



Dunklin Fire Rescue District

Quinterious V Thomas, Fire Chief

08/11/2025

Greenville County Council
301 University Ridge, Suite N-4000
Greenville, SC 29601

RE: Dunklin Fire Rescue District

Honorable Chairman Blount, Finance Vice Chairman Collins, Councilwoman Long,
Councilman Russo, Councilman Farmer, and Greenville County Council:

The Dunklin Fire District, established under Act No. 1182 of the Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina for the year 1968, proudly serves the unincorporated areas of Greenville County by providing essential fire protection services. Our dedicated team consists of 44 members, including 1 Fire Chief, 1 Assistant Chief, 2 Captains, 2 Lieutenants, 6 part-time firefighters, and 32 volunteers.

We remain committed to delivering professional, timely, and effective emergency services to our community. However, due to the rural nature of our district and limited economic growth, sustaining and improving our capabilities has become increasingly challenging. After careful review and discussion, we have determined that a millage increase is essential to meet operational demands and maintain the high level of service our residents deserve.

With the approval of this millage increase, we will be able to add three additional 24-hour staffing positions, ensuring full 24/7 coverage of the fire district at all times. This constant presence will guarantee that trained firefighters are always on duty and ready to respond, improving our response times and increasing our ability to protect life and property. This enhanced staffing will also assist in improving our ISO rating, benefiting our residents through improved fire protection and potential reductions in insurance premiums.

Additionally, in the past few months, the Dunklin Fire District underwent its ISO audit. The results clearly identified a critical need for the acquisition of a new tanker and service truck to better serve our community, particularly due to the limitations of our rural water system. Currently, only about 10% of the 645 households in our district can be reached with a 1,000-foot lay of a 5-inch supply line for fire suppression. This reality underscores the urgent necessity of having additional water and equipment capacity to ensure the safety and well-being of our residents.

According to the provisions contained in S.C. Code Ann. 6-11-271 and 6-11-275, as amended, special purpose districts totally located within a county, which were in existence prior to March 7, 1973, and which have the statutory authority to annually levy taxes for operations and maintenance are authorized to modify their respective millage limitations

11353 Augusta Rd Honea Path, SC 29654

(864) 369-9993

www.dunklinfiresc.com

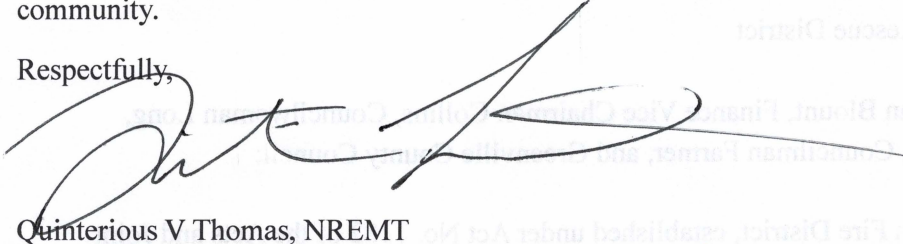
Building a Safer Community Together.

provided the increase is first approved by the governing body of the district and by the governing body of the county. The Dunklin Board of Fire Control approves the increase of twenty-seven and forty-one hundredths (27.41) mills to thirty and ninety-one hundredths (30.91) mills in addition to the ten (10) mills millage limitation authorized by Act No. 1182 of 1968, for a total millage of forty and ninety-one hundredths (40.91) mills, which represents a millage increase from last year's ad valorem property tax millage levy.

The Dunklin Fire District takes pride in it's fiscal responsibility and dedication to public safety. We respectfully request your support in approving this millage increase, knowing that it will directly enhance the readiness, equipment, and capabilities needed to protect the citizens we proudly serve.

Thank you for your consideration and for your ongoing partnership in safeguarding our community.

Respectfully,



Quintarious V Thomas, NREMT
Fire Chief
Dunklin Fire Rescue District

Millage Increase Request – FY 2026

Benefits to Our Community

Purpose of the Request

The Dunklin Fire District is requesting a millage increase to strengthen our ability to protect lives, property, and the overall safety of our residents. This request follows our recent ISO audit and a comprehensive review of operational needs.

Key Benefits to the Community

Full 24/7 Fire Protection Coverage

1. Addition of three 24-hour staffing positions ensures trained firefighters are on duty at all times by the end of FY26.
2. Immediate, around-the-clock response capability for all emergencies.
3. Faster response times improve outcomes for fires, medical calls, and rescue situations.

ISO Rating Improvement

1. Better staffing and equipment will directly contribute to lowering our ISO rating.
2. Lower ISO ratings can lead to reduced homeowner insurance premiums.
3. Improved rating reflects higher safety standards for the entire community.

Critical Equipment Acquisition

1. ISO audit identified an urgent need for a new tanker and service truck.
2. Essential for rural water supply: currently, only 10% of the 645 households can be reached with a 1,000 ft lay of a 5-inch supply line.
3. Additional equipment ensures adequate water delivery for fire suppression in rural areas.

Increased Safety & Readiness

1. Reduced service gaps and stronger incident coverage.
2. Better ability to respond to multiple incidents at once.
3. Enhanced capacity to protect both residents and firefighters.

Direct Impact

Residents: Faster emergency response, potential insurance savings, improved safety.

Fire District: Higher ISO score, stronger operational readiness, better water delivery capability.

Community as a Whole: Increased property protection, lives saved, and long-term resilience.

Our Commitment:

Every taxpayer dollar will be used responsibly to ensure maximum public safety, operational efficiency, and readiness.



Fire District Millage Request Application

Contact Information

District Name: Dunklin Fire Rescue District State FDID Number 23207
Fire Chief's Name Quinterious V Thomas Email: qthomas@dunklinfiresc.com
Mailing Address 11353 Augusta Rd City, State, Zip Honea Path, SC, 29654
Contact Person's Name: Quinterious Thomas Email: qthomas@dunklinfiresc.com
Address: 11353 Augusta Rd City, State, Zip Honea Path, SC, 29654
Phone: (864)369-9993 Fax: _____

Financial Operations

Please Check One of the Following Options:

- ☐ Our district is seeking to maintain our current millage rate
☒ Our district is seeking a millage rate increase
☐ Our district is seeking bond, lease purchase transaction approval

FD Annual Budget \$497,898.83 Value of One Mill \$11,811
FD Current Millage Rate 37.4 Value of Total Millage \$441,731.4
Taxes collected last fiscal year (July 1-June 30) \$499,263.65
Supplemental non-tax income last fiscal year (grants, fundraisers, etc.) \$139,285.38

Staffing

Deployable:
Number of Paid Firefighters 12 Number of Volunteer Fire Fighters 32
Non-Deployable:
Number of Administrative Staff 0 Communications N/A

***For the following financial measurements, please provide a dollar amount.
(Any additional pertinent information can be detailed in an attached sheet.)***

Debt Service \$120,124.82
(include annual amount of any/all payments on stations, apparatus, and equipment)

Operating Expenses \$377,774
(include all normal operating expenses, including operational overhead and salary expenses)

Reserve/Savings \$4,101
(include any/all reserve and/or savings currently on hand for breakdowns, purchases or replacements)

When did your district last request a millage increase? 2024

Was your request granted? Yes

If so, please detail your accomplishments with the additional revenue. (You may attach a separate sheet if necessary.)

With the additional revenue, we were able to increase our staffing to ensure the safety of the personnel on shift.

Performance Data

ISO Rating 4
 Population Served (daytime) 1500
 Number of Households 645

Year Rating Received 2016
 Population Served (nighttime) 2700
 Number of Businesses 12

Total Number of Calls Last Year (fiscal year?) 530

Number of Structure Fires 11
 Number of Medical Calls 410
 Number of Vehicle Fires 4
 Number Mutual Aid Calls Sent 33
 Number of Hazmat Calls 0

Number of MVA's 22
 Number of Brush Fires 12
 Number of Public Service Calls 67
 Number Mutual Aid Calls Rec'd 41
 Number of Rescue Calls 2

***For the following questions, please circle or highlight "Y" for Yes or "N" for No.
 (Any additional pertinent information may be provided in a separate sheet.)***

Is your district registered with the State Firefighter Mobilization?	Y / N
Does your district participate in the South Carolina Fire Incident Reporting System?	Y / N
Is your district in compliance with the SC Firefighter Registration Act?	Y / N
Does your district meet requirements of OSHA Standard 1910.30 for Infectious Disease Control?	Y / N
Does your district perform annual SCBA fit testing on all active personnel?	Y / N
Do your district's firefighters meet minimum OSHA training requirements?	Y / N
Does your district perform annual testing on all ground and aerial ladders to meet NFPA standard?	Y / N
Does your district meet all NIMS requirements?	Y / N
Does your district have a fire prevention program?	Y / N
Does your district have a Fire Safety inspection program?	Y / N
Does your district have a pre-fire plan program?	Y / N
Does your district meet minimum hose testing requirements?	Y / N
Does your district meet minimum pump testing requirements?	Y / N
Does your department meet minimum apparatus requirements?	Y / N
Does your district meet minimum equipment on apparatus requirements?	Y / N
Does your district have a preventive maintenance program for your apparatus?	Y / N
Does your district provide physicals to all members?	Y / N
Do all of your members meet the minimum training requirements for their specific job titles?	Y / N
Does your district meet minimum communication requirements?	Y / N
Does your district meet Narrow Band Requirements?	Y / N
Does your district house an EMS vehicle? EMS Stage trucks at our station when call volume permits	Y / N

For the following questions, please provide the more detailed information necessary to understand the complexities for your district. You may attach separate sheets as necessary to fully answer the questions.

1. Please describe any businesses or structures which require special equipment or represent potentially dangerous calls.

- Dunklin Fire District is the proud home of the Twin Chimney's Landfill. Due to the large amount of unknown substances in the landfill this creates a huge danger for our firefighters when responding to calls. One of the biggest hazards is the gas that is collected and turned into Natural Gas on the property by the Landfill Group.
- Generations Group Home is a high occupancy dormitory housing adolescent teens.
- Our district is comprised mainly of agricultural land with more landowners within our district also owning heavy farming equipment such as tractors, silos, and other operation equipment.
- Dunklin also covers 10 miles of US Highway 25, which sees many private and commercially owned vehicles traverse our district daily.
- Aeronca Road is home to a privately owned airport. Twenty-five households, all of which own small aircraft, reside on Aeronac Road.

2. Please list any mutual aid agreements or operational or resource sharing agreements your district participates in with other fire districts.

South Greenville Fire District – Automatic Aid and Mutual Aid
Canebrake Fire District- Automatic Aid and Mutual Aid
Hickory Tavern Fire Department- Automatic Aid and Mutual Aid
Friendship Fire Department- Automatic Aid and Mutual Aid
Western Laurens Fire Department- Mutual Aid
Durbin Creek- Mutual Aid

3. Please describe how, if at all, the requested millage increase will impact your district's ISO ratings.

Over the past several months, we have been undergoing our ISO audit. Because it has been more than five years since our last evaluation—and due to decisions by the prior administration to liquidate essential equipment required for ISO compliance—we have experienced a decline in our scoring. Without immediate action, our district risks losing our current ISO Class 4 rating.

While all of the specific deficiencies are not yet fully known, we do know that at minimum, we must obtain a new brush/service truck and an additional tanker to be placed in service on the Dunklin Bridge side of the district. These apparatuses are essential to meeting ISO requirements, ensuring adequate water supply in non-hydrated areas, and improving our operational effectiveness.

In addition to equipment needs, the requested millage increase will allow us to enhance our staffing model. Currently, Station 27 (Dunklin Bridge Station) operates Monday through Friday with one firefighter on duty, and Station 26 (Headquarters) is staffed Monday–Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursday–Sunday with 24-hour coverage. With the increase, we will add three additional 24-hour shifts, resulting in full 24/7 coverage at Station 26 every day of the week. This improvement will strengthen emergency response capabilities, reduce turnout times, and contribute positively to our ISO scoring.

The requested millage increase is essential to reversing our downward trend. It will enable us to replace critical equipment, restore operational readiness, and expand staffing to ensure consistent district-wide coverage. These improvements will position us to request a re-evaluation and work toward maintaining—and potentially improving—our Class 4 rating, ultimately helping ensure lower insurance costs and stronger fire protection for our community.

4. Please describe the tax-exempt properties in your district and the services you provide to these entities.

- Twin Chimney's Landfill (13 calls for service) – Fire Protection, Fire Response for Medical, Pre-Incident Fire Surveys, and Building Inspections.
- Seven Churches (4 calls for service) – Fire Protection, Fire Response for Medical, Pre-Incident Fire Surveys, and Building Inspections.
- Generations Group Home (7 calls for service) – Fire Protection, Fire Response for Medical, Pre-Incident Fire Surveys, Building inspections, and Christmas Day present delivery.
- Loretta C Woods Park and Rec Center (2 Calls for service) – Fire Protection and Fire Response for Medical.

Please assign a priority rating to your millage increase request from the following options: Priority 1

Priority 1: Without the increase, we cannot continue to provide the level of service that we are giving currently. Our ISO ratings could be affected negatively. The need is dire.

Priority 2: Without the increase, we cannot purchase needed equipment to improve the level of service we are currently giving. ISO ratings may or may not be improved. This priority level also allows for needed specialty equipment to be acquired.

Priority 3: Without the increase, we can continue to provide excellent service to our district, but the increase will allow us to improve our operation in an exemplary way. ISO ratings may potentially be improved.

Opportunity for Council person(s) statement:

I, **Rick Bradley**, County Council representative to this fire district, **Support** / **Do Not Support** this request.

I, _____, County Council representative to this fire district, **Support** / **Do Not Support** this request.

I, _____, County Council representative to this fire district, **Support** / **Do Not Support** this request.

Please include with your application the following documents:

- A formal letter from the Commission stating the intentions to either maintain or increase millage;
- Last year's financial audit;
- A five-year plan (spreadsheet) showing projected revenues as well as operating and capital expenditures;
- Any background information necessary to justify the need of a millage increase; and
- A signed resolution from the governing body approving the operating/capital plan and millage increase.

All applications should be mailed or emailed to:
Greenville County Finance Committee
Ted Lambrecht, Deputy County Administrator
301 University Ridge, Suite N-4000
Greenville, SC 29601

or

tlambrecht@greenvillecounty.org

	Audited Budget FY24 Budget		FY25 Budget		FY26 Budget		FY27 Budget		FY28 Budget		FY29 Budget	
	July 1 2023 - June 30 2024		July 1 2024 - June 30 2025		July 1 2025 - June 30 2026		July 1 2026 - June 30 2027		July 1 2027 - June 30 2028		July 1 2028 - June 30 2029	
Tax Based Income	\$	368,669.00	\$	441,849.51	\$	483,069.90	\$	507,283.00	\$	531,495.00	\$	555,117.00
EMS Station Rental	\$	3,000.00	\$	1,500.00								
Grants	\$	15,250.00	\$	15,250.00	\$	15,000.00	\$	15,000.00	\$	30,000.00	\$	15,000.00
Interest Earnings	\$	-	\$	-	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
InnovaPAD	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Landfill	\$	13,500.00	\$	13,500.00	\$	18,000.00	\$	20,000.00	\$	22,000.00	\$	24,000.00
Loan	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Sale of Excess Equipment/Donations	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00
Income Total	\$	400,919.00	\$	472,599.51	\$	521,569.90	\$	547,783.00	\$	588,995.00	\$	599,617.00
CAPITAL OUTLAY TOTAL												
Capital Outlay												
KME Pumper Payment	\$	65,687.32	\$	65,687.32	\$	65,687.32	\$	-	\$	20,000.00	\$	20,000.00
Tanker Payment	\$	42,871.50	\$	42,871.50	\$	42,871.50	\$	42,871.50	\$	42,871.50	\$	42,871.50
Chief Car Payment	\$	11,566.00	\$	11,566.00	\$	11,566.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
CAPITAL OUTLAY TOTAL	\$	120,124.82	\$	120,124.82	\$	120,124.82	\$	42,871.50	\$	62,871.50	\$	62,871.50
Recurring Payments												
County Storm Water Runoff Fees	\$	375.00	\$	375.00	\$	500.00	\$	375.00	\$	375.00	\$	375.00
Insurance -(Auto, Equipment, Liability)	\$	23,516.48	\$	24,457.14	\$	27,173.00	\$	28,259.92	\$	29,390.32	\$	30,565.93
Insurance - Sickness/Wellness	\$	3,000.00	\$	3,120.00	\$	1,948.00	\$	2,025.92	\$	2,106.96	\$	2,191.24
MedTrans Corp.	\$	1,200.00	\$	1,300.00	\$	-	\$	1,300.00	\$	1,300.00	\$	1,300.00
Professional Fees	\$	15,800.00	\$	16,800.00	\$	15,000.00	\$	20,000.00	\$	20,000.00	\$	20,000.00
Travel	\$	1,000.00	\$	3,000.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	3,000.00	\$	3,000.00	\$	3,000.00
RECURRING PAYMENT TOTAL	\$	44,891.48	\$	49,052.14	\$	45,621.00	\$	54,960.84	\$	56,172.27	\$	57,432.16
Fleet												
Fuel	\$	11,000.00	\$	12,000.00	\$	15,000.00	\$	18,000.00	\$	18,000.00	\$	18,000.00
Fleet Maintenance / Repairs	\$	25,000.00	\$	25,000.00	\$	25,000.00	\$	28,000.00	\$	30,000.00	\$	30,000.00
FLEET TOTAL	\$	36,000.00	\$	37,000.00	\$	40,000.00	\$	46,000.00	\$	48,000.00	\$	48,000.00
Equipment												
Commnications Equipment / Repairs	\$	17,431.00	\$	8,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00
Medical Equipment / Repairs	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00	\$	3,000.00	\$	3,000.00	\$	3,000.00
FireFighting Equipment / Repairs	\$	5,000.00	\$	4,000.00	\$	4,000.00	\$	6,000.00	\$	6,000.00	\$	6,000.00
Grant Match / Fees	\$	-	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,500.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00
Ground Ladders Testing	\$	1,000.00	\$	600.00	\$	600.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00
SCBA Batteries	\$	350.00	\$	450.00	\$	550.00	\$	650.00	\$	650.00	\$	650.00
SCBA Flow Tests	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	2,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
SCBA Repairs	\$	2,000.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	750.00	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00
Turnout Gear	\$	15,000.00	\$	30,000.00	\$	15,000.00	\$	25,000.00	\$	25,000.00	\$	25,000.00
Uniforms	\$	5,000.00	\$	6,000.00	\$	6,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00
EQUIPMENT TOTAL	\$	52,281.00	\$	58,550.00	\$	37,400.00	\$	65,150.00	\$	72,650.00	\$	72,650.00
Personnel												
Dues	\$	1,800.00	\$	2,000.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00
Stipend Coverage	\$		\$	5,900.00	\$	6,000.00	\$	6,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00
Medical Physicals	\$	500.00	\$	800.00	\$	800.00	\$	1,200.00	\$	1,200.00	\$	1,200.00
Part Time Payroll	\$	86,528.00	\$	121,480.00	\$	139,880.00	\$	188,056.00	\$	195,578.24	\$	205,578.24
Payroll taxes	\$	7,364.24	\$	10,480.45	\$	11,494.40	\$	22,566.72	\$	24,786.78	\$	27,786.78
Chief Salary	\$	29,500.00	\$	31,200.00	\$	31,200.00	\$	33,136.00	\$	33,136.00	\$	35,000.00
Chief Payroll taxes	\$	3,100.75	\$	3,556.75	\$	3,368.00	\$	4,150.00	\$	4,150.00	\$	4,950.00
Workers Comp.	\$	6,000.00	\$	7,000.00	\$	8,620.45	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00
Scheduling Software					\$	980.16	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00
PERSONNEL TOTAL	\$	134,792.99	\$	182,417.20	\$	202,343.01	\$	266,108.72	\$	281,851.02	\$	297,515.02
Buildings												
Building Maintenance / Repairs	\$	4,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	12,000.00	\$	12,000.00
Electric	\$	7,500.00	\$	7,500.00	\$	9,000.00	\$	9,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00
Natural Gas	\$	4,600.00	\$	4,700.00	\$	4,700.00	\$	4,700.00	\$	4,700.00	\$	4,700.00
Office Furniture	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Online Subscriptions	\$	3,300.00	\$	9,000.00	\$	9,196.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00
Satellite / Cable	\$	1,560.00	\$	2,000.00	\$	1,200.00	\$	1,300.00	\$	1,400.00	\$	1,400.00
Station Furniture	\$	1,200.00	\$	1,200.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Station / Office Supplies	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00	\$	4,500.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	6,000.00	\$	6,000.00

Telephone / Internet	\$	5,500.00	\$	6,000.00	\$	3,960.00	\$	3,960.00	\$	3,960.00	\$	3,960.00
Trash Pickup Service	\$	350.00	\$	350.00	\$	600.00	\$	600.00	\$	600.00	\$	600.00
Water	\$	420.00	\$	450.00	\$	450.00	\$	550.00	\$	550.00	\$	550.00
BUILDINGS TOTAL	\$	31,930.00	\$	44,200.00	\$	43,606.00	\$	45,110.00	\$	49,210.00	\$	49,210.00

Training

Department Training	\$	3,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
Training Reimbursement	\$	-	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00
TRAINING TOTAL	\$	3,000.00	\$	5,500.00	\$	5,500.00	\$	5,500.00	\$	7,000.00	\$	7,000.00

Junior Program

Junior Trainings and Operations	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00
JUNIOR PROGRAM TOTAL	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00

Community Outreach

Fire Prevention	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	500.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00
Recruitment / Retention	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00
COMMUNITY OUTREACH TOTAL	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00

MISC.

Berevement	\$	300.00	\$	200.00	\$	200.00	\$	200.00	\$	200.00	\$	200.00
Christmas Dinner	\$	2,500.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00
Misc. Other	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00
Public Notices	\$	100.00	\$	100.00	\$	100.00	\$	100.00	\$	100.00	\$	100.00
MISC. TOTAL	\$	3,400.00	\$	1,800.00	\$	1,800.00	\$	2,300.00	\$	2,300.00	\$	2,300.00

Expenses Total	\$	428,420.29	\$	500,644.16	\$	497,894.83	\$	530,001.06	\$	582,054.79	\$	598,978.68
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