

I encourage your YES vote on Prop 404 as an investment in the future of the outstanding care and service we experience and expect from our firefighters, police officers, and emergency personnel.

We're all feeling squeezed by economic pressures and our initial reaction to being asked to pass a ½ cent sales tax (.50 on a \$100 purchase) might be “no way”. But I ask us to consider whether we'll be better off in 15 years if Prop 404 passes and we have additional firefighters—all trained in wildland firefighting. This means increased wildland and urban fire mitigation, lowering our risk of catastrophic wildland fire. We'll also be able to hire more firefighters with specialized medical training, such as paramedic credentials, to respond to emergencies.

The Flagstaff's Police Department will, over the span of the 15-year life of the sales tax, hire additional sworn officers and staff. This will enable faster responses to all types of emergency calls, additional detectives conducting thorough investigations, more traffic patrols, police aides to manage non-emergency calls, public outreach and education, and more dispatchers and evidence technicians.

Emergency management created an emergency management plan for every type of emergency—informed by fire, police, and surrounding first responders. The Emergency Manager is responsible for triggering emergency plans, coordinating disaster response efforts, ensuring the public is provided timely information, and that all city divisions are activated where the emergency impacts city services.

Proposition 404 passing will achieve faster response times, faster management of 911 calls, and better-coordinated emergency responses.

Voting YES will ensure that Flagstaff continues to be ready for any emergency, achieves faster response times, and that we care for Flagstaff's emergency responders who are always there for us.

Becky Daggett
Mayor of Flagstaff