

# COUNTYWIDE FIRE PREVENTION & RESPONSE PROPOSED MEASURE H, MARCH 2024



*"Funding from a countywide measure will allow the Northern Sonoma County Protection District, which serves approximately 25% of the County of Sonoma's landmass, including the County's most wildfire prone areas, to improve and increase services. We plan to use measure funding to increase staffing at the Geyserville Fire Station, fund the construction and 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of the staffing for a new fire station in southern Alexander Valley, fund half a fire prevention officer position, and fund the fire district to provide countywide vegetation management services. Additionally, funding will be used to provide paramedic (advanced life support) services."*

- **Marshall Turbeville**, Northern Sonoma County Fire Protection District's Fire Chief

## REVENUE WILL PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING TO COUNTY RESIDENTS

- Recruitment and retention of local firefighters
- Improved response times
- Increased wildfire prevention and response
- Expanded paramedic services
- Infrastructure improvements
- Red flag and winter storm upstaffing
- Provide staffing to rural and underserved communities
- Supports an improved local dispatch center
- Enhanced vegetation management and fuels reduction
- Provides collaborative technology platforms

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### ➤ How much will this tax generate?

This ½ cent sales tax is expected to generate approximately \$60 million annually to address the current and future funding challenges that face EVERY fire agency in the county.

### ➤ How will the expenditures be governed?

Revenue will go directly to fire agencies. Their governing bodies, either City Councils or District Boards will be responsible for ensuring that the funds are spent in accordance with the ordinance. Additionally, an independent oversight committee will review the expenditures of each agency.

### ➤ How much funding will my local fire department get?

Northern Sonoma County Fire Protection District will receive 5% of the annual tax revenue, estimated at \$3 million, to improve fire prevention and emergency response, plus an additional 5% (another \$3 million) for countywide vegetation management utilizing hand crews and equipment to reduce future wildfire intensity.

### ➤ What will the funding be used for?

- Hire and retain 15 additional local firefighter/paramedics
- Funding for volunteer firefighters
- Increased fire prevention and vegetation management resources
- Critical facility upgrades at two fire stations



**For more information, please visit  
[SonomaChiefs.org](http://SonomaChiefs.org)**

