

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Friday, June 26, 2026**

**(FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, OHIO)** - On June 25, 2026, it came to the attention of the Fairfield Township Administration and Board of Trustees that information was circulating on social media regarding the recent fire levy, staffing, and the Township's budget. In an effort to provide accurate information, the Board wishes to provide factual information regarding the Township's current financial position and staffing.

We are grateful for the continued support of our community. Fairfield Township has grown from a predominantly rural township into a thriving suburban community. While that growth has increased the demand for services, townships have limited revenue sources compared to cities, making careful financial planning essential.

Although voters approved the fire levy in May 2026, the Township will not receive levy revenue until property tax collections begin in April 2027, with the second distribution in October 2027. Until then, the Township's current budget remains unchanged. The Board of Trustees and Township Administration continue to expect department leaders to responsibly manage available resources while providing services.

All departments - including Fire, Police, and Public Works – have operated with reduced staffing through attrition. To maintain services, the Police and Fire Departments have required support from other Township funds, affecting other areas of operations. The Police Department is currently staffed at levels comparable to more than a decade ago, and Public Works has also experienced staffing reductions.

Recent Fire Department staffing adjustments were necessary to reduce overtime costs, which had reached approximately \$40,000 per month, and to help sustain all Township operations until levy revenue is received. It is also important to clarify that the Fire Department is not operating with only nine personnel on duty each day. Depending on staffing, there may be 13 firefighters/paramedics plus three command staff, for a total of 16 personnel. Even when firefighter staffing is reduced to nine, three command staff are typically scheduled, resulting in 12 personnel on duty.

The Board of Trustees remains committed to protecting public safety while exercising sound fiscal stewardship. We appreciate the dedication of all Township employees and departments and the continued patience, trust, and support of the Fairfield Township community as we work through these temporary financial challenges until additional revenue becomes available in 2027.