



FIRE DISTRICT No. 14

2022-2023

BUDGET PLAN DOCUMENT – Revised 3/11/22

*Excellence Through
Commitment to Community Service*



CORBETT FIRE DISTRICT #14

BUDGET MESSAGE 2022-2023

March 2022

Corbett Fire District #14 provides fire, rescue and emergency services to a 40 square mile service area that includes the communities of Corbett, Springdale, Aims, Latourell, Bridal Veil, and surrounding areas with approximately 4,000 residents. This area includes many acres of wildland/urban interface, forest lands, over 2,000 acres of Oregon State Parks, Columbia and Sandy River recreation areas, Interstate 84 and Union Pacific Railroad property. Through a contract with Multnomah County we provide emergency medical services to areas east of the Fire District up to the Hood River County line. We responded to 555 calls for assistance in 2021, including fires of all types, medical emergencies, technical rescue for water and high angle rescue events, public assistance and service calls. We routinely assist our neighboring fire departments in Gresham, Sandy and Cascade Locks. This is done with a volunteer force of 31 firefighters, a paid part-time Fire Chief and a paid part-time Office Administrator. We have fire stations strategically placed in Corbett, Springdale and Aims.

Corbett Fire District #14 provides a high level of service to our residents and visitors. This encompasses training, public education and outreach, fire prevention and community events. Our equipment is well maintained and is always being updated to provide for maximum efficiency and safety for both our firefighters and the people we serve. Apparatus and big-ticket expenses are funded over time through our Capital Reserve Fund.

Funding levels remain stable with a tax rate of \$1.2624 per thousand of assessed value. The projected taxes necessary to balance the budget for 2022-2023 are \$507,000.

This year's budget continues with the 2nd of 4 payments for a new structural engine for our main station (delivery expected in May), new uniforms, new safety equipment for firefighters, drone with night vision and thermal capabilities, and studded tires for our brush units and utility vehicle.

Education and training remain a high priority. We budget to fund training opportunities on the local, state and national level. We will continue to send firefighters to outside training opportunities; we also bring in outside resources and instructors to our facilities. This speaks well for our firefighters' desire to improve their skills and training to be better able to serve our community when needed.

We continue to see more firefighters become certified as Oregon Emergency Medical Responder and Emergency Medical Technician. This education significantly improves our ability to care for sick and injured patients.

Most accounts will remain at or near current levels with increases in fuel and utilities. Building and grounds will continue with ongoing improvements and/or changes. Existing service levels will be maintained with this budget.

This budget is based on the assumption that \$507,000 in revenue will be available in property taxes for the 2022-2023 budget year. Additionally, it anticipates \$100,000 for the Emergency Medical Service contract with Multnomah County EMS for responding east of our District; this is an increase of \$30,000 over the current \$70,000. Finally, it reflects \$7,000 for the contract with Oregon State Parks for services to parks in the Western Columbia River Gorge.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Wunsch, Fire Chief and Budget Officer
Corbett Fire District #14