



Measure O

Schell-Vista Fire Protection District

Measure Question

2/3 (Two-Thirds) Needed to Pass

To continue providing fire and emergency services, shall Ordinance No. 2022/0802OR of the Schell Vista Fire Protection District authorizing the renewal of a special tax for an additional four (4) years, at a maximum rate of \$200.00 for residential properties; \$0.14 per square foot for lodging, commercial and industrial properties; and \$100.00 for other parcels, raising approximately \$780,000.00 annually; and continuing to increase the District’s appropriations to permit spending of revenue raised by the special tax, be adopted?

What Your Vote Means

YES	NO
A “yes” vote would authorize the District to levy the special parcel tax.	A “no” vote denies authorization for the proposed tax.

For and Against Measure O

FOR	AGAINST
Ernie Loveless Schell-Vista FPD, Board Chair	No argument was submitted against Measure O



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Arguments and rebuttals are the opinions of the authors. They are printed exactly as submitted, including errors.

County Counsel's Impartial Analysis of Measure O	Argument in Favor of Measure O
<p>The Schell Vista Fire Protection District ("District") has called an election on an ordinance to authorize renewal of a special tax for an additional four (4) years to assist the district in meeting the costs of fire and emergency services. State law permits fire protection districts to levy a qualified special tax if two-thirds of the votes cast on a measure approve the imposition of the tax.</p> <p>Measure O states that revenues from the District's existing property taxes are inadequate to meet the costs of continuing to provide authorized fire and emergency services. The amount of the renewed tax would depend on the use of the property. The proposal would establish the following maximum rates: \$200.00 for residential properties; \$0.14 per square foot for lodging, commercial, and industrial properties; and, \$100.00 for other properties. It is estimated that the proposed tax will generate \$780,000 in revenue annually. The amount of the tax rate would be adjusted annually for inflation based upon the formula for adjusting the District's appropriations (spending) limit. The District's appropriations limit would also be increased to permit spending of the tax revenue.</p> <p>If approved, the tax would be applied to each unit of real property in the District that: (i) has a separate Assessor's Parcel Number (as shown on the secured tax rolls) or (ii) receives an assessment from the County of Sonoma of structural property on the unsecured tax rolls or from the State Board of Equalization. The tax would be collected in the same manner as other property taxes. A reasonable amount for the administrative costs of collecting the tax would be added to the special tax.</p> <p>As required by state law, proceeds of the tax would be placed in a special fund and could only be used for the purposes set out in the measure, which include (1) continuing to provide fire and emergency services as authorized by Health & Safety Code section 13862 and (2) exercising other rights and powers granted the District by state law. The District would also be required to prepare an annual report of the special tax revenues collected and expended, and the status of any project authorized to be funded by the tax.</p> <p>Measure O will become effective only if approved by two-thirds of the voters in the District voting on the measure. Each year prior to imposing the tax, the District's Board of Directors would be required to hold a public hearing and set the rates within the established limits.</p> <p>A "yes" vote would authorize the District to levy the special parcel tax.</p> <p>A "no" vote denies authorization for the proposed tax.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ROBERT PITTMAN County Counsel</p> <p style="text-align: center;">By: s/ Matthew R. Cody Deputy County Counsel</p>	<p>The Schell-Vista Fire Protection District has provided fire prevention, fire suppression and life safety services to the community since 1942. The district operates two fire stations staffed by a minimum of two permanent and two stipend firefighters 24 hours 7 days a week year around. The district staff runs about 800 emergency calls for services per year.</p> <p>The Schell-Vista Fire Protection District encompasses an area of approximately 72 square miles with a populations of about 5,500. It runs north and east the City of Sonoma and the area south of the city to and including Highway 37.</p> <p>The approval of this proposition would continue the revenue of approximately \$800,000 that was approved by voters of Measure X in 2018. The district has shown the ability to operate a full time, highly professional fire protection system with the existing funds collected from tax payers.</p> <p>Please join me and our fellow community and Vote Yes to continue this tax measure and maintain the high level of professionalism this district has shown.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">s/ Ernie Loveless Schell-Vista FPD, Board Chair</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No argument was submitted against Measure O</p>



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Full Text of Measure O

Appendix A

ORDINANCE NO.: 2022-08-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE SCHELL VISTA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (I) AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT TO RENEW THE IMPOSITION AND LEVY OF A SPECIAL TAX FOR AN ADDITIONAL FOUR (4) YEARS TO CONTINUE TO ASSIST THE DISTRICT IN MEETING THE CURRENT AND FUTURE COSTS OF PROVIDING AUTHORIZED FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES AND EXERCISING OTHER RIGHTS AND POWERS OF THE DISTRICT, AND (II) CONTINUING TO INCREASE THE DISTRICT'S APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT FOR THE MAXIMUM PERIOD ALLOWED BY LAW TO PERMIT SPENDING OF THE REVENUE RAISED BY THE SPECIAL TAX

The people of the Schell Vista Fire Protection District ordain as follows:

SECTION I. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this ordinance, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them by this section; unless the context clearly requires a different meaning. The definition of a word or phrase applies to any of that word's or phrase's variants.

"Board of Directors" means the Board of Directors of the Schell Vista Fire Protection District.

"Campsite" means a space made available for occupancy in a public or private campground in return for the payment of consideration.

"District" means the Schell Vista Fire Protection District located in Sonoma County, California.

"Mobile Home Space" means a space available for rent in a mobile home park on which a mobile home is located.

"Parcel of Real Property" means a separate parcel of real property having a separate Assessor's parcel number as shown on the secured tax rolls of the County of Sonoma, or an assessment of a structural property on the unsecured tax rolls of the County of Sonoma, or an assessment made by the State Board of Equalization.

"Special Tax" means the special tax authorized by and imposed pursuant to this Ordinance. The special tax is a special tax within the meaning of Article XIII A, section 4 and Article XIII C, section 1 of the California Constitution.

SECTION II. AUTHORITY

This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to Article XIII A, section 4, Article XIII B, section 4 and Article XIII C, section 2 of the California Constitution, Article 3.7 (commencing with Section 53720) of chapter 4 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the California Government Code, Section 13911 of the California Health and Safety Code, and Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 50075 of chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 1 of Title 5 of the California Government Code.

SECTION III. DETERMINATION OF NECESSITY

The amount of revenue available to the District from property taxes is inadequate to meet the current and future costs of continuing to provide fire and emergency services pursuant to Section 13862 of the California Health and Safety Code. Therefore, the District must establish a stable source of supplementary revenue to assist in meeting the costs of providing such services and exercising the other rights and powers of the District.

SECTION IV. PURPOSE OF SPECIAL TAX

The purpose for which the special tax shall be imposed and levied is to raise revenue for the District to use in meeting the current and future costs of (1) continuing to provide fire and emergency services pursuant to Section 13862 of the California Health and Safety Code, and (2) exercising other rights and powers granted to the District in Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 13860) of Part 2.7 of Division 12 of the California Health and Safety Code.

SECTION V. SPECIAL TAX AUTHORIZATION AND LIMIT

The Board of Directors is authorized to impose and levy the special tax each year on each parcel of real property within the District, except parcels of real property owned by a federal, state, or local agency, based on the use or right of use of the parcel and for the purposes stated in Section IV of this Ordinance. The special tax may be levied at a maximum rate based on use codes shown on Exhibit "A" of this Ordinance of \$200.00 for residential properties; \$0.14 per square foot for lodging, commercial and industrial properties; and \$100.00 for other parcels, raising approximately \$950,000.00 annually until repealed. In accordance with Section 53739 of the California Government Code, the rate shall be adjusted each year for inflation by an amount equal to the annual adjustment factor determined pursuant to Section 7902 of the California Government Code and applied by the District to its appropriations limit. The special tax shall be imposed in accordance with the schedule set forth in Exhibit "A," attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference. The Board of Directors shall set the rate of the special tax each year as provided in Section VI of this Ordinance, provided that in no year shall the rate exceed the maximum specified in this section.

SECTION VI. REPORT AND HEARING ON SPECIAL TAX

Each year prior to the imposition of the special tax, the Board of Directors shall cause a report to be prepared showing each parcel of real property subject to the special tax, the owner(s) thereof, the land use classification or classifications applied thereto, and the proposed levy thereon. Where there are multiple land uses on a parcel, more than one land use classification may be applied to the parcel if necessary to reflect the risk associated with the parcel. Upon receipt of the report, the Board of Directors shall set a date for a public hearing thereon and shall cause notice of the hearing to be given pursuant to Section VIII of this Ordinance. At the public hearing, the Board of Directors shall set the rate and make such corrections to the taxes proposed to be levied as may be required to conform to the schedule set forth in Exhibit "A".

SECTION VII. ANNUAL REPORT ON SPECIAL TAX REVENUES

Each year the District shall cause a report to be prepared and filed with the Board of Directors containing information regarding the amount of special tax revenues collected and expended as well as the status of projects funded with proceeds of the special tax.

SECTION VIII. NOTICE OF HEARING

In the absence of state law specifying the procedure for giving notice, notice of any public hearing held pursuant to this Ordinance shall be given by posting in at least three (3) public places with the District at least fifteen (15) days prior to the hearing and publishing twice pursuant to Section 6066 of the California Government Code in at least on (1) newspaper of general circulation within the District. The notice shall include the date, time, and place of the public hearing, a general explanation of the matter to be considered, and a statement of where additional information may be obtained.

SECTION IX. COLLECTION

The special tax shall be collected in the same manner and subject to the same penalty as other charges and taxes collected by or on behalf



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of the District by the County of Sonoma. The Sonoma County Tax Collector may deduct reasonable administrative costs incurred in collection the special tax and deposit the amounts deducted in the Sonoma County general fund. In accordance with Article 1 (commencing with section 29300) of Chapter 2 of Division 3 of Title 3 of the California Government Code, there shall be added to the amount of special tax an amount for the reasonable administrative costs incurred in collecting the special tax.

SECTION X. APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT

The appropriations limit for the District shall be increased by the amount of the additional tax money raised to permit spending of the revenue raised by the special tax, for the maximum four (4) year period permitted by law.

SECTION XI. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional and invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this Ordinance. The people of the Schell Vista Fire Protection District hereby declare that they would have passed this Ordinance and every section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

SECTION XII. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect the day following its approval by two-thirds of the District's qualified voters voting on its approval at the election on November 8, 2022.

APPROVED, by a two-thirds vote of the voters of the Schell Vista Fire Protection District at the special election held on November 8, 2022, and **SO ORDERED**.

s/ Hal Stober
Vice President, Board of Directors
Schell Vista Fire Protection District

ATTEST:

s/ Robin Woods
Clerk of the Board of Directors

Exhibit A

SCHELL-VISTA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 2022 MAXIMUM SPECIAL TAX PARCEL - USE CODES			
USE CODE SUMMARY GROUP	MAXIMUM RATE PER APN	MAXIMUM RATE PER ADDITIONAL UNIT	CHARGE BASE
Residential	\$200.00	\$100.00	Residence
Commercial	\$0.14	N/A	Sq. Ft.
Other Parcels	\$100.00	N/A	Parcel

USE CODE CLASSIFICATION DETAILS	
USE CODE SUMMARY GROUP	PRIMARY USE CODE
Residential	010, 014, 015, 016, 017, 019, 021, 022, 023, 031, 032, 035, 041, 042, 049, 051, 052, 054, 055, 056, 057, 113, 177, 202, 421, 423, 426, 471, 481, 483, 486, 511, 521, 523, 531, 541, 561
Commercial	064, 071, 110, 113, 121, 140, 170, 171, 177, 193, 201, 210, 250, 254, 280, 281, 290, 310, 311, 320, 323, 329, 330, 331, 332, 351, 352, 353, 354, 360, 380, 381, 390, 590, 592, 611, 640, 670, 690, 710, 720, 753
Other Parcels	000, 001, 002, 003, 005, 050, 080, 082, 100, 101, 102, 301, 400, 420, 422, 470, 520, 530, 540, 560, 570, 580, 890