

COUNTY OF NEVADA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



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Supervisor, 5th District

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: August 10, 2021

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Hardy Bullock, District V Supervisor**

SUBJECT: Resolution supporting Measure T: Wildfire Protection Measure for the purpose of reducing the risk of wildfire and improving local wildfire prevention, and providing a stable source of local funding for wildfire prevention and mitigation through a special tax in the amount of \$179 per parcel within the boundaries of the Truckee Fire Protection District for a period of eight (8) years that shall be consolidated and come before the voters with the gubernatorial recall election on September 14, 2021

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: N/A

BACKGROUND:

On April 20, 2021, the Board of Directors ("TFPD Board") for the Truckee Fire Protection District voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 02-2021 to hold a special election placing Measure T, a Wildfire Protection Measure, before the voters for approval. If approved by 2/3 of voters, Measure T will levy a \$179 special parcel tax within the Truckee Fire Protection District for a period of eight (8) years with sole purpose of reducing the risk of wildfire and improving local wildfire prevention, and providing a stable, dedicated source of local funding for wildfire prevention and mitigation. Further, the TFPD Board adopted Resolution 12-2021 on July 2, 2021 consolidating its special election with the gubernatorial recall election on September 14, 2021 declared by proclamation of Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis issued on July 1, 2021.

In 2016, the Truckee Fire Protection District collaborated with community to develop the first Truckee area Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). While some of the priority projects identified within the CWPP have been completed, its full scope of needs cannot be addressed without an additional sustained funding source. As outlined in Resolution 02-2021, Measure T would allow for investing in early fire detection systems, emergency warning systems and fire-safe evacuation routes that would help ensure residents are notified quickly in the event of an emergency. The measure would allocate resources for removing hazardous vegetation and fuel loads, as well as allow for new firebreaks to help prevent or slow the spread of wildfire. It is anticipated that the Measure will help alleviate the crisis related to the availability and affordability of homeowners and commercial insurance. Funds may also be used to update the CWPP, support programs related to home hardening, invest in future green waste systems and capital equipment to help remove fire fuels and reduce the risk of wildfire, among other uses (Resolution 02-2021; Section 5). It should be noted that Measure T authorizes an exemption for property owners who

own and occupy a single-family home as their principal residence that qualify as low-income as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”). The Truckee Fire Protection District estimates the special tax will raise \$3.7M in annual local funding for the district.

Therefore, in response to the unprecedented danger that wildfire raises to the Truckee area community and the need for an increase of sustained funding for wildfire mitigation and prevention, as well as in support of the Board’s 2021 Priority Objective for Emergency Preparedness, I urge the Board of Supervisors to adopt the attached resolution supporting Measure T: Wildfire Protection Measure. I have invited David Diamond and Paco Lindsay, Co-Chairs of the Truckee Locals for Wildfire Prevention Action Committee, and Chief Bill Seline of the Truckee Fire Protection District to make a small presentation and answer any of the Board’s questions.

Sincerely,

Hardy Bullock
Board of Supervisor, District V