

# TOWN OF AMSTERDAM

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, NEW YORK

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FORT JOHNSON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #2

MAP, PLAN and REPORT

August, 2023

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## **SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION**

The Village of Fort Johnson, located in the Town of Amsterdam, Montgomery County, New York, voted to dissolve the Village government effective December 31, 2023. The Town of Amsterdam is proposing the formation of the Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2 to continue fire protection services to those properties currently contained within the boundaries of the Village of Fort Johnson. Under New York State Town Law, towns are not permitted to operate fire departments and the only means towns have to provide fire protection service is through the formation of a fire district or a fire protection district. Without a district or fire protection district, the Town has no mechanism to provide fire protection services nor to allocate the cost of the fire protection services to the benefited users and to collect taxes and user fees associated the fire protection service.

This Map, Plan and Report presents data and information that will enable the Town Board to consider the establishment of the Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2.

The Village of Fort Johnson currently contracts with the Fort Johnson Voluntary Fire Company to deliver services for the area encompassing the entire Village. The Village funds the services through the Village property tax levy. In addition, the Village of Fort Johnson and the Fort Johnson Volunteer Fire Company have entered into an inter-municipal agreement with the Town of Amsterdam to provide fire protection services to a sub-area of the Town known as the Fort Johnson Fire Protection District. The Town funds the services through the levy of property taxes on the properties included within the boundaries of the existing Fort Johnson Fire Protection District.

The Fort Johnson Volunteer Fire Company, with its principal place of business located at 4 Fort Johnson Avenue, Fort Johnson, NY 12070, is a not-for-profit organization duly organized and authorized to do business in the State of New York. It is dedicated to the delivery of fire protection services.

## **SECTION 2: SERVICE PROVISION**

It is proposed that the Town of Amsterdam contract with the Fort Johnson Volunteer Fire Company to provide fire protection services to the properties within the boundaries of the current Village of Fort Johnson through the proposed Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2.

The provider shall provide adequate fire protection services and respond to all calls for fire protection. The services to be provided by the Fire Protection District #2 through a contract with the provider shall be provided seven (7) days a week and twenty-four hours per day. Services include but are not limited to:

- Structural Firefighting
  - External Structural Firefighting
  - Interior Structural Firefighting
- Grass/Forest Firefighting
- General Firefighting
  - Vehicles & Equipment
  - Carbon Monoxide Calls
  - Other Non-Structural Firefighting
- Rescue
  - Vehicle & Equipment Extrication
  - General Search & Rescue
  - Confined Space
  - Water Rescue
- Emergency Medical Services - Basic Life Support
- Hazardous Materials Response
  - Fire Responder awareness only

### **SECTION 3: BENEFITS OF FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FORMATION**

Per the U.S. American Community Survey (ACS) 2015-2019, the Village had a population of 467 persons. The total land area of the Village is .7 square miles. All property owners and residents are reliant on fire protection services from the Village Fire Department. With the dissolution of the Village scheduled for December 31, 2023, it is critical that the Town address the fire protection services needed by the property owners and residents of the area currently known as the Village.

### **SECTION 4: FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOUNDARY**

The proposed ambulance district boundary consists of the entire area currently known as the Village of Fort Johnson in the Town of Amsterdam, Montgomery County, New York. A municipal boundary map is provided in **Appendix A: Town of Amsterdam Proposed Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2 Boundary Map** and a boundary description is provided in **Appendix B: Proposed Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2 Boundary Description**. The Proposed District will include all parcels within the District.

**SECTION 5: IMPLEMENTATION**

The Fire Protection District needs to be established with an effective date of January 1, 2024 at 12 a.m. in order to provide continuity of fire protection services. It is anticipated that the District will be established in time to be included in the budget process for Town of Amsterdam’s fiscal year 2024 Budget and the first Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2 tax levy will be included in the 2024 Town of Amsterdam tax bill. Upon creation, the Town Board is responsible to oversee the Fire Protection District.

**SECTION 6: PROPOSED ANTICIPATED PROPERTY TAX RATE**

**Proposed Funds to be Raised by Property Taxes**

The final cost for services will be established through the development and adoption of the 2024 Town Budget. It will take into consideration the executed agreement between the Town and its provider upon approval by the Town Board after contractual negotiations. **Table 1: Fire Protection Costs**, depicts the current annual Village of Fort Johnson Fire Department budgeted appropriations and estimated 2024 budget for the Proposed Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2.

**Table 1: Fire Protection Costs**

	Adopted 2023-2024 Budget Village of Fort Johnson Fire Department	Proposed 2024 Budget Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2
Contractual	\$20,200	\$36,143
Insurance	\$2,600	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,800</b>	<b>\$36,143</b>

The tax levy for fire protection services for District #2 is estimated to be \$36,143 for Town fiscal year 2024.

**Estimated Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2 Property Tax Rate**

The proposed property tax rate is calculated by dividing the estimate for the amount to be raised by property taxes by the taxable assessed value of the properties in the proposed Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2. The taxable assessed value of the proposed Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2 is \$23.07991/\$1,000 of taxable assessed value. Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2 taxpayers can expect an estimated tax bill based on assessed value as outlined in **Table 2: Estimated Property Tax Bill**.

**Table 2: Estimated Property Tax Bill**

<b>Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2</b>	
<b>Estimated Property Tax</b>	
<b>Assessed Value</b>	<b>Estimated Bill</b>
\$4,000	\$92
\$5,000	\$115
\$6,020	\$139
\$7,000	\$162
\$8,000	\$185
\$9,000	\$208
\$10,000	\$231
\$11,000	\$254
\$12,000	\$277
\$14,000	\$323
\$16,000	\$369

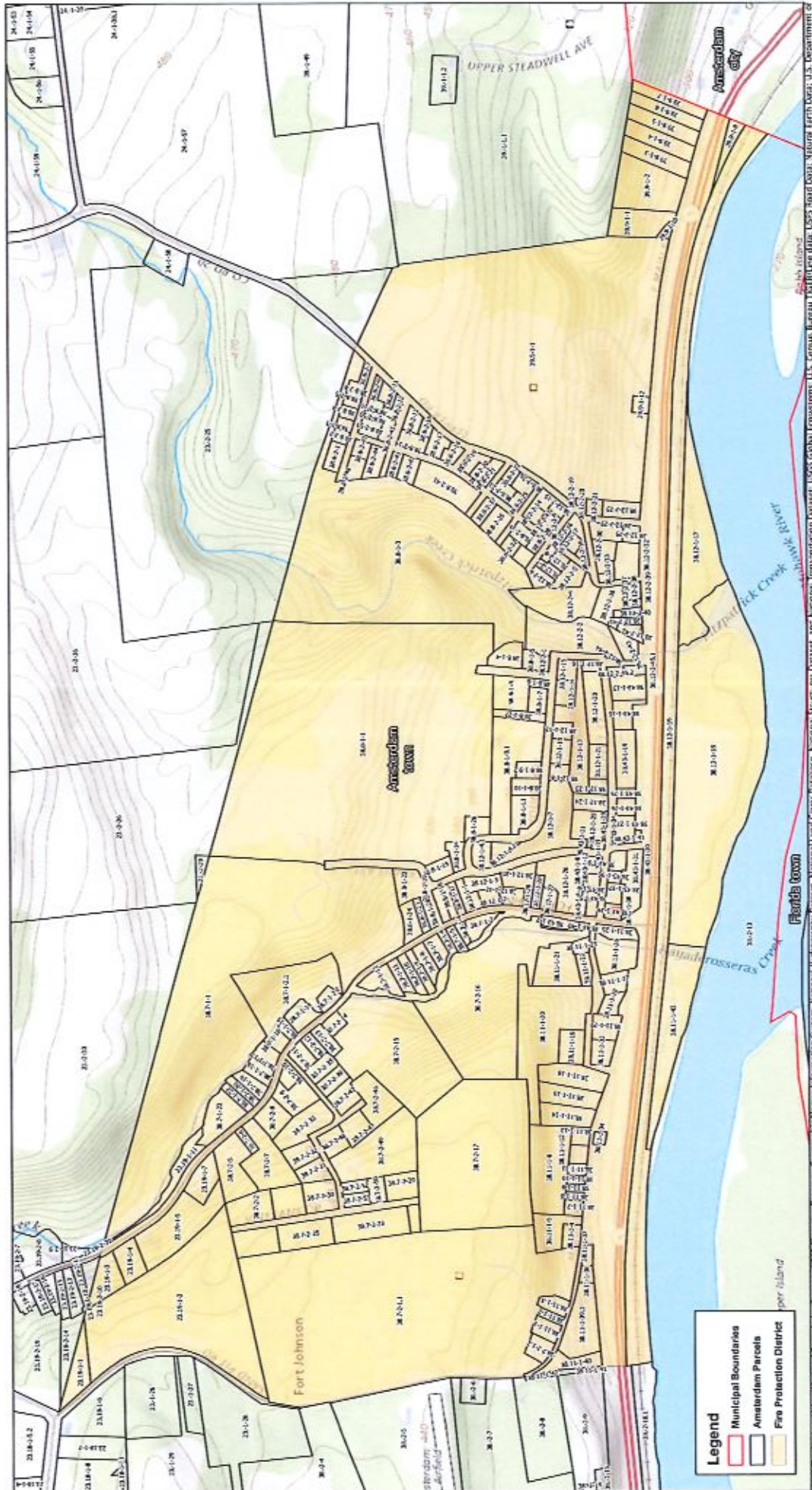
**Typical Residential User Cost**

A home owner with a median taxable assessed value of \$6,030, would pay approximately \$139 annually in property taxes for fire services through the Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2.

# **APPENDIX A**

## **PROPOSED DISTRICT BOUNDARY MAP**





USGS The National Map; National Boundaries Dataset, 2019 Greenway Program, Geographic Names Information System, National Hydrography Dataset, National Land Cover Database, National Transportation Dataset, USGS Global Ecosystems, U.S. Census Bureau TigerLine data, USGS National Wetlands Inventory, U.S. Department of State Humanitarian Information Unit, and NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information, U.S. Coastal Relief Model. Data released April, 2023.



Accuracy not guaranteed. Map for illustrative purpose only.  
 Produced by Laberge Group Data provided by NYS GIS  
 Clearinghouse 2022. Job#2022124



# Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2

## Montgomery County, New York

**APPENDIX B**  
**PROPOSED**  
**DISTRICT BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Town of Amsterdam  
Montgomery County, New York  
Proposed Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2  
District Description  
April 21, 2023

BEGINNING AT A POINT on the centerline of Sand Pit Road where it intersects with the centerline of Antlers Road and then continuing southerly along the centerline of Sand Pit Road to the right-of-way's intersection with the northwestern boundary of Tax Parcel 38.11-1-40 at average bearing of 175 degrees for 3,142 feet;

THENCE, southerly along the western bounds of Tax Parcel 38.11-1-40 to the intersection of said parcel's southwest bounds with the northern bounds of the Mohawk Turnpike right-of-way at bearing 173 degrees for 429 feet;

THENCE, southerly across the Mohawk Turnpike right-of-way to its intersection with the northwest bounds of Tax Parcel 38.12-1-19 at bearing 171 degrees for 148 feet;

THENCE, southerly along the western bounds of Tax Parcel 38.12-1-19 to its southwest bounds at bearing 177 degrees for 47 feet;

THENCE, easterly along the southern bounds of Tax Parcels 38.12-1-19, 38.11-1-43, 38.12-1-18, 38.12-1-17, and 38.12-1-19 to the southeast bounds of Tax Parcel 38.12-1-19 at average bearing 96 degrees for 7,713 feet;

THENCE, northerly along the eastern bounds of Tax Parcels 38.12-1-19 and 39.9-1-8 to the intersection of the northeast bounds of Tax Parcel 39.9-1-8 with the NYS Route 5 right-of-way at bearing 23 degrees for 258 feet;

THENCE, northerly across the NYS Route 5 right-of-way to the southeast bounds of Tax Parcel 39.9-1-7 at bearing 24 degrees for 133 feet;

THENCE, northerly along the eastern bounds of Tax Parcel 39.9-1-7 to its northeast bounds at bearing 21 degrees for 480 feet;

THENCE, westerly along the northern bounds of Tax Parcels 39.9-1-7, 39.9-1-6, 39.9-1-5, 39.9-1-4, 39.9-1-3, 39.9-1-2, and 39.9-1-1 to the intersection of the northwest bounds of Tax Parcel 39.9-1-1 with Tax Parcel 39.5-1-1 at bearing 280 degrees for 952 feet;

THENCE, northerly along the eastern bounds of Tax Parcel 39.5-1-1 to its northeast bounds at bearing 354 degrees for 1,302 feet;

THENCE, westerly along the northern bounds of Tax Parcel 39.5-1-1 to its intersection with the Lower Lapper Road right-of-way at bearing 301 degrees for 511 feet;

THENCE, westerly across the Lower Lapper Road right-of-way to its intersection with the northeast bounds of Tax Parcel 38.8-1-3 at bearing 298 degrees for 39 feet;

THENCE, westerly along the northern bounds of Tax Parcels 38.8-1-3, 38.8-1-1, and 38.7-1-1 to the intersection of the western bounds of Tax Parcel 38.7-1-1 with the Fort Johnson Avenue right-of-way at average bearing 287 degrees for 5,592 feet;

THENCE, westerly across the Fort Johnson Avenue right-of-way to the northwest bounds of Tax Parcel 23.19-1-3 at bearing 282 degrees for 85 feet;

THENCE, westerly along the northern bounds of Tax Parcels 23.19-1-3, 23.19-1-2, 23.19-1-10, and 23.19-1-1 to the intersection of the northwest bounds of Tax Parcel 23.19-1-1 with the Sand Pit Road right-of-way at bearing 288 degrees for 887 feet;

THENCE, westerly across the Sand Pit Road right-of-way at bearing 261 degrees for 91 feet to the POINT AND PLACE OF BEGINNING.

Intending to describe the bounds of the proposed Fort Johnson Fire Protection District #2. All Tax Parcel numbers are as of the 2022 Roll Year.