



# Public Safety

Mill Levy & Bond

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# Mill Levy & Bond

## Introduction

### June 4 Primary Election

- 2 Ballot Questions
  - Mill Levy (Personnel)
  - General Obligation Bond (Fire Station)



City of  
**Helena**



### History

- Fire Department planning efforts in 2007 and 2022 identified the need for a third fire station.
- The Police Department's 2022 Staffing Study recommended adding personnel.

# Mill Levy & Bond

What's on the Ballot?

Fire Department

15 Firefighters

Construction of Station 3



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## Growing Demand

- The Fire Department's calls for service have **increased 892%** since it began operating a second fire station (1979).

# Mill Levy & Bond

## Fire Department

### Why is this needed?

- The additional firefighters would staff the third station.
- The Fire Department doesn't have space for all its response vehicles to be stored in Helena.



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### Improving Service Response

- The City currently does not have a station north of the train tracks, which substantially impacts response to various areas of town.
- Additional personnel would also improve the department's ability to respond to large incidents.

# Mill Levy & Bond

## Police Department

### 9 Positions

- 3 Call-Takers
- 3 Detectives  
(Internet Crimes Against Children, Violence Against Children, and General)
- 2 Community Resource Officers
- 1 Civilian Crash Investigator



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### Growing Demand

- The Helena Police Department's Patrol Division has not increased staffing in **20 years**. In that time, City limits have grown by approximately 3 miles.

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## Police Department

### Why is this needed?

- The department's staffing committee identified additional positions that would add capacity to the patrol division.
- New positions will focus on the City's biggest issues (Crashes, Investigations).



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### Improving Service Response

- The Police Department Patrol Officers currently spend 34% of their time engaging in proactive policing. The industry standard suggests 50% of patrol time should be spent in proactive activity.

# Mill Levy & Bond

## What will it cost?

### Mill Levy

- Up to 31.66 Mills Levied.
- Would fund personnel and associated equipment.
- Could generate more than \$3M in revenue.



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### Tax Impact

- Based on the FY24 calculation, a home valued at \$300,000 would be taxed an additional \$128.22 per year. That equates to an increase of \$10.69 per month.

# Mill Levy & Bond

## What will it cost?

### Bond

- Up to 5.66 Mills Levied.
- Would fund the debt service to construct a new fire station.



City of  
**Helena**



### Tax Impact

- Based on the current fiscal year tax calculation, a home valued at \$300,000 would be taxed an additional \$22.91 per year. That equates to an increase of \$1.91 per month.



Educational materials have been paid for by the City of Helena.  
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# Learn more

[www.helenamt.gov/public-safety-vote/](http://www.helenamt.gov/public-safety-vote/)

