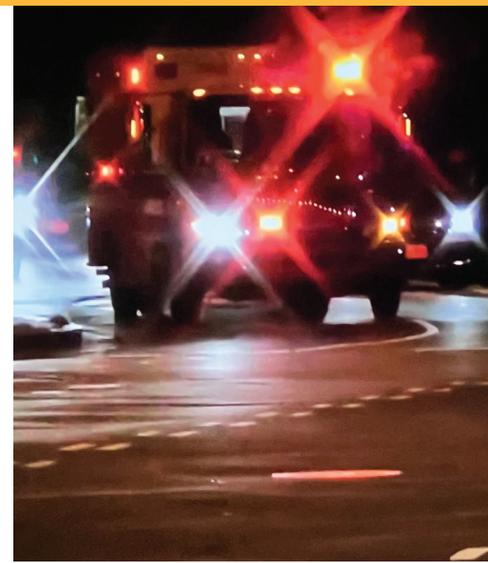
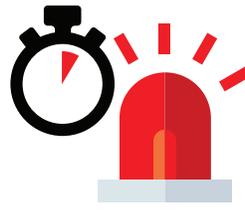




A New Fire Station: Because Minutes Matter



April 1, 2025

Faster emergency response.
Safer firefighters.
Stronger community.

The Lincolnshire-Riverwoods Fire Protection District (LRFD) needs a new fire station for faster emergency response times across the District, improved firefighter safety, and long-term cost savings for the community.

On Tuesday, April 1, 2025, you will have the opportunity to vote on the LRFD bond referendum to fund the new fire station. If approved, general obligation bonds will be issued in an amount not to exceed \$25,000,000 to raise revenue to construct a new fire station and purchase emergency response fleet and equipment.

Here's what you need to know before you vote on April 1, 2025.

Did You Know?



The LRFD has committed **\$5,500,000** towards the cost of a new fire station.



Emergency call volume in the LRFD has **increased 23% since 2020**.



According to current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards, first responders should arrive at an emergency scene within four minutes of a call. **With a new station at 3750 Deerfield Road, the number of emergency calls reached within four minutes would increase by 11% across the District.**

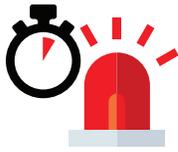
Why do we need a new fire station?

The LRFD currently operates three fire stations, located on Woodlands Parkway in Vernon Hills, Schelter Road in Lincolnshire and Saunders Road in Riverwoods. The two stations on Schelter and Saunders roads have reached or are nearing the end of their useful lives (30 years) and would need to be completely rebuilt or remodeled to meet current and evolving needs. Additionally, they are not optimally located to best respond to emergency needs.

A new fire station at 3750 Deerfield Road (east of Milwaukee Avenue) would address outdated infrastructure, improve emergency response times across the District, enhance emergency responder safety, and reduce operational costs without reducing staffing levels.

Check out our video at www.lrfpd.org/MinutesMatter for more information.





A New Fire Station:

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What Will the Funds Support?

The proposed \$25 million bond referendum will fund the construction of a new **5-bay fire station at 3750 Deerfield Road**, replacing outdated facilities and enhancing public safety and firefighter well-being. This modern, strategically located station will:

- **Improve Emergency Response Times** – Relocating two stations into one in an optimal location will increase the percentage of emergency calls reached within the National Fire Protection Association’s (NFPA) four-minute response time standard across the entire District by 28%, ensuring earlier care when every second counts.
- **Enhance Firefighter Safety** – The new station will include modern training aids, enhanced decontamination areas, and additional in-house training opportunities.
- **Optimize Operations Without Reducing Staff** – Combining two older stations into one while retaining the most modern station will reduce maintenance and operational costs, improve efficiency and maintain the current staffing levels.
- **Ensure Fiscal Responsibility** – Upgrading the existing stations to meet current and future needs and operational standards would cost between \$27 million and \$40 million, significantly more than the proposed \$25 million investment for a new, state-of-the-art facility.
- **Invest in Public Safety** – The new station will provide a modern space and equipment to meet the community’s growing needs while achieving long-term cost savings through operational efficiencies.

Efficient Operations Will Maintain Staffing Levels

First responder staffing levels will be adjusted in the proposed two-station configuration to improve efficiency, ensuring **no jobs are lost**.

Timing

Construction Timeline: Work is expected to begin within one year of funding approval and take approximately 18 months to complete.

Mid 2025: Planning and bidding begin

2026: Construction starts

Late 2027: Project is completed

Sources of Funding

Type	Amount
LRFD capital reserves (includes fleet & equipment purchases)	\$5,500,000
Other income (including sale of property)	\$2,000,000
Sale of bonds from referendum	\$25,000,000
Total Funds Available*	\$32,500,000

*Note: The LRFD continues to pursue grants and other funding sources.

Budget Breakdown

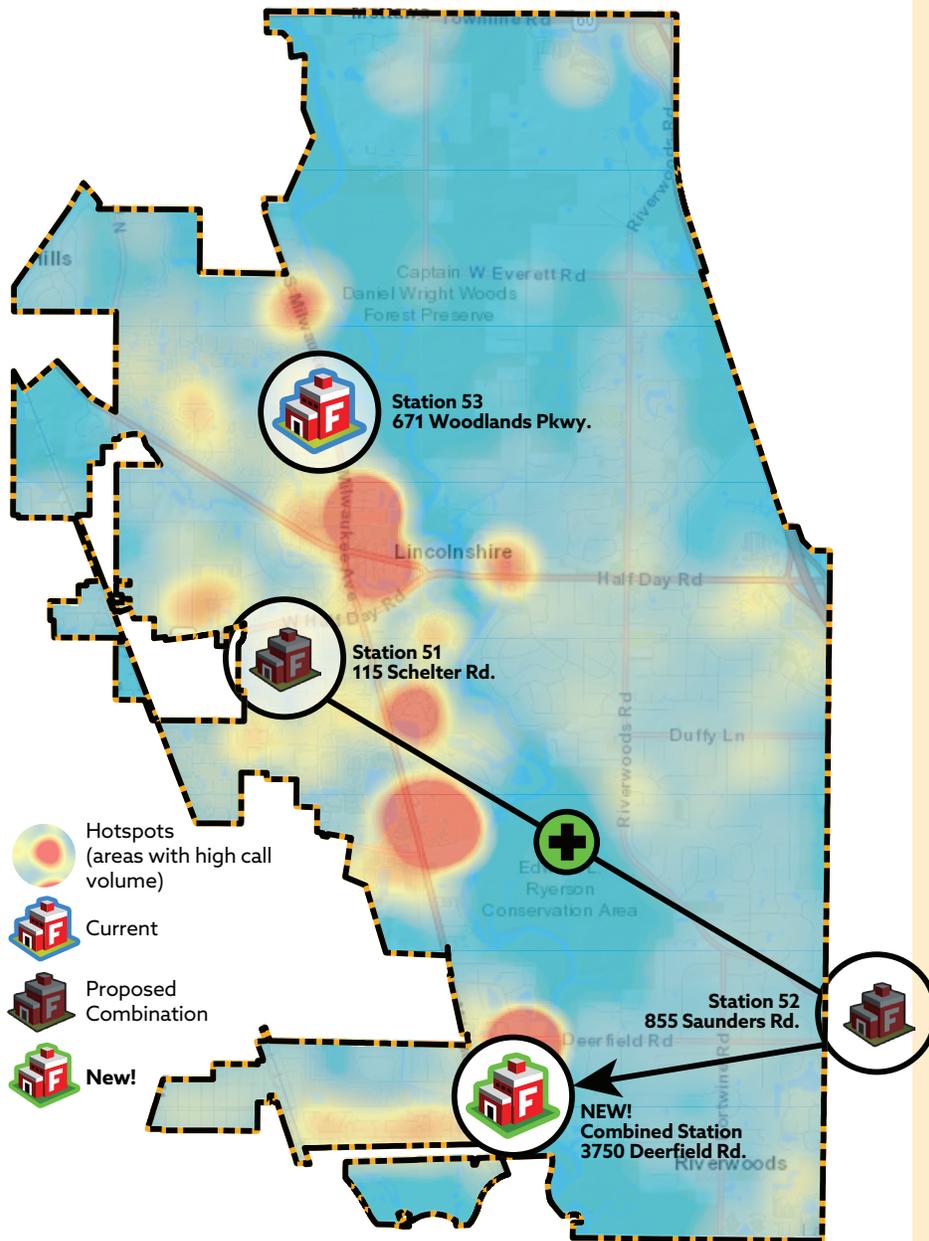
Project Phase	Cost
Planning, education, community outreach	\$60,000
Property purchase & demolition	\$2,300,000
Design & testing	\$493,000
Final design, management & engineering	\$1,600,000
Construction	\$27,581,000
Total Project Cost	\$32,034,000

Tax Impact

The referendum is for \$25 million over 20 years, and residents can expect an increase of approximately \$19 per month (\$232 annually) for a home valued at \$600,000. Funds will cover land development and construction. This approach prioritizes long-term savings by eliminating the need for costly repairs to outdated facilities.

Find out how the referendum will affect your household by going to lrfpd.org/MinutesMatter.

Map of Station Locations



The new fire station location is strategically chosen to improve emergency response times across the District and maximize coverage.

- **Proximity to Hotspots:** The new station is positioned near areas with the highest demand for service, ensuring improved response to emergencies.
- **Four-Minute Response Time:** These stations are configured to meet the current NFPA standard, with fire engines and ambulances reaching more emergencies across the District within four minutes.
- **Enhanced Coverage:** The two-station configuration covers 46% of the Total Response Area (TRA), compared to 36% with the current three-station layout.

FAQs

Q: How did the Board come to this decision?

A: In the past five years, the Board and Fire District leadership reviewed and considered the various options presented in *Illinois Fire Chiefs Association (IFCA)* studies. Land in the proposed location was limited until a joint project with Riverwoods and Lake County, Illinois, allowed for the purchase of land at 3750 Deerfield Road (on Deerfield Road east of Milwaukee Avenue).

Q: Why can't the current fire stations be renovated?

A: The stations located at Schelter and Saunders roads have reached - or are nearing - the end of their useful lives (30 years) and would need to be completely rebuilt or remodeled to accommodate a diverse workforce and meet future needs. Additionally, they are not optimally located to best respond to emergency needs.

Upgrading the existing stations to meet current and future needs and operational standards would cost between \$27 million and \$40 million, significantly more than the proposed \$25 million investment for a new, state-of-the-art facility. Renovations would not address critical location inefficiencies.

Q: Doesn't the fire department have a capital fund?

A: The Lincolnshire-Riverwoods Fire Protection District does have a capital fund to complete select updates, make limited repairs, and purchase equipment with cash. However, current available funds will not cover the total cost of the proposed project. The Fire District continues to apply for grants and other funds to leverage tax dollars.

Q: What happens if the referendum fails?

A: Without approval, the District will continue to face increasing challenges, including longer emergency response times across the District, rising maintenance costs, and outdated facilities that no longer meet the community's needs. The choice is whether to invest now or face higher costs later, when a station rebuild becomes unavoidable.



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A New Fire Station: **Because Minutes Matter**

What is the official language for the bond request?

The bond request will appear on your ballot as follows: *"Shall the Lincolnshire-Riverwoods Fire Protection District, Lake County, Illinois, construct a new fire station and purchase emergency response fleet and equipment and issue its bonds to the amount of \$25,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?"*



Vote-by-mail and early voting begins:

March 7, 2025, at Lake County Clerk's office

March 17, 2025, at designated early-voting locations

April 1, 2025: Election Day



To find more information on registering to vote, polling locations and other details, scan QR code above or visit the Lake County Voter Services page at lakecountyil.gov/332/Voter-Services.



For more information, scan QR code above or visit the Lincolnshire-Riverwoods Fire Protection District website at lrfd.org/MinutesMatter.

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