

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

**HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MEETING DATE: January 3, 2010

SUBJECT: Public Hearing - Expansion of Henderson County Fire Tax Districts

ATTACHMENTS: Yes
(1) Presentation regarding fire tax district expansions
(2) Draft letter to General Assembly

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

On December 6, 2010 the Board of Commissioners designated January 3, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. as a Public Hearing for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed expansion of Henderson County fire districts. Notice was provided in the legal section of the Times News on December 20 and 27, 2010 and signs were placed at major intersections within the proposed areas.

Staff will provide a presentation on the proposed expansion areas, statistical data for each area and a study of average insurance savings associated with fire protection coverage.

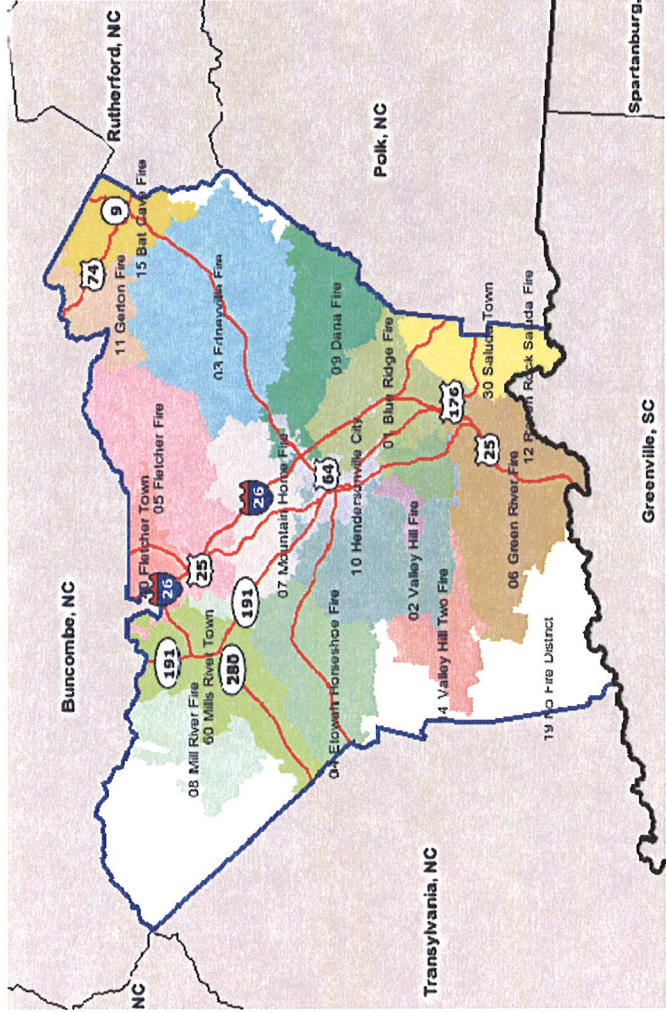
BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Based on comments received at the Public Hearing the Board may choose to forward a request for a local bill to the NC General Assembly to expand fire tax districts.

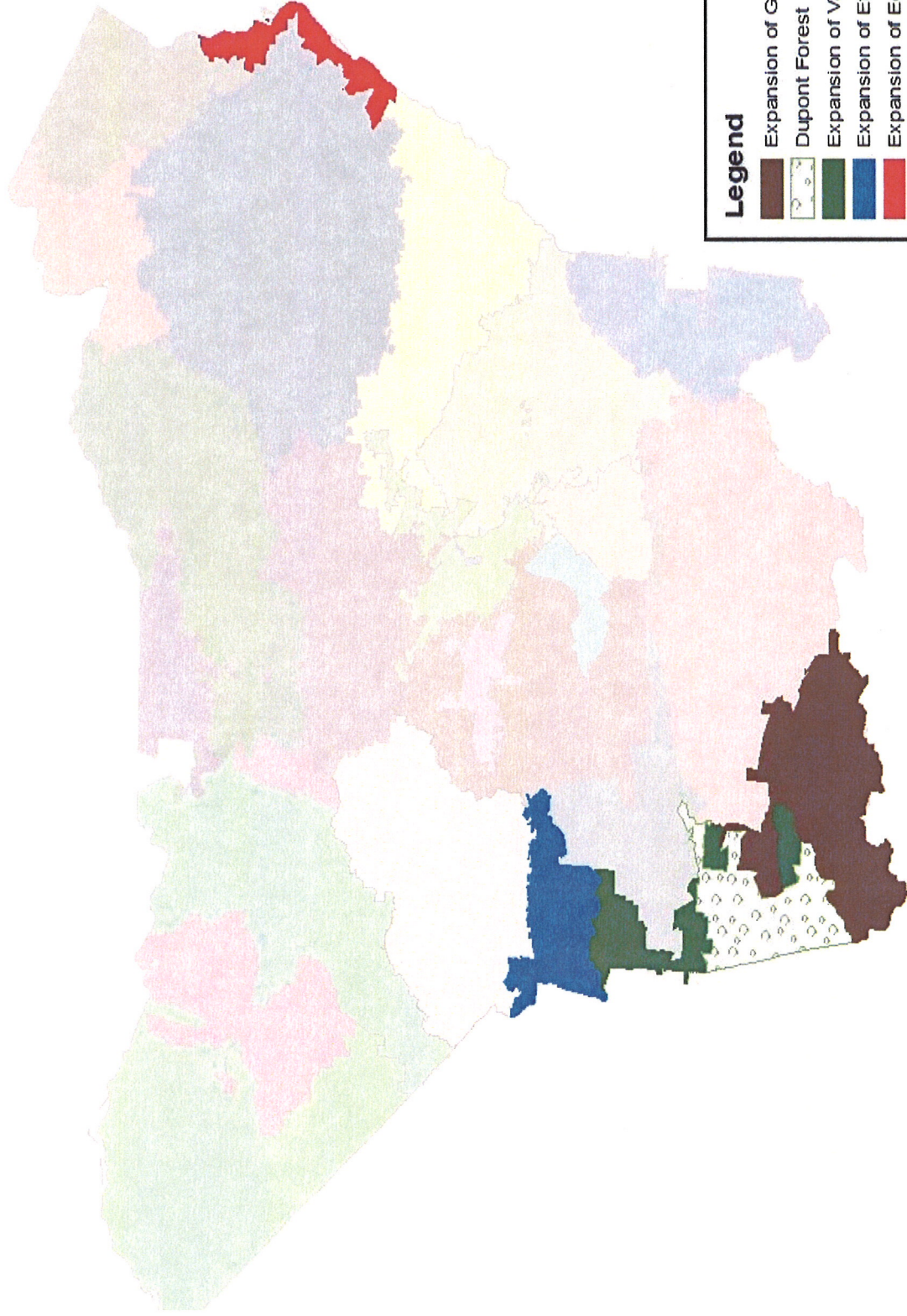
Suggested Motion:

I move the Board support the expansion of fire tax districts and forward a request to the North Carolina General Assembly for introduction as a local bill.

Proposal to Expand Henderson County Fire Tax Districts



Expansion of Current Fire Tax Districts



Fire Tax District Expansion Statistical Data

The proposed expansion represents:

- 3% of total parcels**
- 2% of assessed real property value**
- 7% of total area**
- 2.8% of total fire protection budget**

Fire Tax District Expansion Parcels Affected

Tax District	# of Parcels	Assessed Value
Edneyville	485	\$28,384,098
Etowah-Horse Shoe	858	\$96,152,133
Green River	288	\$60,160,515
Valley Hill	393	\$43,001,413
Total	2024	\$227,698,159

Fire Tax District Expansion Revenue Impact

Tax District	Added Value	Current Tax Rate	Additional Revenue
Edneyville	\$28,384,098	.00085	\$24,126
Etowah-Horse Shoe	\$96,152,133	.00085	\$81,729
Green River	\$60,160,515	.0006	\$36,096
Valley Hill	\$43,001,413	.0007	\$30,101
Totals	\$227,698,159	Average .00075	\$172,052

Average Insuranc Savings

- Average Homeowners Insurance Premium based on a \$200,000 frame home = \$2100
- Average insurance savings from Class 10 no protection to Class 9 (11%) = \$230
- Average insurance savings from Class 9 to Class 6 (25%) = \$460
- Average fire district tax bill = \$150
- Net Savings (Class 9) = \$80
- Net Savings (Class 6) = \$310

Questions

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Fire Tax District Expansion

Public Hearing

date

Honorable _____
North Carolina General Assembly
16 W. Jones Street, Room _____
Raleigh, NC 27601-_____

_____:

I am writing to request your assistance with regard to special legislation for fire tax district expansion in Henderson County.

In 1954 the first fire department in Henderson County was formed in the Fletcher community. Since that time eleven additional fire departments have formed to serve their respective communities encompassing every citizen within the County. Although every citizen receives fire protection, every citizen does not contribute toward the provision of fire services due to the manner in which our fire tax districts evolved. The Board of Commissioners would like to resolve this inequity and contractually ensure the provision of fire protection services to every citizen by expanding our current fire tax districts to include every parcel located within the County boundaries.

On January 3, 2011 the Henderson County Board of Commissioners voted to request special legislation to expand the Edneyville, Etowah-Horse Shoe, Green River and Valley Hill fire tax districts in Henderson County. The Board respectfully requests your assistance with sponsorship and drafting the legislation necessary to expand the fire tax districts.

We appreciate your consideration of this matter. If you have any questions or concerns please contact County Manager, Steve Wyatt or myself.

Sincerely:

J. Michael Edney, Chairman

cc: County Manager, County Attorney