

**ELK CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
STATEMENT OPPOSING APPROVAL
OF**

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN ELECTION ON REFERRED MEASURES REGARDING THE
CONSOLIDATION OF ELK CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, INTER-CANYON FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT, AND NORTH FORK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND A RELATED
INCREASE TO THE ELK CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT'S MILL LEVY AND THE
APPOINTMENT OF A DESIGNATED ELECTION OFFICIAL**

August 10, 2023

For the following reasons, I oppose adoption of the Resolution:

1. **Rigorous Consolidation Planning Has Not Been Performed:** Since no rigorous planning process for the proposed consolidation/merger of the fire districts has been performed by the Fire Chiefs (the Fire Chiefs)¹ that makes a compelling case as to how the consolidation/merger would enhance the fire protection and emergency services for the residents of the Elk Creek FPD, I believe a vote to approve this Resolution is unwarranted.
2. **Services For Elk Creek FPD Residents Will Likely Be Significantly Degraded:** When considering the markedly different demographic, geographic, and financial positions of the Elk Creek, Inter-Canyon, and North Fork FPDs (as illustrated by the map and table below), the citizens of the Elk Creek FPD will pay 64% of the dollars required to operate the proposed consolidated district, effectively subsidizing the other fire districts while the Inter-Canyon and North Fork FPDs attempt to improve their services.

Moreover, the Fire Chiefs' plan to construct a new 14,000 sq-ft fire station HQ in Morrison but then relocate current Elk Creek FPD 24/7 firefighter/EMS personnel to a station in Pine Junction - even though both locations are much further from the local community's largest population clusters - I am convinced that the proposed consolidation/merger of the fire districts would run the serious risk of substantially degrading the fire protection and emergency medical services for the residents of the Elk Creek FPD.

¹ Please see [Cooperative Services Feasibility Study](#) by AP Triton, November 2021, Planning Process, pages 183 - 187; this recommended process has not been followed.

3. **Supporting Information:** Please see below Figure 1: Map of Elk Creek, Inter-Canyon, and North Fork FPDs and Table 1: Estimated Fire Protection District Demographics and Statistics.

I respectfully ask that this Statement of Opposition be entered into the minutes of this meeting.

Chuck Newby
Director, Elk Creek FPD



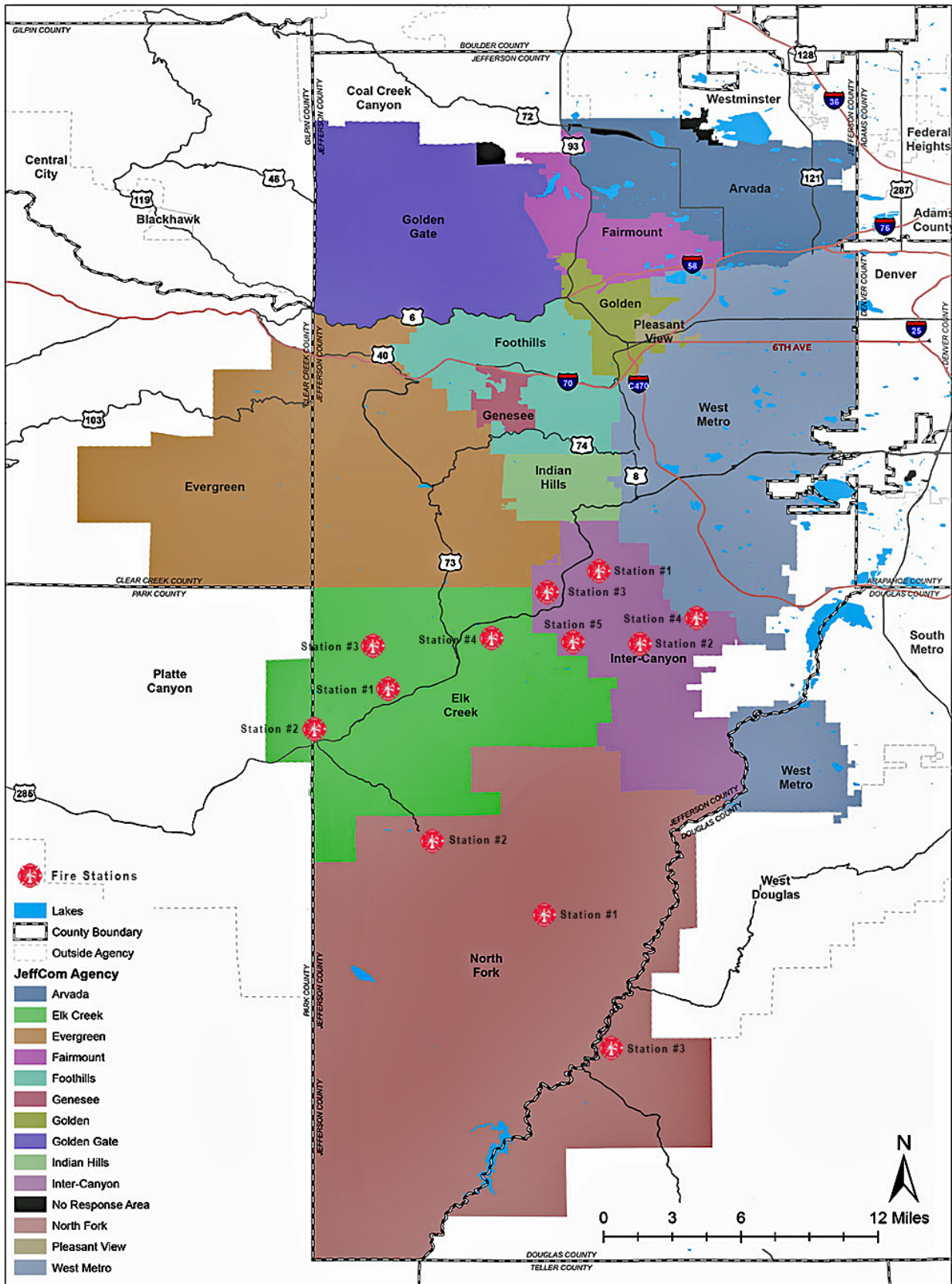


FIGURE 1: Map of Elk Creek, Inter-Canyon, and North Fork FPDs, source [JeffCom GIS](#).

TABLE 1: Estimated Fire Protection District Demographics and Statistics.

DEMOGRAPHIC/ STATISTIC	ECFPD	ICFPD	NFFPD	Merged FPD
POPULATION	17,000	5,250	1,700	24,000
GEOGRAPHIC AREA	98 sq-mi	52 sq-mi	240 sq-mi	390 sq-mi
CURRENT MILL LEVY	12.5	13.5	12.0	16.0
2022 ANNUAL REVENUE SPENDING PER- PERSON PROPERTY VALUATION	\$5,800,000 \$340/person \$366,826,000	\$2,313,000 \$440/person \$170,575,000	\$450,000 \$265/person \$37,252,000	\$10,000,000 \$420/person (estimated)
CAREER FIREFIGHTER/EMT PERSONNEL	12 3 shifts of 4 24/7 service	3 no 24/7 shifts	2 no 24/7 shifts	27 3 shifts of 9 24/7 service
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER/EMT PERSONNEL	35	30	30	90
ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL	5	3	3	5
FIRE STATIONS	4	5	3	12
BOARD OF DIRECTORS	5	5	5	5