



Interoffice Memo

DATE: August 22, 2016

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FROM: **CYNTHIA L. O'NEILL**, Deputy County Counsel
County Counsel

TO: **MAUREEN MOUNTAIN**,
Campaign Relations Coordinator
Registrar of Voters

SUBJECT: **COUNTY COUNSEL ANALYSIS – APPLE VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
REGULAR ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2016**

Measure "___" is submitted to the voters by the Apple Valley Fire Protection District ("District") in order to extend the term of the District's current fire suppression special tax and to increase the rate, in order to fund additional fire and emergency response services.

On November 4, 1997, District voters approved Measure "V" (Ordinance No. 39), a fire suppression special tax levied on property within the District to provide fire and emergency medical/rescue services. According to recent figures, Measure "V" currently provides approximately \$2,400,000 in annual revenue, making up 25% of the District's annual budget.

Measure "V" has a term of 20 years and will expire on November 4, 2017, unless extended. Further, the District is proposing an increase in the special tax rate in order to fund additional fire and emergency response services. Under California law (Proposition 218), 2/3 voter approval is required to extend the term of a special tax and to increase its rate.

On August 2, 2016, the District's Board of Directors placed Measure "___" on the November 8, 2016 ballot. Measure "___" would adopt Ordinance No. 54, which allows for the continuation of the special tax created under Measure V and increases the rates of the special tax to those amounts specifically set forth in Section 2 of Ordinance No. 54. If Measure "___" is approved, the rate increase will be levied against all taxable real property within the District on July 1st of each year, beginning July 1, 2017.

All special tax revenues must be deposited into a special account created for that purpose and must only be spent on the special purposes outlined in Ordinance No. 54. These include the reopening of fire stations, improving emergency response times, and operation of the District's fire protection and emergency medical/rescue services. It is estimated that Measure "___" will generate an additional \$2,400,000 annually for these special purposes.

Measure "___" would authorize the Board of Directors to adjust the rates of the special tax from year to year, provided the maximum does not exceed the rates set forth in Section 2 of Ordinance No. 54.

Measure "___" requires 2/3 voter approval.

A "Yes" vote for Measure "___" will approve the amendments described above;

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BY  DEPUTY
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

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A "No" vote against Measure "___" will not approve the amendments described above will leave in place the existing special tax (Measure "V") at its current rate, which will expire on November 4, 2017 and no increase to special taxes will be levied.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure "___". If you desire a copy of Measure "___" (Ordinance No. 54), please call the election official's office at (760) 247-7618 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.

JEAN-RENE BASLE
County Counsel



CYNTHIA L. O'NEILL
Deputy County Counsel

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