

NOTICE OF HEARING TO IMPOSE AND PROVIDE FOR COLLECTION OF FIRE PROTECTION SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

Notice is hereby given that the City Commission of the City of Bartow will conduct a public hearing to consider the rates for fire protection special assessment for the provision of fire protection services within the City of Bartow for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2025.

The public hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at City Hall at 450 N. Wilson Ave., Bartow, Florida, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed assessment rates. All affected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with the City Commission within 20 days of this notice.

Interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard. If any person decides to appeal a decision made by the City Commission with respect to any matter considered at such hearing, they will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. You must make your own arrangements to produce this record (F.S. 286.0105).

The City Commission may continue the public hearing to other dates and times as it deems necessary. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time, and place of any continuation of these or continued public hearings may be announced during the hearing and that no further notices regarding this matter will be published.

The assessment for each parcel of property will be based upon each parcel's classification and the total number of billing units attributed to that parcel. The following table shows the maximum fire protection assessment rates the City Commission will impose for FY 2025-2026.

The Fire Protection Assessed Cost will be assessed and apportioned among the benefitted parcels for Fiscal year 2025-2026 commencing October 1, 2025, as showing in the Final Fire Protection Rate Schedule below.

Maximum Fire Assessment Rates for FY 2025-2026

Property Category	Maximum Rate Per Unit Indicated	
Residential		
Single Family/Duplex		
Less than 1,250 sq. ft.	Per Dwelling Unit	\$266.21
1,250 sq. ft. to 2,000 sq. ft.	Per Dwelling Unit	\$306.09
Greater than 2,000 sq. ft.	Per Dwelling Unit	\$369.91
Multi-Family	Per Dwelling Unit	
Mobile Home	Per Dwelling Unit/Site	\$500.38 \$284.82
Nonresidential		
Commercial	Per EBU*	\$376.76
Industrial/Warehouse	Per EBU*	\$77.18
Institutional	Per Acre	\$580.74
Vacant Land/Agricultural		
Less than 1 acre	Per Parcel	\$14.16
1.0 to 4.99 acres	Per Parcel	\$71.21
5.0 to 9.99 acres	Per Parcel	\$207.48
10.00 to 19.99 acres	Per Parcel	\$383.27
20.00 or more acres	Per Parcel	\$564.17
*1.0 Equivalent Benefit Unit (EBU) = 1,000 building square feet. EBUs calculated to exact square footage of each parcel. Minimum of 1.0 EBU per building. Maximum charge of 38 EBUs.		

Copies of Fire Protection Assessment Ordinance No. 2009-09, Initial Assessment Resolution No. 09-3726-R, initiating the process of adopting the Assessment Roll and imposing the Fire Protection Assessments, Final Assessment Resolutions, Preliminary Resolutions and the preliminary Assessment Roll for the upcoming fiscal year are available for inspection at the City Clerk's office located in City Hall, 450 N. Wilson Ave., Bartow, Florida.

The assessments will be collected on the ad valorem property tax bill which will be mailed in October 2024 as authorized by section 197.3632, Florida Statutes. Failure to pay the assessments will cause a tax certificate to be issued against the property which may result in a loss of title. If you have any questions, please contact the City of Bartow at (863) 534-0100, Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
 "Area to be assessed."

