

August 5, 2022

Dear Nevada County Board of Supervisors,

I am a local business owner and resident of Nevada County and have lived here for over 20 years. In that time, I have seen how the growing climate crisis has locally impacted our community with wildfires and severe storms. My husband is a recently retired [REDACTED] of nearly 30 years and hearing his comments and stories over that time has given me insight into what we as a community can do to protect our local area.

Our area desperately needs more Shaded Fuel Breaks that are maintained on a regular basis to help prevent catastrophic damage to our homes and businesses. Additionally, many other prevention methods such as regular brushing of roads countywide, improved evacuation routes, better enforcement of illegal campfires and help for residents to maintain defensible space around their homes can have a huge impact on the level of destruction our area sustains as wildfires move through.

I strongly encourage the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to place a measure on the November ballot that allows voters to choose if they want a ½ % sales tax increase to generate funds that will protect our area. Relying on State and Federal grants to come and go is not sufficient, we need to act locally to ensure we are doing all we can to protect our community.

Sincerely,

Mya Russell
[REDACTED]

From: Julie Patterson-Hunter
Sent: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 11:01 AM
To: Tine Mathiasen
Subject: FW: Email address for public comment

Honorable Board Members,

I participated on the development and stakeholders group that helped formulate the basis for the measure you are considering. This measure is a Countywide initiative and should focus on priorities developed by the TAC and approved by the Board, not on politics and turf boundaries.

This measure if passed by the voters will provide resources which will allow for robust updated planning needed for grant applications as well as matching funds if needed. It will allow for a state-of-the-art evacuation plan as well as an education process for the public. It will help us identify and prioritize fuel reduction projects in the high and very high fire areas in the County. It will allow the County to address residents with special needs and in the event of an emergency can help help with the recovery effort.

I continually emphasized during our meetings that the major purpose of our work is to save lives. As we have seen over the last few years, every large fire start is quickly followed by evacuation orders. In my opinion the most important part of this measure is to get our roads both public and private cleared to a standard that allows a safe and orderly egress for residents and ingress for emergency responders. Any first responder's worst nightmare is to see the loss of life due to the inability to safely get out or congestion that makes roads impassable. This measure doesn't guarantee that we won't have an emergency event, especially considering 30 to 40 MPH winds throwing flaming brands 2 miles ahead, which is why we need to concentrate on getting people safely out of the disaster area.

The benefits won't happen overnight, it will take a concerted prioritized effort with ongoing adjustments as needed, but if we look at it in five 3 year increments and stay on task Nevada County will be in a much better place.

After the Board has heard public input and they believe it is an important issue I would encourage you to put it on the ballot and let the public have the ability to vote and express their opinion, after all it's their future.

Thank you for the ability to participate.

Hank Weston
Penn Valley

On 08/08/2022 9:25 AM Julie Patterson-Hunter <julie.patterson-hunter@nevadacountyca.gov> wrote:

Hi Hank – you can respond back to this email to provide public comment on the tax measure.

Julie Patterson Hunter, CCB

Clerk of the Board

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From: Howie&Connie Muir [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 10:30 AM
To: BOS Public Comment
Subject: Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Measure: YES

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Dear County Supervisors,

Neither of us is able to attend the Board meeting today, but nevertheless we would like to express our strong support for putting the "Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Measure" on the ballot of 8 November 2022.

The issue of wildfire here is of overwhelmingly self-evident concern, literally the one natural disaster that confronts us all with stark life-and-death consequences, accompanied by inevitable widespread destruction should a wildfire get out of hand.

Avoiding such disaster and its consequences is precisely what this measure seeks to accomplish with the removal of flammable brush county-wide, improving evacuation routes, enhancing emergency communications to warn the public, improving fire safety laws, helping those unable to maintain defensible space to do so, and encouraging the rest of the public to maintain with the support of free green waste disposal and drop-off sites.

It is past time that county residents and its government shoulder financial responsibility for sharing the work of protecting *ourselves*. If a ½% tax can truly raise significant funds, with solid, thoughtful local oversight to accomplish the above goals, we are more than ready to pay our share in the years to come.

Please vote to put the "Wildfire Prevention, Emergency Services and Disaster Readiness Measure" on the ballot as soon as it can be there, so we can start better and more intelligently defending ourselves from wildfire *sooner* than later.

Respectfully – Howie & Connie Muir

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Ken Teichmann [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 8:06 AM
To: BOS Public Comment
Subject: \$.05 tax

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Dear Nevada County Supervisors,

Each year at about this time I take my most precious possessions and put them into storage in another community that is safer from fire danger. I never expected to come to this point when I moved to my neighborhood just south of Grass Valley.

There is so much of Nevada County that is a fire hazard, I strongly commend the board of supervisors for taking action to make a plan to address this critical danger for all of our citizens.

I see it is imperative that we work together to solve this problem and end shortsighted self-interest.

--

Ken Teichmann
[REDACTED]