

Fire Authority vs. Merged Fire District- Pros and Cons

Maintain the Fire Authority

Pros

Guaranteed Community Representation (Board Members)

Can be expanded (new entities/districts can be added)

“Divorce” Remains an Option (messy!)

Relatively Transparent Fiscally

Tax Rates are not Required to be Equal

Cons

Confusing Governance Model (without explanation)

Hard to find/keep Individual Board Members (attrition)

No Capital Bonding Ability

Three Budgets/Audits

Election Expenses x 2

Merged Fire Districts

Pros

Emotionally “Unites” the Agency (Esprit de Corps)

Fewer Board Members- Less Confusion/Cleaner/Simpler

Capital Bonding Option is Restored

One Budget/Audit/Saves \$

Single Election Expense

Cons

No Divorce Option- forever!

No Guarantee of Community Representation

Expansion with other agencies = New JPA or Merger/Consolidation

Tax Rates Must be Equal