

COUNTYWIDE FIRE PREVENTION & RESPONSE PROPOSED MEASURE H, MARCH 2024



"We plan to use funds from the countywide measure to allow the Gold Ridge Fire Protection District to recruit and retain highly skilled fire fighters, enhance our fire prevention capacity including fuels management projects that align with the community wildfire protection plan CWPP, improve emergency medical response in the rural and often underserved portion of the county, and prepare for the next flood, fire, or major disaster that we may encounter. Additionally, we plan to use the funds to support critical infrastructure improvements to ensure our facilities are adequate for many years. The revenue will be managed by your local Fire District Board and will directly enhance the safety of the communities served by The Gold Ridge Fire District."

- **Shepley Schroth-Cary**, Gold Ridge Fire Chief

REVENUE WILL PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING TO COUNTY RESIDENTS

- Recruitment and retention of local firefighters
- Improved response times
- Increased wildfire prevention, preparedness, 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?

Your local fire department will receive 2.89% of the annual tax revenue, estimated at \$1.7 million.

➤ What will the funding be used for?

- Hire and retain additional skilled local firefighters
- Funding for volunteer firefighters
- Improved response times in rural areas
- Enhanced fire prevention resources
- Facility upgrades



**For more information, please visit
SonomaChiefs.org**

