MEASURE E

PROPOSAL TO AUTHORIZE SPECIAL TAX FOR THE PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Shall Placer Hills Fire Protection District be allowed to impose a Special Tax to maintain the current level of fire and life safety services and replace essential equipment, vehicles and facilities?

YES ____ NO ____

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY PLACER COUNTY COUNSEL

The Placer Hills Fire Protection District (District) has determined that a new special tax is necessary because it has found that its current revenue sources can no longer provide and sustain the current level of emergency service or to maintain and/or replace vital equipment and vehicles. The District states that this is due to reduced property values and the corresponding reduction in property tax revenues.

If passed, the tax would be levied on improved parcels with an assessed valuation of $10,000 or more. The exact amount of this special tax would be variable based on the type and number of residences/commercial buildings on a parcel, as set forth in the District's Resolution 2012-01A. The tax also allows for annual price adjustments based on the Consumer Price Index, or 3%, whichever is less.

Article XIII A of the California Constitution, passed by the electorate in 1978 as Proposition 13, requires approval by the electorate to levy special taxes. California Health & Safety Code section 13911 and Government Code sections 50075-50077.5 authorize a process to propose and submit a special tax to the voters. These provisions require accountability measures, including a requirement that the proceeds from the tax be placed into a special account and that a report be prepared annually that provides details on the amount of taxes collected in that year and showing that the taxes were used solely for the specific purposes for the tax.

This proposed special tax must be approved by two-thirds of those voting in the district.

A "Yes" vote is a vote to authorize a new special tax for the stated purposes.

A "No" vote is a vote against a new special tax.

This analysis is submitted by the Office of the County Counsel of Placer County, pursuant to the requirements of section 9313 of the Elections Code of the State of California.

Anthony J. La Bouff
County Counsel

By: Brian R. Wirtz
Deputy County Counsel

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE E

The Placer Hills Fire Protection District has long enjoyed an excellent relationship with the citizens of our communities. The District's firefighters are dedicated to providing emergency services when you need them. Now, your Placer Hills Fire Protection District needs your help.

The Community has previously supported the fire district so that we could provide fire and paramedic services with a 6 minute average response time. However, the costs to maintain these services have continued to increase while the recent economic downturn has reduced the value of the property in the District. This reduction in values has substantially reduced the property taxes the Fire District receives annually. That is why your fire district is asking your approval of a special fee of $79 per home per year. We are committed to using the funds provided by Measure E for salaries and operations necessary to maintain the current staffing and services, and fund essential capital purchases. These monies cannot be diverted by the State and will always stay in the Community for our local fire protection.

The firefighters in your District make less than the average wage comparable with other fire districts. Trained personnel leave for higher wages in neighboring fire departments. Two vital full-time paramedic engineer positions cannot be filled due to lack of funds. Because your district does not have an ambulance stationed in the immediate area, our paramedics provide first responder emergency medical care which can mean the difference between life and death for you or your neighbor.

Please join your neighbors, firefighters, and the Placer Hills Board of Directors in voting YES on E. By approving measure E, you will ensure that highly qualified fire and medical personnel will be there to assist you when you need them most. Vote YES on E.

Gregory Guyan, Director
Peter R. Hills, Director
Kelly Fulfer, Director
Bret B. Tresidder, Director
Fred Lofrano, Director

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE E WAS SUBMITTED

RESOLUTION No. 2012-01A

RESOLUTION REQUESTING CONSOLIDATION OF ELECTION AND ORDERING OF SUCH AN ELECTION IN THE PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ON JUNE 5, 2012, TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL TAX TO MAINTAIN THE CURRENT LEVEL OF FIRE PROTECTION, EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND PREVENTION SERVICES, EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES AND FACILITIES.

WHEREAS; the Board of Directors of the Placer Hills Fire Protection District has determined that existing revenue sources can no longer provide and sustain the current level of emergencies services due to the reduced property values and the corresponding reduction in property tax revenues.

WHEREAS; the Board of Directors of the Placer Hills Fire Protection District has determined that the existing revenue sources are insufficient to maintain and/or replace vital equipment and vehicles associated with the emergency services delivery system.

WHEREAS; the Board of Directors of the Placer Hills Fire Protection District, under Government Code Section 53978, wishes to place a special tax on the ballot for the approval of the voters of the District in order to provide sufficient revenues to support and maintain adequate fire and life safety services.

WHEREAS; the Board of Directors of the Placer Hills Fire Protection District requests that the Board of Supervisors of Placer County consolidates this election with the primary election on June 5, 2012.

WHEREAS: the Board of Directors of the Placer Hills Fire Protection District requests that the Placer County Elections Department provides election services and that all applicable costs for these services will be paid for by the Placer Hills Fire Protection District.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT THAT:

1. An election is hereby called and ordered for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters within the District the following proposition:

   "Shall Placer Hills Fire Protection District be allowed to impose a Special Tax to maintain the current level of fire and life safety services and replace essential equipment, vehicles and facilities?"

2. After careful review the rate of charge authorized herein shall be as follows for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year:

   a. No charge for unimproved parcels. The Charge will be levied on all improved parcels with an assessed valuation of $10,000.00 or more.

   b. Single Family or mobile home per parcel: $79.00

   c. Duplex or 2 homes per parcel: $158.00

   d. Residence and Commercial on same parcel: $158.00

   e. Triplexes and Apartments per parcel: $237.00

   f. Mobile Home or Trailer park per space/parcel: $79.00

   g. Single commercial/industrial per parcel: $158.00

   h. Multiple commercial/Industrial per parcel per structure exceeding 1,000 square feet: $158.00

   i. Auxiliary structures to residential parcels shall be exempt.

   j. Mobile Home or Trailer park will be assessed on occupied spaces as of March 1st of each year.

3. The maximum charge that may be levied for any parcel during Fiscal Year 2012 - 2013 is as follows:

   a. Single Residence or mobile home: $195.16

   b. Commercial or multiple use parcel: $2232.76

4. The amount of the Special tax specified in Section 2 above shall remain unchanged until June 30, 2014 and thereafter may be adjusted annually, at the discretion of the Board of Directors of said District, for the ensuing fiscal year to reflect the Consumer Price Index prepared by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, using the weighted average of Consumer Price Indexes (All Urban Consumers) for the State of California or 3% WHICHEVER IS LESS. The District shall be responsible for making the necessary computations each year prior to submitting the required information to Placer County for collection. In the event that the Bureau shall cease to publish said index figure, then any similar index by another branch or department of the United States Government may be used in its place at the direction of the District.

MEASURE E RESOLUTION
CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

MEASURE E RESOLUTION CONTINUED

5. The Special Tax shall take effect July 1, 2012 upon approval of two-thirds of the eligible votes, voting upon the adoption of such special tax at the election scheduled for June 5, 2012. The Special Tax shall remain in effect ad infinitum, or until the law no longer allows, or until such time as the Board of Directors of said District rescinds this Special Tax.

6. Upon approval of the Placer County Board of Supervisors, the County shall collect the charges, if approved by popular vote, in accordance and subject to the same penalty as other charges and taxes fixed and collected by or on behalf of this District.

7. In all particulars not recited in this resolution, said election shall be held and conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Elections Code of the State of California so far as the same shall be acceptable except as otherwise provided in the Fire Protection Law of 1961, as amended.

8. The District will further notice this election by posting a copy of this resolution on or near the door of the District Office at least two weeks before the time scheduled for the election.

9. This Special Tax shall take effect as provided herein. If any section, subsection, sentence, phrase or clause of this resolution is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this resolution. The people of Placer Hills Fire Protection District hereby declare that they would have adopted the resolution and each section, subsection, sentence, phrase or clause be declared invalid.

APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Placer Hills Fire Protection District at a Regular Meeting on the first day of February, 2012, by the following vote on roll call:

AYES: FULFER, GUYAN, HILLS, LOFRANO, TRESIDDER

NOES: Zero ABSENT: Zero

Peter Hills, President

Attest:
Fred Lofrano,
Secretary-Treasurer