COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 31 MEASURE N

MEASURE N: Fire Suppression Special Tax. To maintain current fire suppression services and staffing, shall a special tax be approved to permit increases: $38 annually above the current rate on living units, $19 annually above the current rate on unimproved parcels and $57 above the current rate for improved commercial or industrial parcels; and shall the County of Marin’s appropriation limit be correspondingly increased?

YES

NO

COUNTY COUNSEL’S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE N

COUNTY SERVICE AREA 31 SPECIAL TAX INCREASE

If this measure is approved by a two-thirds vote, County Service Area 31 would be authorized to increase the existing special tax for fire suppression from (1) seventy-six dollars ($76) to one hundred fourteen dollars ($114) per living unit, (2) from thirty-eight dollars ($38) to fifty-seven dollars ($57) for each unimproved parcel, and (3) from one hundred fourteen dollars ($114) to one hundred seventy-one dollars ($171) per improved commercial or industrial parcel, and the County of Marin’s appropriations limit would be increased by an amount equal to the proceeds of the special tax.

s/PATRICK K. FAULKNER
County Counsel

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE N

CSA 31 Fire Suppression Special Tax

Approved by the voters in 1994, CSA 31 was established to help preserve fire response services. The amount of the parcel tax has not been changed since it was adopted 16 years ago.

Due to the economic downturn, the County has substantially reduced other services but has to date protected emergency response services. Measure N proposes an additional $38 per improved parcel per year, $19 per unimproved parcel per year and $57 per improved commercial parcel per year to partially make up for funding that the fire services has lost because of inflation over the past 16 years. These funds will be used exclusively to protect fire suppression and response services.

If this measure does not pass, the County will be forced to consider reductions in fire services that would lengthen fire response times.

We urge your “YES” vote to keep these vital fire services for our community.

s/DAVID CORT
Executive Director-
San Geronimo Valley Community Center
s/PAUL D. SMITH
s/CHARLES GOMPERTZ
s/KEITH PAPULIAS
s/PETER VALCONESI

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE N WAS FILED.
FULL TEXT OF MEASURE N
RESOLUTION NO. 2010-68
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE MARIN COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 31 CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE CONSOLIDATED WITH THE NOVEMBER 2, 2010 GENERAL ELECTION ON A MEASURE APPROVING AN INCREASE IN A SPECIAL TAX FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011; ADOPTING INTENDED BALLOT LANGUAGE; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin does hereby resolve as follows:

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is the governing board of County Service Area No. 31 within the unincorporated area of the County of Marin, which Area has extraordinary needs owing to demands upon the services of said Area;

WHEREAS, a previous election of imposition of special taxes was held in County Service Area No. 31 pursuant to Articles XIIIA and XIIIB of the California Constitution, and Article 3.5, Chapter 1, Part 1, Division 1, Title V (§§50075, et seq.) of the California Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the previously approved voter tax is $76 per living unit, $38 per unimproved parcel and $114 per improved commercial or industrial parcel;

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to increase the special tax as follows: (1) per living unit by $38 for a total amount of $114 per living unit; (2) per unimproved parcel by $19 for a total of $57 per unimproved parcel; and (3) per improved commercial or industrial parcel by $57 for a total of $171 per improved commercial or industrial parcel;

WHEREAS, an increase in the imposition of said tax is required to meet the costs of fire suppression.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Board hereby calls an election to be consolidated with the November 2, 2010, general election, at which election the issue to be presented to the voters of County Service Area No. 31 is as follows:

COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 31
FIRE SUPPRESSION
SPECIAL TAX MEASURE

To maintain current fire suppression services and staffing, shall a special tax be approved to permit increases: $38 annually above the current rate on living units, $19 annually above the current rate on unimproved parcels and $57 above the current rate for improved commercial or industrial parcels; and shall the County of Marin’s appropriation limit be correspondingly increased?

YES _____    NO _____

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the election is consolidated with the statewide general election and any other elections to be held within Marin County on November 2, 2010, and that it include in its proclamation or notice of the election that Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Division 9 of the Elections Code relating to arguments concerning county measures applies, and the County Counsel is directed to prepare an impartial analysis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to Elections Code section 10418, all proceedings related to, connected with, and incidental to the election shall be regulated and performed in accordance with the provisions of law regulating the statewide election.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the special tax if approved by 2/3 vote of the electorate, for the purposes outlined herein, is due from every person who owns a living unit, unimproved parcel or commercial or industrial parcel 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.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that passage or failure of this measure shall not affect the existing special tax.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any part of this Resolution is held invalid the remainder of the Resolution shall not be affected.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of County Service Area No. 31, 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