

KENTFIELD FIRE DISTRICT MEASURE G

G

MEASURE G: To maintain rapid emergency medical response services, protect our homes and businesses from fire, keep property insurance rates manageable, and continue the District’s long term fiscal well-being, shall the voters of Kentfield Fire District repeal the existing fire tax and replace it with a special tax of 10¢ per building square foot, retain the existing rate for vacant parcels, and increase the District’s appropriations limit, with all revenue staying in our local community?

YES

NO

**COUNTY COUNSEL’S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE G
KENTFIELD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT SPECIAL TAX**

If this measure is approved by a two-thirds vote, the Kentfield Fire Protection District will repeal the existing fire tax and replace it with a special tax of 10¢ per building square foot of total building area for improved parcels and twenty dollars (\$20) per acre for 1st through 5th acre inclusive; fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per acre for 6th through 25th acre inclusive; and ten dollars (\$10.00) per acre for 26th acre and any additional acres for unimproved parcels with the appropriations limits increased by the amount equal to the proceeds of the special tax.

s/STEVEN M. WOODSIDE
County Counsel

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE G

The Kentfield Fire District works diligently to maintain high levels of emergency medical response and fire protection services for our community, while making fiscal responsibility a top priority. The Fire District recently renovated the fire station making it earthquake damage-resistant, and replaced all outdated equipment with the essential modern technology needed to keep this community safe. Both upgrades were completed under budget.

Going forward, the Fire District will maintain this responsible, transparent approach to managing the costs of fire and emergency response services. Since 1980, the current tax measure has provided the ability to work within a balanced budget and plan for the future. While Kentfield Fire District hasn’t asked for a tax increase in the last 33 years, costs have significantly increased. With Measure G, the Fire District will be able to responsibly and adequately provide for the long-term safety and security of our community.

A Yes Vote Will:

- Ensure the existing high level of fire protection and emergency medical response services
- Continue local control over fire protection and emergency response in Greenbrae and Kentfield
- Maintain rapid emergency response times
- Provide the ongoing ability to pay for current costs and services with current dollars
- Sustain high property values and high quality of life in this community
- Maintain the current fire risk rating to prevent increases in fire and home insurance costs

Kentfield Fire District has a strong record of solid fiscal accountability. Over the past five years, the Fire District has reduced overhead and administrative costs, increased the level and quality of service, and continued to be an active part of the Kentfield and Greenbrae communities. A Yes vote on Measure G will sustain this investment in public safety. Please join us in supporting our local community by voting yes on Measure G.

s/BRUCE CORBET

Fire District Director/Business Owner

s/RALPH McLERAN

Fire District Director/Realtor

s/PAUL HOMRIGHAUSEN

Kentfield Resident

s/DAVID GLENN

Greenbrae Resident

s/NATHANIEL FOX

Kentfield Resident

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE G WAS SUBMITTED.

**FULL TEXT OF MEASURE G
RESOLUTION 4-2013
KENTFIELD FIRE DISTRICT
1004 SIR FRANCIS DRAKE BLVD,
KENTFIELD, CA 94904**

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE KENTFIELD FIRE DISTRICT ADOPTING INTENDED BALLOT LANGUAGE AND CALLING AND PROVIDING FOR AN ELECTION TO BE HELD IN SAID DISTRICT ON NOVEMBER 5, 2013 FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS THE QUESTION OF THE ADOPTION OF A SPECIAL FIRE TAX FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSE AND FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES, AND REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO CONSOLIDATE WITH ANY OTHER ELECTION CONDUCTED ON SAID DATE, AND REQUESTING ELECTION SERVICES BY THE MARIN COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, The Kentfield Fire Board of Directors is authorized and charged to provide emergency response and fire protection services; and

WHEREAS, significant increases in fire protection and emergency medical service costs and community needs have occurred since the 1980 passage of the existing special fire tax known as Ordinance No. 1-80; and

WHEREAS, the Kentfield Fire District's (hereafter referred to as the District) current funding sources, including the current special fire tax are inadequate to fund the desired level of emergency medical and fire protection services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of the Kentfield Fire District (hereafter referred to as the Board) has determined that it is in the best interests of the District's citizens to ensure the ongoing and long-term fiscal integrity of the District while continuing to provide the appropriate levels of emergency medical response and fire protection services for the local community; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to responsibly increase the funds available for fire protection and emergency medical response services by proposing a balloted special fire tax to the local community; and

WHEREAS, if approved by the voters, the proposed special fire tax will be used solely for the purpose of maintaining and improving the current level of public safety services within the District, with all funds staying in the Kentfield and Greenbrae local community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE KENTFIELD FIRE DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

It is the determination of the District that the Uniform District Election to be held on the 5th day of November,

2013, at which election the issue to be presented to the voters shall be:

To maintain rapid emergency medical response services, protect our homes and businesses from fire, keep property insurance rates manageable, and continue the District's long term fiscal well-being, shall the voters of Kentfield Fire District repeal the existing fire tax and replace it with a special tax of 10¢ per building square foot, retain the existing rate for vacant parcels, and increase the District's appropriations limit, with all revenue staying in our local community?

1. **Consolidation of Election.** An election is hereby called for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters within the District, the question of the adoption of a special tax for fire protection and prevention. This election shall be consolidated with the November 5, 2013 Uniform District Election in Marin County and with any other applicable election conducted on the same day.

2. **Use of Funding.** If approved by the voters, the special tax will be used solely for the purpose of supporting and providing fire suppression, prevention, rescue and emergency medical services within the District.

3. **Election Services and Canvassing.** The District authorizes and directs the Elections Department, at District expense, to provide all necessary election services and to canvass the results of said election.

4. **Election Costs.** Pursuant to Elections Code Section 10002, the District shall reimburse Marin County in full for the services performed upon presentation of a bill to the District.

5. **Repeal of the current special tax.** The special tax currently imposed within the Kentfield Fire District, continually levied since 1980, is hereby repealed if Measure G is approved by two-thirds of the voters of the Kentfield Fire District. The 1980 special tax is currently imposed in an amount not to exceed 6 cents (\$0.06) per square foot of improved floor area, as well as a graduated annual tax on unimproved parcels ranging from between \$10 and \$20 per acre for fire protection and emergency medical response.

6. **Tax Imposed.** An annual special tax on each parcel within the Kentfield Fire District is hereby imposed as follows:

(A) **Improved Parcels.** In an amount not to exceed 10 cents (\$0.10) per square foot of total building area. The phrase "total building area" is hereby defined as total structural floor area including living area, garage, as well as any auxiliary structures on the parcel

(B) **Unimproved Parcels.** Twenty dollars (\$20.00) per acre for 1st through 5th acre inclusive; fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per acre for 6th through 25th acre inclusive; and ten dollars (\$10.00) per acre for 26th acre and any additional acres.

7. **Inflation Adjustment.** The Board of Directors may annually, by resolution passed by a simple majority of the Board, adjust the rate by an amount based upon changes in the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA Consumer Price Index (CPI) or 3% WHICHEVER IS LESS. The District will consider changes using data provided by the United

States Bureau of Labor Statistics, for the preceding calendar year (or, if discontinued, a comparable index), as of December of each succeeding year. Under no circumstances can the cost of living adjustment be put in place without the proposed modification of the fee being publicly noticed and placed on the agenda of the Kentfield Fire District Board of Director's regular meeting with an opportunity for public input and discussion.

8. Tax Rate. The Board of Directors shall determine annually, based on a budget recommended to the Board, whether the basic tax rate shall be revised to reflect changes in charges and costs. If the Board determines that the basic tax rate shall be revised at a rate lower than set forth in Section 6 and 7 hereof, it shall so revise said rate by resolution passed by a simple majority of the Board.

9. Increases of Appropriations Limit. Pursuant to Article VIII B of the California Constitution, the appropriations limit of the Kentfield Fire District shall be increased in the amount equal to the proceeds of the special tax.

10. Method of Collection. The special tax imposed by this ballot measure is due from each owner of record of a parcel within the Kentfield Fire District 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 special tax shall constitute a debt to the Kentfield Fire District.

11. Separate Accounting & Expenditure. The special tax revenues shall be deposited into a separate account held by the Marin County Treasurer, in accordance with Government Code Section 50075.1, and shall be expended according to a budget developed annually by the District staff and approved and adopted by the District's Board of Directors.

12. Annual Reporting. The District will cause to be filed an annual report with its Board of Directors, which report shall include the amount of special tax revenues collected and expended, and which shall otherwise comply with the accountability measures established in Government Code Sections 50075.1 et seq.

13. Effective Date. This special tax shall be deemed established and shall be in effect as of the day following the election date of November 5, 2013, upon certification of the election results evidencing approval by at least two-thirds of the participating registered voters, and approved by the Board of Directors of the District.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Kentfield Fire Protection District, County of Marin, held on the 24th day of July, 2013 by the following vote:

AYES: 4

NOES: 0

ABSENT: Director Murray

s/STEVEN R. GERBSMAN, Chairman
Board of Directors
Kentfield Fire District

ATTEST:

s/BRUCE CORBET, Vice-Chairman
Board of Directors
Kentfield Fire District