

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Resolution No. 24-71

Resolution of Intent to Change Assessment for Billings Urban Fire Service Area

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 7-33-2401 through 7-33-2405 of the Montana Code Annotated, a board of county commissioners has the authority to create a fire service area.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 7-33-2404(1) of the Montana Code Annotated, a board may establish a schedule of fees to be charged to owners of structures and attached land and owners of undeveloped land that are benefited by the services offered by the fire service area.

WHEREAS, the board has chosen to pass a resolution of intent and set a public hearing on the fee schedule. The resolution of intent will include an assessment fee schedule to be applied to properties within the fire service area (Schedule A attached). The board shall accept comments on the fee schedule, including objections to the fee schedule. The board shall pass a resolution to enact the fee schedule.

WHEREAS, the Yellowstone County Board of County Commissioners has created the Billings Urban Fire Service Area (BUFSA). The Yellowstone County Commission manages the Fire Service Area. The County Commission wants to adjust assessment bands and related fees within the district to take into consideration reappraisals that were set by the State of Montana in 2023. This adjustment results in lower assessments for many taxpayers.

WHEREAS, the Yellowstone County Board of County Commissioners desires to pass this resolution of intent to change the rates for those properties located within the fire service area and set a public hearing on the changes in methodology and fee schedule for May 28, 2024.

WHEREAS, on May 28, 2024, the Yellowstone County Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on the change fee schedule. The Board will receive written objections and both written and oral comments on the fee schedule. The Board will consider the objections and comments. If the Board finds that the fee changes are in the best interest of the public, it shall pass a resolution adopting the new fee schedule.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

The Yellowstone County Board of County Commissioners shall hold a public hearing on May 28, 2024 to determine whether to change the fee schedule of the Billings Urban Fire Service Area as detailed in Attachment A as of July 1, 2024 to continue until otherwise amended. A copy of Attachment A is available in the Clerk & Recorder's Office with this Resolution 24-71 of Intent to Change Fees for the Billings Urban Fire Service Area.

The Yellowstone County Clerk and Recorder shall provide notice of the hearing, shall receive written objections and comments on the fee change and shall provide the objections and comments to the Board before the hearing. On April 26, 2024 and May 3, 2024, the Clerk and Recorder will publish notice of the hearing in the *Yellowstone County News*.

Passed and Adopted on the 23rd day of April, 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
YELLOWSTONE COUNTY, MONTANA

John Ostlund, Chairman

Mark Morse, Member

Attest:

Donald W. Jones, Member

Jeff Martin

Yellowstone County Clerk and Recorder

Resolution 24-71 Attachment A

Revised Fee Schedule for BUFSA

Effective for 2024 Tax Year, July 2024	
IMPROVED PROPERTY	
Properties-Market Value	
Less than \$99,999.99	\$50.00
\$100,000.00-\$164,999.99	\$100.00
\$165,000.00-\$219,999.99	\$200.00
\$220,000.00-\$274,999.99	\$300.00
\$275,000.00-\$439,999.99	\$400.00
\$440,000.00-\$604,999.99	\$600.00
\$605,000.00-\$824,999.99	\$800.00
\$825,000.00 or more	\$1,200.00
Undeveloped Land	
\$.15 per acre, capped at \$250 per 7-33-2404(2)(b) MCA	
Exempt Properties	
Excluding undeveloped land, flat \$365 rate.	

Previous Fee Schedule for BUFSA

Effective for 2021 Tax Year, July 2021	
IMPROVED PROPERTY	
Properties-Market Value	
Less than \$20,000	\$75.00
\$20,000-\$49,999	\$75.00
\$50,000-\$99,999	\$100.00
\$100,000-\$149,999	\$150.00
\$150,000-\$199,999	\$250.00
\$200,000-\$249,999	\$300.00
\$250,000-\$399,999	\$450.00
\$400,000-\$549,999	\$600.00
\$550,000-\$749,999	\$800.00
\$750,000 or more	\$1,200.00
Undeveloped Land	
\$.15 per acre, capped at \$250 per 7-33-2404(2)(b) MCA	
Exempt Properties	
Excluding undeveloped land, flat \$365 rate.	