

14312 Hunters Bend Dr. Austin, Texas 78723 Office (512) 836-7566, info@esd4.org www.esd4.org

Hello Community Leaders, HOAs and POAs,

Travis County Emergency Services District 4 (ESD4) is responsible for providing fire protection and emergency medical services to its citizens. These services are financed through property tax and sales tax revenues. ESD4 maintains two fire stations and pays the Austin Fire Department to answer calls from these stations, as well as from AFD's own numerous stations. <u>Click here</u> to confirm you live in the ESD 4 District.

We are pleased to announce that the Board of Commissioners for TCESD 4 approved a full 20 percent homestead exemption and a \$60,000 Over Age 65 <u>exemption</u> to the taxable value of qualified homestead properties in the ESD4 area.

We have notified the Travis County Appraisal District of this decision and these exemptions should be reflected in our 2022 tax bills. If you are already receiving homestead and/or Over Age 65 exemptions, no additional steps are required. These exemptions will automatically be added to the tax rolls.

The following table demonstrates how the "average" and "Over Age 65" homeowner will see slightly lower tax bills. The following is for a home with a taxable value of \$500,000 in 2022 and \$400,000 in 2021.

	2021 Taxes	2022 Taxes w/o Exemptions	2022 Taxes with exemptions
Value of the Home	\$400,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Homestead Exemption			(\$100,000)
Over Age 65 Exemption			(\$60,000)
Adjusted Taxable Value			\$340,000
ESD4 Tax Rate	0.08	0.08	0.08
Estimated ESD4 Taxes	\$320	\$400	\$272

Example of Exemption Benefit

Forecasting future tax receipts in unincorporated areas like ESD 4, through ad valorem property taxes, makes budgeting very challenging. In addition to varying fire station requirements, taxable values change, the cost and availability of emergency responders change, and the cost of diesel for those fire engines and ambulances has certainly changed.

The mission of ESD 4, however, has not changed: To provide the best emergency services possible, in a cost-effective manner.

ESD 4 is fortunate to also receive funding through a robust sales tax that supplements the property tax collections. Right now, we can afford to lower a homeowner's overall taxes by offering these exemptions.

We are available and certainly glad to address any questions you may have and can be reached at <u>info@esd4.org</u> or 1 512 836-7566.

Thank you for your time.

Board of Commissioners, Travis County ESD 4