Alachua County, FL

12 SE 1st Street Gainesville, Florida

Agenda Item Summary

File #: 24-00425 Agenda Date: [Publish Date]

Agenda Item Name:

Fire Assessment Update Study Presentation – Preliminary Results

Presenter:

Harold Theus, Chief

Description:

The County has undertaken a technical analysis to update fire assessment rates.

Recommended Action:

Hear Presentation

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Fiscal Note:

The Fire Assessment was implemented in Fiscal Year 2018 with Tier 1 rate of \$83.34 and Tier 2 rate of \$7.63. The Fire Assessment rates remained at these rates for 4 consecutive fiscal years.

For Fiscal Year 2022, the rate increase for Tier 1 was \$90.69 and Tier 2 \$8.31 per Equivalent Benefit Unit (EBU). This Fire Assessment rate has remained at these values for 3 fiscal years.

Strategic Guide:

Public Safety

Background:

The Fire Assessment was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners and implemented as a funding source for Fire Protection Services in FY 2017-2018.

Tier 1 – Based on the simple availability of Fire Protection service which is available equally to all parcels of all types within the County by virtue of the continued state of fire protection readiness provided and maintained by the County. This tier is equal for all parcels.

Tier 2 – In order for the assessment to be fairly and reasonably apportioned among the properties that receive the special benefit, Tier 2 is based on the level of improvement

related to each parcel. Thus, the higher the level of improvement, the higher the Tier 2 Assessment that would be charged. This tier is based on Equivalent Benefit Units (EBUs). Each EBU is representative of each \$5,000 of structure value. For example, a structure with a value of \$15,000 would equate to 3 EBUs.