

COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 19 MEASURE K

K **MEASURE K:** Paramedic Services Special Tax. To protect life-saving paramedic services by maintaining rapid response times, providing advanced heart attack treatment, and keeping trained paramedics on fire engine companies, shall Ordinance No. 3546 be approved to increase up to \$23.00 annually the current rate on residential units, and up to \$0.03 per square foot annually the current rate on non-residential structures; and shall the County of Marin’s appropriation limit be correspondingly increased?

YES

NO

COUNTY COUNSEL’S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE K

COUNTY SERVICE AREA 19 SPECIAL TAX INCREASE

If this measure is approved by a two-thirds vote, County Service Area 19 would be authorized to increase its existing special tax for paramedic services by up to twenty-three dollars (\$23), for a maximum of up to one hundred-eight dollars (\$108) for each living unit, and by up to three cents (3¢), for a maximum of up to fourteen cents (14¢) per square foot of non-residential structures, and the County of Marin’s appropriations limit would be increased by an amount equal to the total proceeds of the special tax.

s/PATRICK K. FAULKNER
County Counsel

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE K

This Measure increases an assessment begun in 1980, to provide paramedic services. Approval must be by two-thirds of those voting, every four years.

Our County Service Area No. 19 contracts with the San Rafael City Fire Department to provide emergency medical response in our unincorporated area.

This Measure does two things: (1) it increases the maximum annual assessment from the current \$85 to \$108 for each household, and (2) increases the maximum tax, per square foot for each non-residential structure, from the current \$0.11 to \$0.14 per square foot.

For the past four years, the maximum rate per household was \$85. To account for future cost increases, this Measure provides the authority to increase the maximum amount to \$108 over four years. The actual rate is set by the Board of Supervisors annually, determined by actual costs, in negotiation with the City. The cost of service is determined by the number of households and commercial properties in the unincorporated area surrounding San Rafael.

Because the San Rafael Fire Department can leverage their existing stations, vehicles, and expert personnel, they can provide the best possible response time for medical emergencies, and the highest quality of emergency medical care, at lower cost than a private ambulance. The program is designed to provide critical emergency services to all those in need, regardless of ability to pay. If a resident of C.S.A. 19 called a private ambulance company the Basic Life Support charge would be hundreds of dollars, plus supplies and mileage charges. By comparison, the life-saving service we receive from this Measure is a real bargain.

If this Measure does not pass, the City of San Rafael can terminate paramedic service to our community.

WE STRONGLY URGE YOU TO VOTE “YES” TO MAINTAIN THIS CRITICAL SERVICE.

s/MARK WALLACE
CSA 19 Board Member

s/NANNI WURL
Former CSA 19 Board Member

s/TAD INOUE JR
Past SYNA President

s/CHRISTINE GABBARD
Venetia Valley PTA President

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE K WAS FILED.

**FULL TEXT OF MEASURE K
ORDINANCE NO. 3546**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MARIN COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS INCREASING THE
AMOUNT OF THE SPECIAL TAX FOR PARA-
MEDIC SERVICES IN COUNTY SERVICE AREA 19**

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MARIN AND COUNTY SERVICE AREA 19 DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I. Authority, Purpose and Intent. This ordinance is adopted pursuant to Article 3.5 of Chapter 1, Part 1, Division 1, Title V (Sections 50075, et seq.) of the California Government Code, and it is the purpose and intent of this ordinance to impose a special tax on property within this Area for purposes of funding paramedic services. In 2006, voters approved a special tax up to the amount of \$85 per year for each dwelling unit and up to the amount of 11 cents per square foot for each non residential structure.

SECTION II. Upon enactment of this ordinance and voter approval, as hereinafter provided, an increase in the special tax for the purposes outlined in Section I hereof in up to the amount of \$23 for a total amount of \$108.00 per year for each living unit, and up to the amount of \$0.03 for a total of \$0.14 per square foot for each non-residential structure shall become effective.

SECTION III. Method of Collection. The special tax imposed by this ordinance for the purposes outlined in Section I is due from every person who owns a living unit or non-residential structure within this Area as reflected upon the rolls of the County Assessor at the same time ad valorem tax is due and is to be collected in the same manner. The Marin County Tax Collector shall collect the tax and any penalty or interest due hereunder. The full amount due under this ordinance shall constitute a debt to the Area.

An action for the collection of any tax due hereunder may be commenced in the name of the Area in any court having jurisdiction of the cause.

SECTION IV. Delinquencies. To any amount of the tax created by this ordinance which becomes delinquent, the Marin County Tax Collector shall add a penalty in an amount equal to any penalties owing for delinquencies in the ad valorem property tax. The tax and penalty shall bear interest at the same rate as the rate for unpaid ad valorem property tax until paid.

SECTION V. Severance Clause. If any section of this ordinance is held invalid or unenforceable by any court and such judgment becomes final, then that section may be amended by a majority vote of this Board to conform with the judgment of such court, provided such amendment is consistent with the purpose and intent of this ordinance.

If any section, subsection, sentence, phrase or clause of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this ordinance. The people of County Service Area 19 hereby declare that they would have adopted this ordinance, and each section, subsection, sentence, phrase or

clause thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, phrases or clauses may be declared invalid.

SECTION VI. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective not later than thirty (30) days after its adoption by the Board of Supervisors, but shall not take effect unless and until it is approved by two-thirds of the voters voting upon this ordinance at an election to be held on November 2, 2010.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of County Service Area 19, held on the 27th day of July 2010, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS Susan L. Adams, Harold C. Brown, Jr., Charles McGlashan, Steve Kinsey, Judy Arnold

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

s/JUDY ARNOLD
President, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:
s/MATTHEW HYMEL
Clerk