

Statement of Need
For consideration at the Finance Committee Meeting of April 21, 2025

The Brookfield Special Purpose Tax District hereby requests a millage rate increase from the current 9.1 mills to 12.5 mills. This is necessary so that our income can cover our anticipated expenses.

INCOME

Over the last five years, the income derived from our tax base has fallen significantly behind the Consumer Price Index. Since the last millage rate change imposed by the County in 2021, we estimate that our annual tax income is now roughly \$3,000 less than it would have been if income kept up with the CPI, namely about \$25,000 versus \$28,000

EXPENSES

We have “routine” and “special” expenses

ROUTINE EXPENSES

Our largest routine expense is for landscape maintenance. This includes weekly mowing during the growing season, plus application of appropriate herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, and irrigation. In addition there are many hedges and shrubs that require annual trimming. There are fairly extensive (potential) planting beds which currently simply receive 3” of mulch a year to keep down weed growth.

The other routine expense is for lighting. We provide the community with 38 street lights and one metered lighting circuit for our entry sign.

SPECIAL EXPENSES

From time to time it is necessary or advisable to conduct special landscaping projects. These may be to improve safety by maintaining good sight lines for traffic, or they may be to install or remove plantings as needed to maintain favorable aesthetics for the community. For example, we have at least a dozen juniper bushes right now that are dead or dying and should be removed. And there are large areas currently just covered in mulch that would benefit from appropriate plantings.

In effect, we have a fair amount of “deferred maintenance” to tend to.

Other events are unpredictable, such as storm damage; we need a “rainy day fund” to take care of them.

A very large expense is repaving the Recreation Area parking lot. Although this is infrequent, the expense is substantial. Since the Brookfield Special Purpose Tax District is not authorized to take loans, we must accumulate funds toward this repaving project, which is estimated to be in the range of \$50,000 to \$60,000.