

August 5, 2022

Dist 1

Nevada County Board of Supervisors
950 Maidu Ave.
Nevada City, CA 95959

RE: Nevada County Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Transactions and Use Tax: "Pay Me Now or Pay Me Later"

Dear Sirs and Madams,

As a 20-year Nevada County resident, a day does not go by when my mind has some level of focus on the potential for a wildfire in our community. No one can dispute we are in a wildfire crisis that our community must address immediately, or our future will suffer the devastation of Paradise and Greenville. In the short term, I fear the loss of property value and local economic growth due to the extreme wildfire potential in our community.

The question is how can we meet this challenge?

Early evidence is that fuel reduction is working to lessen the impact of community damage due to wildfire, and also supports the efforts of heroic firefighters. However, the costs of fuel reduction work, plus the creation of emergency evacuation routes and fire-hardening our structures are extraordinarily high.

Private landowners can only bear a small percent of the cost (\$3,000 per acre on average). Fuel reduction is not a one-time thing. It must be an annual investment by property owners, and could be considered itself as a "tax." While federal, state and private grants are available to some who meet the stringent qualifications, these are too small and not accessible for too many people. Critical secondary emergency routes are not being created because private property owners— individually or as neighborhoods could never fund these "public works" projects, and no public funds exist to subsidize them. No coordinated effort exists for applying funds to the most critical needs.

This is not a problem that individual private property owners can address alone. It takes a coordinated community solution.

A new funding stream, that would be managed in a coordinated way so that investments are made in places of highest risk to the most important assets, that cannot be addressed through other available resources is needed. The proposed ordinance/ballot measure to Article 9 to Chapter V of the Nevada County General Code imposing a one-half cent "Nevada County Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Transactions and Use Tax" for critical emergency services makes the most sense for the times we live in.

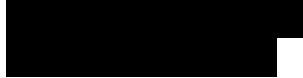
No one likes an increase in taxes. But this is a "pay me now or pay me later" situation. Property owners may scoff at an additional half cent tax, but the cost of fuel reduction on our own is far more expensive, and the cost of rebuilding when our community burns in a wildfire is worse. Such a tax could also ensure the funds would be applied to the most critical areas of need, to protect all of us, rather than the areas only property owners of certain wealth can afford to do.

I urge the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to let the voters decide and adopt the proposed ordinance/ballot measure be placed on the next regularly scheduled County and Statewide General Election on November 8, 2022.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marty Coleman-Hunt".

Marty Coleman-Hunt



From: [Diane](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Wildfire Prevention Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 4:29:09 PM

Unable to identify Dist

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Please put this important measure on the ballot and allow the citizens to vote on this. Very few services are as critical to all of us as emergency services. The people need to vote on this funding source. Thank you. Diane Christ

From: [Stephen Greenberg](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: comment re "Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness" measure
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 4:14:32 PM

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Board of Supervisors -

Wildfire risk isn't going anywhere; on the contrary, fire seasons are getting longer and more dangerous. As longtime Nevada County residents (District 1) and parents of a USFS hotshot wildland firefighter, we urge you to pass this measure and place the 1/2-cent sales tax on the November ballot. We'll gratefully support it.

Thanks,

Stephen & Marianne Greenberg



From: [R.B](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Measure
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 3:55:42 PM

Dist 3?

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Greetings Supervisors

I am writing to encourage you to place the subject half-cent sales tax on the November 2022 ballot.

Many thanks for the great work you all do.

Ray Bryars



From: [Ann Barbour](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Proposed sales tax measure
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 4:00:47 PM

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We live just outside Nevada City, and like most everyone else close to Nevada City and Grass Valley, we are in a high fire danger area. We have spent untold hours and lots of money to create defensible space around our home but it's clear it won't be enough in the event of a fire like the recent ones in our area. For that reason, we urge the supervisors to put the proposed sales tax measure on the November ballot. While increasing this tax may not be palatable to some, it will generate much needed monies to fight fires that affect us all.

Sincerely,
Ann & Alan Barbour



From: [Aaron Siniscalco](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please put sales tax on the ballot
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 5:34:54 PM

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I please ask you to vote to place this issue on the ballot for citizens to decide.

Thank you,
Aaron Siniscalco



From: [Kurt Lorenz](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Upcoming meeting next Tuesday
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 7:36:52 PM

Dist 4

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Voicing my strong support for the Board to agree to put the proposed 1/2 cent sales tax, for fire suppression issues, on the ballot for November.

There will be plenty of time to argue the issue pro or con, but first it has to go on the ballot. Please vote yes to put the issue before the voters.



From: [Gary Griffith](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Special tax to reduce wildfire risk
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 7:39:07 PM

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Dear board of supervisors,

I live in district 3, adjacent to the Empire Mine State Historic Park. Our community, [REDACTED], is in fact surrounded on three sides by the park. So, when we started the process in our neighborhood to become a FireWise Community and began the risk assessment that is part of that process, it became clear that whatever we did in the way of fuel reduction and home hardening, as important as that was, it was what happened in the state park to reduce wildfire risk. So, regarding a potential tax for the county targeting ways to reduce wildfire risk, if it is flexible enough to address these kinds of larger concerns, I would likely be very supportive. If it doesn't do so, then, I would have a hard time seeing the value of such a tax for our neighborhood, or indeed to many in the greater community. Reducing wildfire risk means dealing with the big issues that individuals cannot tackle on their own. I hope your vision for reducing wildfire risk takes that broad view.

Thanks so much,

Gary Griffith
[REDACTED]

From: [Christie Gillison](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Tax for helping with fires
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 6:40:21 AM

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Board of Supervisors;

Please put the question of a tax for fire assistance on the ballot. I thought that it was planned for the ballot, and just heard that it may not appear.

Of course no one likes tax increases. **But** to be able to do something to reduce fires is HUGE and is very important to this community.

Thank you for your time.

Christie Gillison



From: [Tom Stockton](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Proposed sales tax for Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 10:50:36 AM

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Dear Supervisors,

I am sending this email to encourage you to **put the subject sales tax measure on the November ballot.**

Wildfires are now a constant danger in Nevada County and additional funds are needed to help prevent and mitigate the effects of these fires.

We [REDACTED] are presently working to become a Firewise Community and I would like to state that the Nevada County Coalition of Firewise Communities is doing a tremendous job in helping to combat the dangers posed by these fires.

Again, I encourage you to **put the measure on the ballot.**

— Tom Stockton
[REDACTED]

From: [Kathleen Hare](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Tax measure
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 11:13:15 AM

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I support putting the tax measure on the ballot. With all the fire danger, the tax is needed.
Kathleen Hatr

Sent from my iPhone

From: [perissa busick](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: WILDFIRE PREVENTION
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 11:48:07 AM

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Please place the one half cent tax for wildfire prevention on the November ballot.
thank you. Perissa Busick

From: [Linda](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Wildfire, emergency , disaster measure
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 12:18:09 PM

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Hello,

I am in support of creating the "wildfire prevention, emergency services , and disaster readiness" measure.

Thank you,
Linda Cohen



From: [Andy Berg](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Measure V - 1/2 cent sales tax
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 8:04:03 AM

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I am Andrew Berg and I live on [REDACTED]
Firewise community.

I fully support the goals of the proposed Measure V and I request that the measure be put on the ballot.

I am particularly interested in fuel breaks and their maintenance, green waste disposal sites and rapid fire response.

Please put it on the ballot so The People Can Vote.

Regards,
Andrew Berg

From: [Patricia Kaminski](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Support for the fire safety tax
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 10:11:18 PM

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Board of Supervisors – please **lead** on this issue.

\$12 million dollars in only a drop in the bucket, but its a start.

Please show your leadership on this and do not get engulfed in politics.

This is not a partisan issue. Fires don't decide who is on what side of the political divide when they rage through our lands, and neither should we.

Thank you,

Patricia Kaminski

From: [Richard Katz](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Proposed 1/2 cent sales tax for fire prevention programs
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 9:42:38 PM

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I tried to use the online comment feature, but it seems not to be working. It keeps timing out when trying to establish an account. Please fix this, as it is very frustrating.

So, here is my comment:

The proposed Wildfire Prevention program is crucial to our well being. It seems to be a well-crafted and responsible approach. The investment upfront in prevention will save many times the amount in fire fighting and disaster relief costs, as well as avoiding much suffering and economic loss by the wildfire victims and our community. Furthermore, a sales tax means our visitors help fund the program. Please put this on the ballot so we can approve it in November. I am a business owner and a resident of Nevada County for 44 years.

Richard Katz

From: [David Morris](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Measure V 1/2-cent sales tax proposal
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 2:51:09 PM

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As a homeowner living on [REDACTED], we are acutely aware of the fire dangers. We ask that the Board of Supervisors put Measure V on the ballot in November. A ½-cent sales tax is not burdensome and would immensely help in financing further reduction practices.

Thank you,

Carole Morris

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Robin Reves](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness" measure on the November 8th General Election ballot
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 9:27:50 AM

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To the Nevada County Board of Supervisors:

I strongly support the measure to generate revenue to use for the intended wildfire prevention and disaster readiness. We know throughout the western states the ongoing need to continue fuel reduction and preparing evacuation routes in case of wildfire. As a community, we must be responsible. As stated, grants often require local matching funds. Please place the measure on the November 8th general election ballot.

Robin Lavery-Reves



Sent from my iPad

From: [Shirley Benedick](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Fire tax
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 12:07:03 PM

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Yes I Am an elderly home owner and I am concerned about fire . I can't do the work myself nor afford to have it done. I support a tax to help us keep grass valley green in a way that keeps us free of fire.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Shirley Benedick](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Fire prevention
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 1:54:15 PM

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Fire prevention is of primary importance in our County. Please put the fire prevention tax on the ballot in the next election. We need to create a revenue stream for community assistance in fire prevention as well as emergencies . I am a retired woman who has lived at [REDACTED], a small street a few blocks from downtown Grass Valley, for almost 36 years. But I am surrounded by trees, brush and open fields. I hire someone in the spring to do weedeating in my yard but in a few months Without rain some plants dry up and others go wild. So there is more to be done—I can't keep up with it. And there are neighbors whose property adjoins mine who have the same problem. We could use some help. It's a community issue just like policing for community safety.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ember Amador](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Support for Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Measure
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 12:07:38 PM

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Dear Board of Supervisor,

I want to express my strong support for the Board of Supervisors putting the Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services And Disaster Readiness Measure on the November Ballot. As a resident, voter and community member living and working in Nevada County, it is my belief that money going towards protecting the lands we live and rely on is one of the best ways to spend and I would gladly pay an increased sales tax for greater protection of these lands. I live in the 95959 zip code, in County territory, specifically on a long, narrow road with only one way out. This neighborhood would be in extreme danger should a fire ignite in or near it. Many in our neighborhood have already been taking measures to clear, burn, prepare however we're able - but it wouldn't be enough if we were ground zero for an incident. I urge you to put this measure on the ballot and allow the voters to decide.

A measure would respond to community priorities such as:

- Removing Flammable Brush
- Improving Evacuation Routes
- Enhancing Emergency communication
- Improving Enforcement: Improve enforcement of fire safety laws and illegal campfires that increase the threat of wildfires countywide.
- Creating Defensible Space: Help low-income seniors and people
- Providing year round Free Green waste

This is an important opportunity to **express** our priorities and needs. Please let us engage our rights and our voices.

Sincerely,

Ember Amador (she/her)



From: rcadduci@gmail.com
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Measure
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 12:08:52 PM

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I support the proposed sales tax measure to raise funds to mitigate the risks of fire in Nevada County. It is critical that the county have sufficient funds to clear roadside vegetation. Many people may face severe consequences if vegetation burns while people are fleeing a fire, much like what happen in Paradise.

I consider myself fortunate that the roads were not on fire during the river fire, and I was able to safely evacuate.

Please vote to put this measure on the ballot.

Rosalie Adduci

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: barry@angells.org
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services, and Disaster Readiness
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 1:03:58 PM
Attachments: [signature.asc](#)

Dist 1

Dear Supervisor,
I support the proposed Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services, and
Disaster Readiness Measure. I hope you will support it too.
- Barry Angell

[REDACTED]

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

From: [Lew Sitzler](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: ballot tax
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 1:26:29 PM

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Dear Supervisors, I live on [REDACTED]. Fire is a constant danger in our county. Please vote YES to put the tax on the ballot. The revenue generated by its passage will help to keep us all safer. Thank you, Lew Sitzler

With every breath we take, we inhale oxygen made by trees, plants and grass. With every exhalation, we breathe out carbon dioxide, needed by these same plants to survive. So, we are not that separate from trees and plants. In fact, we are in relationship with them. We need them. They need us." David Michie.

Lew Sitzler

[REDACTED]

From: [ktriolo](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services, and Disaster Readiness Measure
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 1:36:31 PM

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To the Nevada County Board of Supervisors:

My name is Kathy Triolo and I live in the area known as [REDACTED].

I am asking you to vote YES to allow the proposed Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Measure to be on the ballot.

As a resident who has had to anxiously evacuate our home due to the Jones Fire two years ago, I support any reasonable action that will help Nevada County prepare for fire and disaster readiness. If you've visited Paradise, which is similar terrain to Nevada County, you'll know about the myriad issues they experienced during a fast moving devastating wildfire. We have been told by the local fire department that they will not be able to save our home in case of wildfire due to location and terrain, even though we are very close to Sierra College and Nevada Union High School.

Why wait to react when plans can be put into place NOW!

Please vote YES on putting this measure on the ballot so that our voters can participate in helping our county with wildfire prevention.

Thank you,
Kathy Triolo

Vice President
Nevada County Camera Club

[REDACTED]

From: [Metrailer](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Wildfire Ballot Proposal
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 2:17:35 PM

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Dear Supervisors: I'm writing to request that you all vote YES on the issue of putting the Wildfire proposal on the ballot. Like many Nevada County residents, we live on a winding private road with access to only one other narrow county road that eventually leads out to a highway where we might get options to escape a wildfire. I feel it's critically important that this measure gets on the ballot, if nothing else so that we can all get a realistic picture of what such a fire would mean for us, what resources are available in the county to evacuate all our rural areas, how well able we are to fight the fires and to help those who are displaced. A ballot measure will lead to thoughtful discussion of these issues and help us decide how best to vote on such a proposed new tax. Please let us have this important discussion as voters and taxpayers; our future as a county may depend upon our decisions here. Thanks for listening,

Rosemary Metrailer, [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

From: [Julie Baker](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Richard A. Baker](#)
Subject: Public Comment on Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Measure (Proposed)
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 2:37:17 PM

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August 7, 2002

To whom it may concern:

As longtime residents of Nevada County, we strongly support the proposal for a ballot measure to raise sales taxes by .05 cents for Nevada County Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Transactions and Use Tax for critical emergency services and other general government use. We've read the staff report and believe the CEO's office has done the necessary due diligence to ascertain if there is public will to support this measure as well as how to ensure accountability and transparency of the process.

The \$11,000 it will cost to bring the ballot measure to the public is monies well spent. There is no greater role for the Board to manage than our public safety. Prevention of wildfires is rightly so, our communities greatest concern. It is imperative we do everything we can to prevent Nevada County from the tragedies of nearby communities such as Paradise, CA.

The Board should also be concerned with our economic viability. We have seen several outstanding community members move out of this community citing the threat of wildfire as a primary reason. We must do everything we can to keep our community safe from wildfires with our eyes wide open that this challenge is not going away but can be prevented if we come together. We are resilient and with your leadership, we can also live safely as a thriving, healthy community.

Thank you,

Julie and Richard Baker

[Redacted signature block]

[Redacted signature block]

From: [Sara Greensfelder](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please vote yes on the Wildfire Prevention sales tax increase on Tuesday, August 9
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 2:43:45 PM

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Dear Supervisors,

I am writing to you both as an individual and as the resident leader of the [REDACTED].

I urge you to vote “yes” to place the Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services, and Disaster Readiness Measure on the November ballot.

Some of our major evacuation routes on [REDACTED], including [REDACTED], [REDACTED] are badly in need of renewed fuel clearance. Several wildfires were ignited in homeless encampments last year [REDACTED]. On hot summer days, [REDACTED] river crossings, Edward’s and Purdon, are often too congested with parked vehicles for emergency service vehicles to pass through. Our firewise communities and neighborhoods could use assistance to increase fuel clearance along evacuation routes on the many privately-maintained roads [REDACTED].

My understanding is that revenues raised by a half-cent sales tax could help mitigate at least some of the above issues, as well as helping to provide a match for much-needed federal and state grants that could fund related services and projects. I therefore urge you to vote “yes”.

Sincerely,
Sara Greensfelder

[REDACTED]

From: [Cathy Melior Benoit](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Cathy Melior Benoit](#)
Subject: Yes: Tax on Ballot can help Community.
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 2:53:19 PM

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With appreciation ... "Awareness to Knowledge".

Please place on ballot:

Well-planned communication and action
with funding will help.

Community - individual responsibility -
education needed.

Additionally, well-prepared Airport, Pilots, Planes
to coordinate as needed is most significant.

[REDACTED],

Cathy Melior Benoit
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [jreves](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Wildfire prevention, emergency services and disaster readiness
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 3:02:20 PM

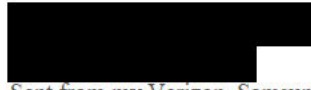
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It's clear we are in a very dangerous fire zone. I fully support an additional sales tax to make our community safer. I insist the supervisors exercise good sense and support the measure to acquire additional funds needed to ensure the safety of our homes, businesses, and our lives. To do otherwise would be irresponsible.

John Reves



Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy Tablet

From: [Terry Hastings](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Support for Wildfire Prevention Measure on November ballot
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 3:14:03 PM

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PLEASE put the proposed measure on the November General Election ballot! People are leaving our county because they fear for the health and safety of our county. Residents who want to continue to live here are devoting their hard earned dollars to vegetation management every year, only to repeat it the next. Our county government must step in to help us make our community safe, and our forests healthier. The proposed sales tax would move us a lot closer to just that — let us vote on it!

Thank you,

Terry Hastings



Sent from my iPad

From: [Debbie Hermes](#)
To: [bdofsupervisors](#)
Subject: 1/2 cent tax
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 4:42:44 PM

Dist 3

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California has now established the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Plan. This plan is responsible for establishing shaded fire breaks, improving evacuation routes, education, increased Firefighting staff and equipment to name a few. It appears to be successful and worth the cost but I have never read reports on cost versus benefits of the program and that bothers me.

I support the ½ cent measure be placed on the November ballot. However, it is worth noting that the proposal is coming at a time of high inflation, high food and energy costs.

For these reasons, I believe any tax or fee should be temporary (5 to 10 yrs), have civilian unbiased oversight and a well thought-out plan for all to see and a yearly report. A cost benefit analysis should be done along with making sure we are not overlapping the Resilience Plan but adding to it. One way of adding to it would be to allow “Prescribed Burns” in city limits. I presently have neighbors next door in the county who can control burn but I cannot. Of course, this should be a strictly regulated event with permitting and possibly licensing and training requirements but I think it is time to think outside the box.

Mark Hermes

From: [Lindawebbelfert](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Comment on V for a neighbor
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 6:02:16 PM

Dist 1

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My neighbor does not have internet so I am letting her speak to you through my email.

My name is Mary Jo Mehrmann and I live at [REDACTED]. I travel to Nevada City [REDACTED]. We used to be able to travel east [REDACTED] to town but BLM has failed to keep up their share of Hudson and it is an almost impassable dirt road. Needless to say i have serious concerns regarding evacuation in the event of fire. Please place Measure V on the November ballot so we can vote to finance the work we need to do to be safe and stay safe.
Thank you, Mary Jo.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Gail Parle](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Request for positive votes on the issue of a way to pay for reducing wildfire risk
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 11:27:50 PM

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Dear NC Supervisors:

After having read and considered the proposal on Wildfire Prevention, I am asking you all to please vote YES for putting the measure on Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Service, and Disaster Readiness on the ballot for citizens to vote on the issue.

My name is Gail Parle and I live at [REDACTED], in the [REDACTED] near the Fairgrounds. My phone is [REDACTED]. The fierce wildfires are a particular to mobile homes as they are particularly eligible to fires due to their less than usual construction being thinner than standard homes. I am 88 years of age. I have also had relatives who were threatened by the Jones Bar fire and had to leave their home, which fortunately wasn't damaged, but a frightening event regardless. My car is kept prepared for evacuation.

Gail Parle

From: [Douglas Hooper](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: In favor of voting on wildfire ballot measure
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 11:24:43 PM

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I'm in favor of putting the **Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services, and Disaster Readiness Measure** on the ballot.

Douglas Hooper



From: [Dimitri Keriotis](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Letter
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 9:17:52 PM
Attachments: [Letter to BOS 8-7-22.docx](#)

Dist 3

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Dear Nevada County BOS,

Please see my attached letter.

-Dimitri Keriotis

[REDACTED]

Nevada County Board of Supervisors
959 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

My family and I live in District 3 and fully support the Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Measure.

The funds generated by this small tax would benefit our community in multiple ways. These funds would

1. Allow us to pay it forward; we can pay to prevent a catastrophe or later pay catastrophically.
2. Prevent more locals from leaving Nevada County out of fear of the big fire. We're losing locals because of the threat of fire. If we reduce the threat, people will stay.
3. Increase our property values.
4. Prevent our community from becoming the next Paradise. Currently it's not *if* fire will potentially devastate our community but *when* it will happen. This effort would potentially eliminate the *when*.
5. Allow us to avoid paying the enormous emotional tax that results from fire.

If the Board of Supervisors cannot enact this tax on its own, please place it on the November ballot.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DK' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Dimitri Keriotis

From: [Helen Martini](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Half cent tax
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 8:14:48 PM

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Please vote yes on putting the half cent tax increase on the November ballot.

My family lives in [REDACTED] and has for almost fifty years and the traffic is worse than ever. We need to have a safe exit plan in case of fire or other emergency.

Please put this measure on the ballot.

Helen and Jerry Martini

From: [Todd Lawson](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Support of the Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Measure
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 8:13:16 PM

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8/7/2022

To the Board of Supervisors

Regarding: Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Measure

This letter is in support of the Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Measure. I have lived in Grass Valley nearly my entire life, and fire has become the number one danger we face as a community. The ½ cent increase in the sales tax will go a long way to providing needed funds to bolster our community's fire readiness. While the small increase in the tax will have an impact to the financial wellbeing of everyone in the county, the resources it will provide to increase the safety of our community is desperately needed. Fire has no limits on its destruction, and crosses all political ideology. I encourage the board to put the measure on the ballot to allow the citizens on Nevada County the opportunity to vote.

Sincerely,

Matthew Todd Lawson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Badri Matlock](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: In Support of Emergency Preparedness Measure
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 8:10:22 PM

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To Our Nevada County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing on behalf of Ananda Village where I serve as community manager to some 220 residents on the San Juan Ridge.

Additionally I serve as a volunteer firefighter EMR with the North San Juan Fire Protection District, and sit on the board of the San Juan Ridge Taxpayers Association.

Obviously we are deeply concerned about wildfire in our area—I know firsthand that it is not a question of IF but WHEN. This is the single most unifying issue we all face together, year after year. While we do our part to work tirelessly on fire and emergency preparedness (we are coordinating Firewise Communities, host townhall meetings, and so much more) fuels reduction (I have to miss the Tuesday hearing to work with Fire Safe Council on a local roadside fuels clearance project! We cleared, burned and chipped over 80 acres this year alone!), community education and more, we rely on the county to do it's part.

Please let your constituents' vote count by placing the Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services, and Disaster Readiness Measure on the ballot.

I am not naïve—there are a wide range of political opinions and issues at stake. But we need every fighting chance and resource available to work together to prepare. We are counting on you to let the people decide.

Sincerely,
Badri Matlock

[Redacted Signature]


From: [Barbara Getz](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Fire Prevention Ballot Measure
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 8:08:02 PM

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Dear Nevada County Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing to voice my support for the **Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services, and Disaster Readiness Measure**. As a 50 year resident of Nevada County and a longtime business owner (Sierra Cinemas, Inc.), I believe that the County must be pro-active regarding wildfire prevention. As a community we cannot wait for the disaster to happen; we must try to prevent the disaster using every resource possible.

My husband and I spend thousands of dollars every year (we're older and unable to do this work by ourselves anymore) hiring people to clear brush, weed whack grass, and generally try to keep our property as fire ready as possible. But that money sometimes seems wasted (unfortunately, it's limited too) as the evacuation routes away from our property along county roads are overgrown and in desperate need of fire prevention maintenance. We are worried that our evacuation routes are more like death traps. We are very active with our local  FireWise Community. Over the past three years this FireWise Community has had many workdays to clear brush and pull scotch broom along our evacuation routes. The work we have done on our own property and the work done by our FireWise Community is great but it's not enough. We need our county government to lead the way! Hopefully this tax measure will give the county the financial resources it needs to get the job done.

We support putting the "Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Service, and Disaster Readiness Measure" on the ballot. We believe that many Nevada County residents feel anxious about fire preparedness and will give this ballot measure serious consideration. The funds that the measure generates will help make Nevada County a great place to live into the future.

Sincerely,
Barbara Getz

Barbara Getz


[REDACTED]

From: [Lindawebbelfert](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Fire safety tax
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 5:43:10 PM

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I am very concerned about fire in our county. I live, along with many, many other people, about three and a quarter miles from Nevada City on the country road [REDACTED]. We live with the constant threat of the hundred year fire starting just below us in the South Yuba canyon. In order for us to not be another Paradise we need to do a tremendous amount of work to guarantee that we will have a clear escape route and we will need ample funds to do that. I heartily endorse putting Measure V on the November ballot. Let us participate in deciding what we can do to make us fire safe.

Thank you for you attention. Linda Webb Elfert

Sent from my iPad

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: New eComment for Nevada County Board of Supervisors August 9, 2022, Meeting
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 5:06:55 PM

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[SpeakUp](#)

Dist 3

New eComment for Nevada County Board of Supervisors August 9, 2022, Meeting

kent gallagher submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: Nevada County Board of Supervisors August 9, 2022, Meeting

Item: 32a. SR 22-0914 Public hearing to consider a proposed ordinance/ballot measure to add Article 9 to Chapter V of the Nevada County General Code imposing a one-half cent "Nevada County Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Transactions and Use Tax" for critical emergency services and other general government use. It is being recommended that the proposed ordinance/ballot measure be adopted by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors and submitted to the voters for placement on the next regularly scheduled County and Statewide General Election on November 8, 2022. (Introduce/Waive further reading/Adopt) An Urgency Ordinance adding Article 9 to Chapter V of the Nevada County General Code imposing a one-half cent (0.5%) Nevada County Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Transactions and Use Tax for critical emergency services and other general government use. (4/5 affirmative vote required)

eComment: I fully support this proposed ordinance and tax for the voters to consider. I do think there needs to be an article in the Union as to how these funds will be allocated.

[View and Analyze eComments](#)

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From: [Nancy Henson](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Proposed Wildfire Prevention Measure
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 4:52:36 PM

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Board of Supervisors

Nevada County

Re: the proposed Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services, and Disaster Readiness Measure

We need a source of locally controlled funding that can be put to immediate use to save lives, reduce the threat of wildfire, and improve all hazards disaster readiness and evacuation safety.

As a certified Firewise Community [REDACTED], we have been diligently working to improve the defensible space around our homes, improve access for emergency vehicles and equipment, and evacuation routes. But living at the interface with heavily forested, long neglected wild lands, we need help!

As a leader of the [REDACTED] Firewise Community I whole heartedly support that the proposed ½ cent sales tax measure be put on the ballot. Let the people decide!

Sincerely,

Nancy Henson

From: [Mark Hermes](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: 1/2 cent tax
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 4:46:27 PM

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BOS

California has now established the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Plan. This plan is responsible for establishing shaded fire breaks, improving evacuation routes, education, increased Firefighting staff and equipment to name a few. It appears to be successful and worth the cost but I have never read reports on cost versus benefits of the program and that bothers me.

I support the ½ cent measure be placed on the November ballot. However, it is worth noting that the proposal is coming at a time of high inflation, high food and energy costs.

For these reasons, I believe any tax or fee should be temporary (5 to 10 yrs), have civilian unbiased oversight and a well thought-out plan for all to see and a yearly report. A cost benefit analysis should be done along with making sure we are not overlapping the Resilience Plan but adding to it. One way of adding to it would be to allow “Prescribed Burns” in city limits. I presently have neighbors next door in the county who can control burn but I cannot. Of course, this should be a strictly regulated event with permitting and possibly licensing and training requirements but I think it is time to think outside the box.

Mark Hermes

From: [Andres "El Magnifico" Amador](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Proposed fire prevention measure
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 4:31:30 PM

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I support the Board of Supervisors putting the Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services And Disaster Readiness Measure on the November Ballot.

This measure should respond to community priorities such as:

- Removing Flammable Brush
- Improving Evacuation Routes
- Enhancing Emergency communication
- Improving enforcement of fire safety laws and illegal campfires
- Creating Defensible Space: Help low-income seniors and people
- Providing year round Free Green waste removal

Thank you

Andres Amador, Nevada County resident

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: New eComment for Nevada County Board of Supervisors August 9, 2022, Meeting
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 4:21:57 PM

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[SpeakUp](#)

Dist 1

New eComment for Nevada County Board of Supervisors August 9, 2022, Meeting

Dario Davidson submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: Nevada County Board of Supervisors August 9, 2022, Meeting

Item: 32b. SR 22-0944 Resolution calling for and ordering an election to submit to the voters of the County a proposed Urgency Ordinance adding Article 9 to Chapter V of the Nevada County General Code imposing a one-half cent (0.5%) Nevada County Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services, and Disaster Readiness Transactions and Use Tax for critical emergency services and other general government use, and ordering consolidation of the election with the November 8, 2022 Statewide General Election. (4/5 affirmative vote required)

eComment: Please place the measure on the ballot to let us decide. The money will be well spent and help save lives, improve life in Nevada County and improve long-term forest health. We need this more than anything at this time.

[View and Analyze eComments](#)

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From: [Suzanne K](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Wildfire Sales Tax Measure
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 3:59:29 PM

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To the Board of Supervisors for Nevada County:

Please put the **Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services, and Disaster Readiness Measure** on the ballot for November 2022.

It is intended to "save lives, reduce the threat of wildfires, and improve all-hazards disaster readiness and evacuation safety."

Having a small sales tax is an excellent way to raise much-needed funds to support fire mitigation efforts.

Thank you,
Suzanner Koliche

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Eileen Jorgensen](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: comment on proposed sales tax increase
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 3:58:38 PM

Dist 1

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PLEASE -

PUT THIS ON THE BALLOT.

GIVE US SOME DETAILS AS TO OVERSIGHT AND

CONSIDER PUTTING A SUNSET CLAUSE IN PLACE.


Thank you.

Eileen Jorgensen

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Barry Myers](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax Measure to Mitigate Fire Risks in Nevada County
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 3:52:20 PM
Importance: High



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To Members of the Nevada County Board of Supervisors,

I am a resident of Nevada County. I support the proposed sales tax measure to raise funds to mitigate the risks of fire in Nevada County. It is critical that the county have sufficient funds to clear roadside vegetation. Many people may face severe consequences if vegetation burns while people are fleeing a fire, much like what happen in Paradise, CA.

I consider myself fortunate that the roads were not on fire during the River Fire, and I was able to safely evacuate my family.

Please vote to put this measure on the ballot.

Barry Myers




From: lwinparadise1@gmail.com
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: PROPOSED MEASURE
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 3:51:33 PM

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My name is Lynn Wenzel. I live in Grass Valley [REDACTED], 95945. I am in support of the proposed Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Measure going on the ballot. Wildfire risk is ALWAYS a concern to us, even though we live right in town. It is getting hotter and drier all the time!! Please vote YES on putting the measure on the ballot. Thank you.
Lynn Wenzel

From: [Marilyn Mociun](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Service, and Disaster Readiness Measure
Date: Sunday, August 7, 2022 3:38:42 PM

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Dear Board of Supervisors of Nevada County,

My name is Marilyn Mociun. I have lived on the San Juan Ridge since 1991. For five years I was on the [REDACTED]. I understand the challenges of living in a wildland-urban interface especially as our state is increasingly impacted by years of drought. Case in point, we nearly lost our home in the Pleasant Fire five years ago. I have read the proposed Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services & Disaster Readiness measure and wholly support it. I believe it should be placed on the ballot to allow our county citizens the opportunity to voice their approval or disapproval. This democratic process will encourage a broader participation of county residents and generate much needed discussions about ways to increase our safety from destructive wildfires, such as creating & maintaining extensive fire breaks, improving evacuation routes, providing year-round green-waste drop-off, and establishing a fund with which to seek large matching grants from State or Federal Agencies.

We need a long term, stable program we can count on for years to come.

We cannot afford to wait until disaster strikes our county.

I hope you do the right thing and vote to place this measure on the ballot.

Thank you,

Marilyn Mociun