACA FIRE DISTRICT SECONDARY	\$ 2,291,177	\$	3,365,010	\$ 5,656,187	
AVRA VALLEY VOL FIRE DEPT SECONDARY	\$ 11,329,880	\$	27,025,289	\$ 38,355,169	
CORONA DE TUCSON FIRE DEPT SECONDARY	\$ 9,718,006	\$	93,764,887	\$ 103,482,893	
DREXEL HEIGHTS VOL FIRE DEPT SECONDARY	\$ 33,823,340	\$	286,178,952	\$ 320,002,292	
GOLDER RANCH FIRE DIST SECONDARY	\$ 199,035,789	\$	1,194,338,585	\$ 1,393,374,374	
HIDDEN VALLEY FIRE DIST SECONDARY	\$ 1,035,159	\$	35,849,069	\$ 36,884,228	
MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT SECONDARY	\$ 1,020,734	\$	3,451,515	\$ 4,472,249	
MT. LEMMON VOL FIRE DEPT SECONDARY	\$ 5,125,632	\$	10,726,608	\$ 15,852,240	
NORTHWEST FIRE DIST SECONDARY	\$ 386,686,979	\$	1,337,314,691	\$ 1,724,001,670	
PICTURE ROCKS VOL FIRE DEPT SECONDARY	\$ 9,002,862	\$	36,872,136	\$ 45,874,998	
RINCON VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT SECONDARY	\$ 22,857,925	\$	229,231,005	\$ 252,088,930	
SABINO VISTA VOL FIRE DEPT SECONDARY	\$ 741,164	\$	42,012,332	\$ 42,753,496	
SANTA RITA FIRE DEPT SECONDARY	\$ 86,887,845	\$	639,304,781	\$ 726,192,626	
SONOITA-ELGIN FIRE DISTRICT SECONDARY	\$ 1,451,270	\$	4,068,093	\$ 5,519,363	
TANQUE VERDE VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT SECONDARY	\$ 284,178	\$	20,125,572	\$ 20,409,750	
THREE POINTS FIRE DIST SECONDARY	\$ 28,725,748	\$	19,618,304	\$ 48,344,052	
TUCSON COUNTRY CLUB FIRE DPT SECONDARY	\$ 1,383,414	\$	26,872,519	\$ 28,255,933	
WHY FIRE DISTRICT SECONDARY	\$ 563,063	\$	414,474	\$ 977,537	

# LEGISLATIVE CHALLENGES

#### **Arizona Revised Statutes §48-807**

- (1992) The fire district tax rate cap was first established at \$3.00.
- (2005) Capped the maximum tax rate of \$3.25 per \$100 of assessed property value.
- (2021) Capped the maximum tax rate per \$100 of assessed value at \$3.375 for tax year 2022, \$3.50 for tax year 2023, \$3.75 for tax year 2024 and each tax year thereafter.

#### **Senate Bill 1421** (2009)

• Limited the increase in total tax levy for fire districts to no more than 8% over the prior year's actual levy.

#### House Bill 2001 (2011)

• Reduced tax assessment of Class One (commercial) and centrally valued properties (utilities) from 20% to 18% further transferring the tax burden to homeowners (with no additional tax rate cap adjustments).

#### **Proposition 117** (2012)

- Amended the Arizona Constitution.
- Set a limit on the annual percentage increase to property values for taxing purposes at 5% above the previous year.
- Established a single Limited Property Value (LPV) as the basis for determining all property taxes on real property starting in fiscal year 2015-2016.
- Consequently, it took approximately 10 years for most Arizona first district values to return to 2008 levels while inflationary costs for expenditures continued to increase annually.

# LEGISLATIVE CHALLENGES

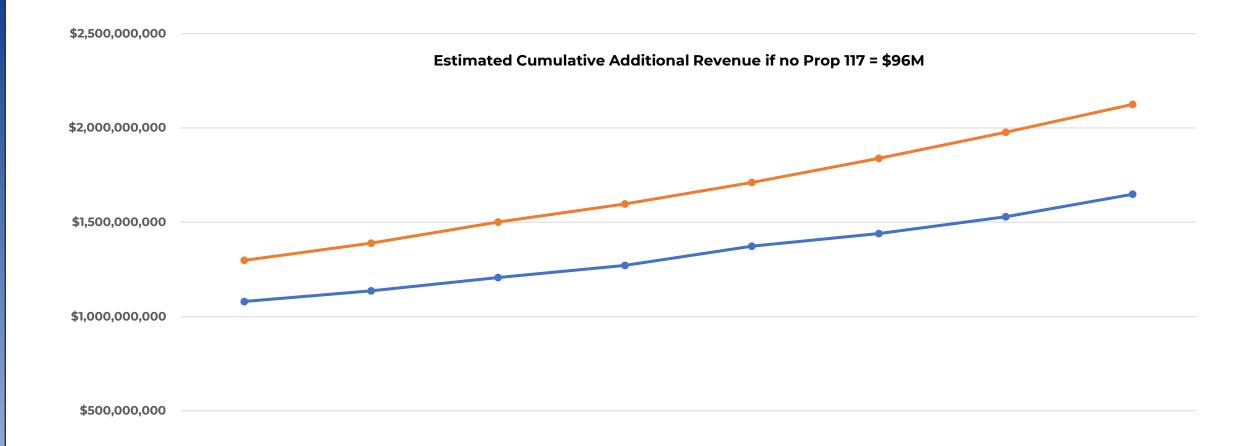
#### **Senate Bill 1108** (2021)

• Reduced tax assessment of Class One (commercial) property from 18% to 17.5% for tax year 2022, further reducing one-half percent each year until tax year 2027.

#### **House Bill 2028** (2023)

- Contribution rate for members in PSPRS is reduced to 7.65% from 11.654%; Retroactive to July 1, 2023.
- Beginning July 1, 2023, the amount of the member's contribution that exceeds 7.65% and that was accumulated from July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2023, may be used in calculating the employer's contributions.

#### **NWFD ASSESSED VALUE**



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<b>4</b> -	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Assessed Value	\$1,080,073,267	\$1,136,805,280	\$1,206,875,030	\$1,271,372,801	\$1,373,136,865	\$1,440,337,964	\$1,529,397,141	\$1,648,537,835
Est. Assessed Value	1,298,138,824	1,389,473,051	1,501,566,516	1,596,778,459	1,710,536,002	1,838,826,202	1,976,738,167	2,124,993,530

# ESTIMATED REVENUE IMPACTS TO REDUCTION IN CLASS ONE PROPERTY SB1108

Projections based on 5-year average increase to Class One Net Taxable Value of 4.92%

Fiscal Year	Tax Year	Limited Full Cash Value	Assessed % Pre-SB1108	Revenue @ Pre-SB1108 Rate	Assessed % Post-SB1108	Revenue Post-SB1108 Rate	Estimated Revenue Loss	Estimated Cumulative Revenue Loss	Equivalent Increase to Tax Rate
22/23	CY2022	\$1,954,069,901	18%	\$9,529,445	17.5%	\$9,245,024	(\$284,421)	(\$284,421)	\$0.02
23/24	CY2023	\$2,070,515,200	18%	\$10,119,007	17.0%	\$9,516,282	(\$602,725)	(\$887,146)	\$0.04
24/25	CY2024	\$2,273,943,209	18%	\$11,132,899	16.5%	\$10,139,981	(\$992,918)	(\$1,880,064)	\$0.06
25/26	CY2025	\$2,387,640,369	18%	\$11,680,012	16.0%	\$10,290,986	(\$1,389,026)	(\$3,269,090)	\$0.08
26/27	CY2026	\$2,507,022,388	18%	\$12,254,012	15.5%	\$10,432,304	(\$1,821,707)	(\$5,090,797)	\$0.10
27/28	CY2027	\$2,632,373,507	18%	\$12,856,219	15.0%	\$10,562,617	(\$2,293,602)	(\$7,384,399)	\$0.12

The Class One (commercial) ratio for most centrally valued commercial properties (utilities) was 50% in 1979, gradually dropped to 25% by 1999, dropped to 20% in 2012, and 18% in 2011 for a total reduction of 64%. Current legislation will further drop the ratio to 15% by 2027.