



Monroe Fire Protection District



Why Annexation Is Damaging to Fire Protection District Citizens

The Monroe Fire Protection District has proudly served citizens in southern Monroe county for over three decades. Providing highly effective fire and rescue services has always been the priority of the district's leadership, while maintaining a reasonable cost for service to the citizens. The district has continued to increase its service capabilities while gradually reducing the amount of taxes citizens pay. The district is proud to have the most efficient taxing rate in Monroe county.

The impacts of annexation are damaging to the fire protection district. Annexation is a direct impact on the assessed valuation of a taxing base. To maintain services in a fire protection district after annexation occurs, citizens must increase the amount of taxes they pay in a proportional amount to the assessed valuation lost to the annexation.

Below is a chart showing what the results of the 2017 annexation proposal by the City of Bloomington would cost citizens today. These increases are simply to maintain the service level that was being received at the time of annexation:

2019 Assessed Values	Current Taxing Rate: \$.13	Post Annexation Taxing Rate: \$.1872	Increase due to Annexation (44%)
\$ 100,000	\$ 130	\$ 187.20	\$ 57.20
\$ 200,000	\$ 260	\$ 374.40	\$ 114.40
\$ 300,000	\$ 390	\$ 561.60	\$ 171.60
\$ 400,000	\$ 520	\$ 748.80	\$ 228.80
\$ 500,000	\$ 650	\$ 936.00	\$ 286.00
\$ 750,000	\$ 975	\$ 1,404.00	\$ 429.00
\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,872.00	\$ 572.00
\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,950	\$ 2,808.00	\$ 858.00

HEADQUARTERS
STATION 11
3953 S KENNEDY DRIVE
BLOOMINGTON IN
812-331-1906
812-336-1166 (FAX)

CLEAR CREEK
STATION 21
9094 S STRAIN RIDGE RD
BLOOMINGTON IN
812-824-6077

INDIAN CREEK
STATION 10
8019 S ROCKPORT RD
BLOOMINGTON IN
812-824-6202

\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,600	\$3,744.00	\$ 1,144.00
\$ 2,500,000	\$ 3,250	\$ 4,680.00	\$ 1,430.00

*Median residential value in Monroe County is \$ 191,200.00 (www.zillow.com)

*Median commercial value in Monroe County is \$ 731,861.00 (www.landsofamerica.com)

Equally as disserving to the citizens of the fire protection district is the loss of cumulative fund revenue. Cumulative funds are critical to the ability to purchase capital assets such as fire trucks, rescue equipment and the cost of a fire station. This fund cannot be maintained after annexation because the tax levy is capped by statute. A loss of funding in this budget means less funds available to replace aging equipment, update extrication tools and maintain fire stations.

Below is a chart showing the impact on Monroe Fire Protection District's cumulative fund if the 2017 annexation proposal by the City of Bloomington would cost citizens today:

Current Cumulative Fund	Post Annexation Cumulative Fund	Loss to Cumulative Fund (44%)
\$ 406,218.00	\$ 268,103.88	\$ 138,114.12

Current law provides that a city or town annexing into a fire protection district is responsible for a proportionate amount of the district's debt. However, cities and towns typically create a special taxing district within the city or town that includes only those citizens who were former members of the district. The city or town then collects the funds necessary to fulfil their debt obligations from those individuals. Meaning, the former district citizens continue to pay the district's debt without receiving its services any longer.

The effects of annexation into a fire protection district is damaging to citizens. A governmental entity such as a city or town, whom does not represent these citizens can damage their fire service and pockets. Those annexed are unfairly held responsible for the debt the city takes on and those remaining in the district must pay more or lose services. Critical infrastructure such a fire and rescue service should be protected from outside decision making so fire service leadership can effectively prepare and execute long term planning that provides the highest quality of service in a fiscally responsible manner.

House Bill 1214 will prevent cities or towns from annexing established fire protection districts with a sufficient and stable taxing base. This bill will increase the efficiencies of the fire protection districts it protects, resulting in a stable fire protection service for years to come.