

**SLEEPY HOLLOW FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MEASURE S**

S **MEASURE S:** Shall there be a continuation of the four year special tax for paramedic services in the amount of \$57 in the first year and raising the tax \$6 annually to a maximum of \$75 per taxable living unit, or per 1,500 square feet of structure on a developed parcel in non-residential use, with the appropriations limit increased by the amount of said tax for the next four years?

YES

NO

**COUNTY COUNSEL'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF
MEASURE S**

**SLEEPY HOLLOW FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
SPECIAL TAX**

This measure was placed on the ballot by the Board of Directors of the Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District.

If this measure is approved by a two-thirds vote, the Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District would be authorized to continue the four year special tax for paramedic services in the amount of forty-two dollars (\$42) in fiscal year 2015-2016, and raise the tax six dollars (\$6) annually to a maximum of seventy-five dollars (\$75) per taxable living unit, or per 1,500 square feet of structure on a developed parcel in non-residential use, with an appropriations limit increase in the amount of said tax.

s/STEVEN M. WOODSIDE
County Counsel

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE S

Citizens for Sustainable Pension Plans recommends that you vote "NO" on Measure S. Our reasoning follows:

- Measure S requests taxpayer money to provide services that should be funded through the normal operating revenues of the District.
- The District has asked for funding to mask the systematic mismanagement of their operations.
- Money is fungible. A "YES" vote on Measure S is a vote to allow our elected officials to avoid setting priorities and allocating funds appropriately.
- The systematic mismanagement of operations is highlighted through excessive pensions and retiree medical plans.

Mismanaged pensions and other retirement plans are endemic in the public sector and the District is no exception. These plans suffer from major problems:

- The plans are extremely generous. The value of the plans dwarfs the value of corresponding plans provided in the private sector.
- In addition to their lavish plan costs, the plans are subject to extreme cost fluctuations and risk. The costs of plans are based upon very optimistic assumptions. Unless those assumptions are met (and they have not been this century), there is a funding shortfall (i.e., unfunded liability). This shortfall is recovered through increased contributions from the District (i.e., the taxpayer).
- These higher contributions come at a cost. Either the District reduces services or it requests more money. Measure S is an example of a request for more money from the taxpayer.

If taxpayers vote for Measure S, they are enabling the District to continue its mismanagement by maintaining its rich and financially volatile retirement plans. A better idea is that the District reform its plans to stabilize its budget and to eliminate the need for taxpayer requests such as Measure S.

Vote against this measure!

s/JODY MORALES

Founder and President,
Citizens for Sustainable Pension Plans

**NO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE S
WAS FILED.**

**FULL TEXT OF MEASURE S
RESOLUTION NO. 2014-2**

RESOLUTION OF THE SLEEPY HOLLOW FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT PROPOSING AN INCREASE IN THE PARAMEDIC SERVICE TAX, ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR ELECTION, ADOPTING INTENDED BALLOT LANGUAGE, REQUESTING THE CONSOLIDATION OF SAID ELECTION, REQUESTING ELECTION SERVICES OF THE CLERK AND DIRECTING THAT REBUTTAL ARGUMENTS MAY BE RECEIVED.

WHEREAS, on November 2, 2010, the electors of the Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District (the "District") approved a special tax for the funding of paramedic services through the Ross Valley Paramedic Authority (the "Ross valley Paramedic Tax"); and

WHEREAS, the maximum allowable tax was established at \$51.00 per residential unit plus a \$0.50 County administrative fee, and \$51.00 per 1500 square feet of structure in non-residential use, plus a \$0.50 County administrative fee; and

WHEREAS, the Ross Valley Paramedic Tax has been annually levied and each four years the tax rate reset and approved by election and scheduled to expire June 30, 2015;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this District hereby calls for an election to be held on November 4, 2014, at which election the issue to be presented to the voters of the District shall be:

Shall there be a continuation of the four year special tax for paramedic services in the amount of \$57 in the first year and raising the tax \$6 annually to a maximum of \$75 per taxable living unit, or per 1,500 square feet of structure on a developed parcel in non-residential use, with the appropriations limit increased by the amount of said tax for the next four years?

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this District hereby requests that said election shall be consolidated with the general election to be held on said date and requests the County Clerk to provide all necessary election services and to canvas the result of said election.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that rebuttals shall be received to ballot arguments made by this District on behalf of said measure.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors held this 27th day of June 2014 by the following vote:

AYES: Directors FRANK BERTO, THOMAS FINN,
and RICHARD SHORTALL

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

s/FRANK BERTO
Director/President

ATTEST
s/THOMAS J. FINN
Director/Secretary