



Notice of a Public Meeting and Public Protest Hearing on a Proposed Assessment

For Costs of Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services for Fresno County Service Area No. 50

APN: <<APN>>

Property Owner
<<ADDRESS>>
<<ADDRESS>>

Dear Property Owner:

This is an important notice regarding your rights under Proposition 218 relating to a proposed assessment on your property. The proposed assessment would be used to pay for the cost of fire protection and emergency medical services within County Service Area No. 50 (CSA 50).

Read this notice carefully. If you have any questions, please contact Cybil Luna, Staff Analyst, County of Fresno Department of Public Works and Planning, Resources Division, 2220 Tulare Street, 6th Floor, Fresno, California 93721, by telephone at (559) 600-4481 or by email at cluna@fresnocountyca.gov.

This notice is given under the California Constitution, Article XIII D, Section 4, and California Government Code Sections 50078 et seq. and 53753.

The proposed assessment is supported by an Engineer's Report that is available online at: FresnoCountyCA.gov/CSA50.

Notice of Public Meeting

You are notified that on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. County staff, as staff for CSA 50, will conduct a public meeting at the Foothill Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room located at 29147 Auberry Rd, Prather, CA 93651. The public meeting will provide members of the public, including property owners, with an opportunity to provide relevant testimony to CSA 50 staff and to ask questions about the proposed increase to the assessment in this notice. The Fresno County Board of Supervisors (Board) will not be present, and CSA 50 will not take any official action to increase or change the assessment at this public meeting.

Notice of Public Protest Hearing

You are notified that on June 30, 2026, at 9:30 A.M. (or as soon after as practicable), the Board of Supervisors (Board) will conduct a public protest hearing on the proposed assessment. The public protest hearing will happen in the Board's regular meeting chambers in the **Hall of Records, 2281 Tulare Street, Third Floor, Fresno, California 93721**. The public protest hearing will be open to all

Exhibit C

members of the public. During the hearing, any person may present relevant oral or written testimony to the Board, and the Board will consider all objections or protests to the proposed assessment. During the hearing, the Board may decide to continue the hearing to a later date without further notice.

Summary of Procedures for the Completion, Return, and Tabulation of the Assessment Ballots

An assessment ballot and assessment ballot instructions are enclosed with this notice. If you wish to support or oppose the assessment, and have your support or opposition counted for purposes of the majority protest determination, you must properly complete an assessment ballot and timely submit to the Clerk of the Board by following the assessment ballot instructions. The instructions apply equally to all ballots, including substitute, change of ownership, and co-owner assessment ballots.

In summary, the assessment ballot instructions require that each ballot must be:

1. Marked "YES" or "NO" by the owner of the affected property, or that person's legally authorized representative, and dated and signed, all in ink;
2. Sealed inside the return envelope provided; and
3. Delivered personally or by mail so that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, at 2281 Tulare Street, Room 301, Fresno, California 93721-2198, receives the sealed ballot no later than the conclusion of public testimony at the public protest hearing at the date, time, and place stated above.

The assessment ballot instructions describe the procedures to withdraw an assessment ballot before the conclusion of public testimony at the public protest hearing. The instructions also describe the circumstances in which you may obtain a substitute assessment ballot, a change of ownership assessment ballot, or a co-owner assessment ballot, and the procedures to do so.

Please note that alterations to assessment ballots are prohibited. Alterations to, or comments written on, your ballot will be disregarded. If you wish to explain your support or opposition, or make detailed objections to, the proposed assessment, you may do so orally or in writing at the public protest hearing.

At the conclusion of the public hearing, County staff designated by the Board will tabulate the assessment ballots that have been properly completed and timely submitted to the Clerk of the Board, and not withdrawn, in support of or opposition to the proposed assessment. County staff will then report the tabulation totals to the Board.

The assessment will not be imposed if the Board determines, based on the tabulation totals, that there is a majority protest to the proposed assessment. A majority protest occurs if the ballots submitted in opposition to the assessment exceed the ballots submitted in favor of the assessment, with ballots weighted according to the proportional financial obligation of the affected property.

If there is not a majority protest, the Board may impose the assessment.

Exhibit C

Duration and Amount of Proposed Assessment

The maximum total annual amount of the proposed assessment for all assessed properties is \$124,436 in Fiscal Year 2026-27. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2027-28, this amount may increase by up to three percent (3%) per year, unless the Board of Supervisors reduces or terminates the assessment or conducts a new proceeding to increase it beyond this amount.

The maximum total annual amount of the proposed assessment for each Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) is \$113.84 in Fiscal Year 2026-27, with an authorized annual increase of up to three percent (3%) per year, unless the Board of Supervisors reduces or terminates the assessment or conducts a new proceeding to increase it beyond this amount.

Reason for Proposed Assessment

County Service Area 50 (CSA 50) was established in 2003 to provide stable, long-term funding for fire protection and emergency medical services in the Auberry community. Services are delivered under contract with the Auberry Volunteer Fire Department (AVFD) which has provided these services since 1957.

In recent years, assessment revenues have not kept pace with the cost of providing service, and CSA 50 has been operating at a deficit, with annual expenses exceeding the revenues needed to sustain fire protection and emergency medical services. For example, in FY 2025-26, CSA 50 is projected to spend about \$129,900 to provide fire protection and emergency medical services, while only collecting approximately \$102,500 in revenue, resulting in a projected deficit of about \$27,400.

The proposed increase to the CSA 50 assessment is needed to fund operating costs, maintain a cash reserve for emergencies and capital improvements, and improve the overall financial condition of CSA 50.

For more detailed information about the reason for the proposed assessment, see the Engineer's Report.

Basis of Calculation for the Proposed Assessment

The calculation of the proposed assessment begins with the total annual cost of providing fire protection and emergency medical services and maintaining required reserves. Those costs are then allocated to individual parcels in proportion to the special benefit each parcel receives, measured through an "Equivalent Dwelling Unit" ("EDU"). One EDU represents the special benefit received by a typical single-family home. Other land uses, such as multi-family, commercial, mobile home parks, and vacant land, are assigned EDU factors that reflect their proportional share of special benefit.

CSA 50 contains 1,093 EDUs, calculated by dividing the total assessment revenue collected in FY 2025-26 by the prior assessment rate of \$92.26 per EDU. This figure represents the total amount of proportional special benefit in the district.

For Fiscal Year 2026-27, the proposed EDU rate is \$113.84.
Accordingly: Assessment = EDU Factor × \$113.84 (FY 2026-27).

For more detailed information about the basis upon which the proposed assessment was calculated, including EDU assignments by land use type, see the Engineer's Report.

Notice of Public Meeting and Public Protest Hearing on a Proposed Assessment

For Costs of Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

Fresno County Service Area No. 50

Page 3 of 4

Exhibit C

Additional Information

If the proposed assessment is not imposed due to a majority protest, County staff will schedule a public community meeting to discuss options for aligning CSA 50's expenditures with available revenues. This may include reductions to the AVFD contract, adjustments to service levels, or other measures necessary to operate within the district's financial limits.

A copy of the agenda materials for the Board's May 12, 2026 meeting, including the resolution setting the public protest hearing described above, and all of the documents referred to in this notice, are on file and will be made available for public inspection at the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, at the County of Fresno's Hall of Records, 2281 Tulare Street, Third Floor, Fresno, California 93721, on or around the Wednesday before that date. All of those materials are also available on the County's website at: <https://fresnocounty.legistar.com/>.

Dated: _____

Bernice E. Seidel
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Fresno

By: _____

Deputy

Enclosures:

1. Assessment Ballot Instructions
2. Assessment Ballot
3. Return Envelope/Self-Addressed Stamped Mailing Envelope