

**TOWN OF CAREFREE, ARIZONA  
RESOLUTION 2022-19**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE  
TOWN OF CAREFREE, ARIZONA, RESTRICTING THE USE OF PRIMARY  
PROPERTY TAXES TO OFFSET THE LONG-TERM COSTS TO PROVIDE FIRE AND  
EMERGENCY SERVICES AND TO QUALIFY FOR REGIONAL AUTOMATIC AID**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Carefree (the “Town”) provides fire and emergency medical services to its residents, guests and businesses through a hybrid model, whereby the Town owns all fire facilities and equipment while contracting with Rural Metro for fire and emergency medical services and personnel; and

**WHEREAS**, with respect to fire and emergency medical services, the Town is currently at high risk during simultaneous, long-duration and/or large-scale emergency events if regional support cannot be provided by nearby fire and emergency medical service providers; and

**WHEREAS**, if additional resources and personnel are currently required during an emergency event, the Town’s regional support is provided through the discretionary mutual assistance process known as “Mutual Aid”; such Mutual Aid from nearby fire and medical service providers is not guaranteed; it is subject to availability of resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Scottsdale has recently cancelled a Mutual Aid Agreement with Rural Metro, and the Town of Fountain Hills is cancelling its master contract with Rural Metro to form its own municipal fire department. These collective external actions have further isolated the citizens of Carefree from regional support for fire and emergency medical services; and

**WHEREAS**, a more efficient and robust regional emergency dispatch program exists within the metropolitan Phoenix-Mesa area, whereby fire and emergency medical resources from all participants are automatically dispatched to appropriately allocate resources to areas of need without the necessity of a request for assistance (referred to as “Automatic Aid”); and

**WHEREAS**, this Automatic Aid regional approach is overseen by its partners through the Life Safety Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the Life Safety Council has represented that they will not permit Rural Metro to participate in the Automatic Aid system; and

**WHEREAS**, over the past year, the Town has conducted an extensive citizen participation program to evaluate how to qualify for the regional Automatic Aid emergency dispatch system; and