



Office of Emergency Services

Ensuring the Safety and Well-Being of Durham County

Durham County tax records show that you own property within the area where a fire protection service district is proposed. You are receiving this letter and the attached public hearing notice in accordance with North Carolina General Statute §153A-302(c). This document provides answers to common questions about the proposed district.

Frequently Asked Questions about Creating the Mangum Fire Protection Service District

1) Why is the Mangum Fire Protection Service District needed?

This area has never had a formal fire protection service district. Fire and emergency response services have been provided by the Moriah Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department at no cost for many years. Rising costs now require additional funding to maintain these services.

2) What does creating the district mean for property owners?

Establishing the district will define its boundaries and ensure continued fire protection and emergency response services. The proposed district is shown on the map on the attached Notice of Public Hearing.

3) How much will this cost?

There is no immediate cost to residents to create the service district. It is expected that a tax rate will be levied as part of the FY2027 budget process, but that rate has not yet been determined. The rate will be based on service needs, response costs, and funding requested by Moriah Volunteer Fire and Rescue. The FY 2026 tax rate for supporting existing fire districts within the County ranged from \$0.0484 to \$0.0919 per One Hundred Dollar valuation.

4) How will the district be created?

Durham County has prepared a report on the need for the district, available from the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners. State law requires a public hearing, and this notice serves as official notification. You are invited to attend and provide comments. After the hearing, the Board will vote on the proposal. If approved, the district will be added to county tax records.

5) What happens if the district is not created?

Without the district, properties may lose fire protection and emergency response services. Moriah Volunteer Fire and Rescue has served this area for decades without county funding but can no longer provide services for free.

Questions?

Contact Mark Lockhart, Director of Durham County Emergency Services, at 919-560-0674 or via email at jlockhart@dconc.gov.