

Argument In Favor Of Measure D

Ten years ago, Kneeland Fire proposed a Measure L requesting an increased special tax to support and upgrade ongoing firefighting and emergency services. This measure passed by 82% of the voting Kneeland electorate.

That increased community support together with financial assist from County Measure Z funding enabled the building of the Kneeland Fire House, the upgrade and acquisition of firefighting and safety equipment and ongoing professional level training for Kneeland Fire Volunteers.

Humboldt County Measure Z support has been critical for maintaining these successes with the understanding that the mission of Kneeland Fire includes covering an “out of district goodwill area”. However, this Measure Z funding ended in 2023 creating a serious deficit as the cost of operations and regulatory compliance outpace inflation. Kneeland Fire is at a fiscal crossroads.

Measure D proposes a special tax as part of a broader strategy to extend the Kneeland Fire response area to include the goodwill area by annexation, and to extend the new district tax across a larger newly defined special district.

Measure D repeals and replaces the existing special tax. Most homeowners would see an increase of approximately \$50 per year (from \$128 annually to a proposed \$180); or an increase of one dollar per week.

A YES vote on Measure D will continue saving lives and property, training standards on par with paid departments, rapid response times and volunteers equipped with required safety equipment. It would allow continued designation of Kneeland as a Firewise® community allowing some residents to enjoy reduced insurance premiums.

A NO vote on Measure D would threaten the present level of medical, rescue and firefighting services.

A YES vote on MEASURE D would be a community investment in Kneeland Fire’s ability to serve you now and into the future.

s/ Mike Davis, Board President, Kneeland Fire

s/ Greta Turney, Superintendent, Kneeland Elementary School

s/ Steve Cunningham, Kneeland resident and local business owner

s/ Eric Almquist, Kneeland property owner and local business owner