

Item Title: Approve a Resolution to Initiate Actions Required to Extend the Fire Tax District

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners moves to adopt the proposed resolution as required in North Carolina General Statue 153A-303 directing Fire Services staff to provide a prepared report to be filed with the Clerk to the Board and hold a public hearing on October 21, 2024 to consider annexation of the territory.

Item Summary:

Purpose: State law prescribes a series of steps necessary to add territory to a special tax district. In this first step, the Board of Commissioners is required to adopt a resolution that causes a report containing certain specified information to be prepared and filed with the Clerk.

Background: When the Fire Tax District was created in 1999, certain portions of the County's unincorporated area were not included because they were more than six miles from a fire station. Residents in these excluded areas did not receive credited service regarding fire insurance premiums. One such area was the "hook" area of Northern Wake County by Falls Lake.

In 2018, the Fire Commission and Wake County Board of Commissioners directed staff to complete a long-range plan to expand fire services. This plan was completed and recommended for use by the Fire Commission in 2021. As part of the Long-Range Plan Standards, new firehouses will be considered when an area of the unincorporated county cannot be reached in 7 minutes of travel 90% of the time. This applies to the "hook" area. The Board has appropriated funds for a new Fire and EMS station in this area.

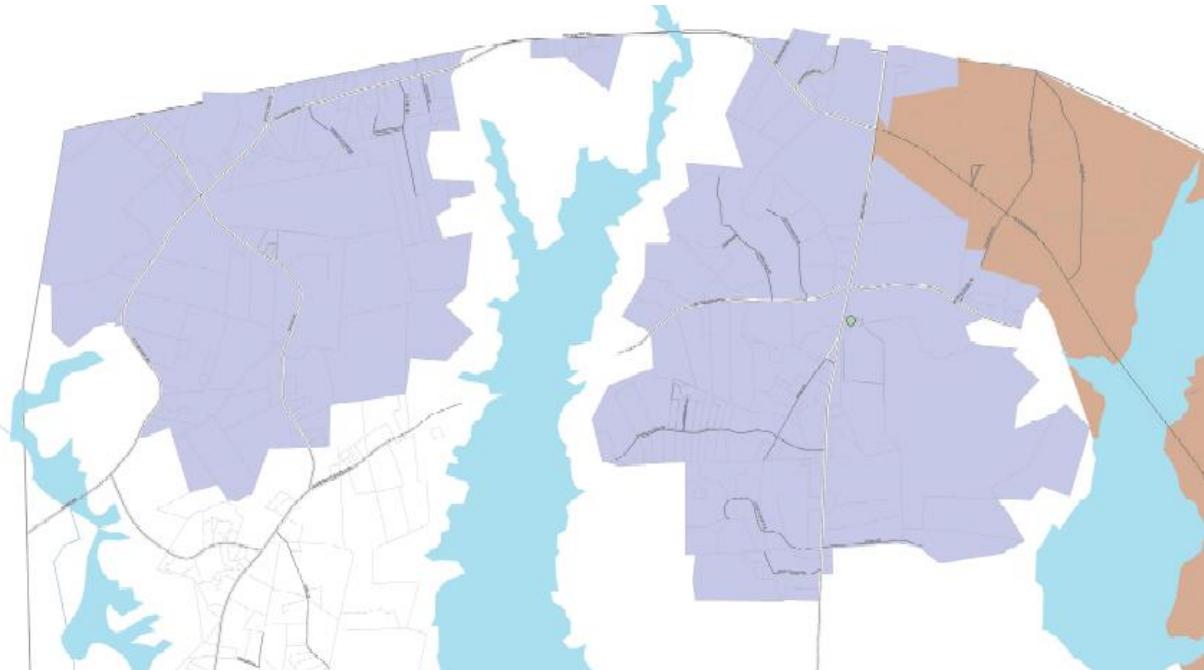
This resolution initiates the process of annexing this area to the Fire Tax District. The scheduled effective date of the annexation, July 2026, aligns with the anticipated completion date of the new station.

Strategic Plan: This action supports Safer Community Together Goal 1: By 2029, 80% of all County public safety calls will receive an appropriate and timely emergency response.

Fiscal Impact: The Fire Tax District has included the construction and operation in future modeling.

Additional Information:

The area in purple on the map below is considered for annexation into the Fire Tax District.



After the public hearing in October, in the same meeting, staff will ask the Board to approve a resolution that will make this area part of the Fire Tax District effective July 1, 2026.

Attachments:

1. Resolution
2. Notice to Property Owners (mailers)
3. Community Meeting Presentation