



Dear Community Member:

For many years, the Bayou Vista Volunteer Fire Department has diligently worked to improve the city's Public Protection Classification (PPC). On behalf of our Fire Chief John Venzke, Fire Captain Robert Doolittle, and the BVVFD Board of Directors, it is my honor and privilege to announce that we have accomplished that goal!

The PPC rating is the score given by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) and is used by many U.S. insurers to determine — among other things — prices for personal and commercial property insurance. Ratings are based on the following three categories:

1. Fire department capabilities;
2. Water supply;
3. Dispatch/communication capabilities.

Improvements made by the BVVFD over the past 10 years include providing 24/7 coverage for fire and emergency protection by a certified EMT/firefighter, continued commitment to training, and improvements to our firefighting and water supply equipment.

Previously, our city's PPC rating was a 7 (on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being the best and 10 being the worst). **As of July 2016, our PPC rating will be officially reclassified to a 4.** It is often difficult for smaller communities with limited financial resources and manpower to obtain the lowest score, however, this was part of our promise to the community when we asked for a conversion of the voluntary fee to a mandatory one. We are proud to announce that we have fulfilled that commitment!

Please contact your insurance company and let them know of our new rating. If they request documentation, please direct them to [www.bayouvista.us](http://www.bayouvista.us). The letter has been posted on the city's website under the Fire Department - ISO tab.

We thank all of you who supported and helped pass the proposition placed on the ballot in May 2014 to make the monthly voluntary contribution of \$15.00 a mandatory fee. The BVVFD's now stable source of revenue has allowed the necessary upgrades to equipment, etc., which definitely aided in reaching a lower PPC rating.

Sincerely,

Paula J. Eshelman, President  
Board of Directors