

**Print**

## Measure Z Application for Funding 2025 - Submission #38250

Date Submitted: 2/14/2025

### MEASURE Z APPLICATION SUBMISSION

**Agency Name\***

Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association

**Mailing Address\***

PO Box 7014

**City\***

Eureka

**Zip\***

95502

**Contact Person\***

Rick Nicholson

**Title\***

President

**Phone Number\***

7077869909

**Email\***

rnicholson@ferndalefire.org

**Project Title\***

HCFA funds all fire departments in Humboldt County

**Funding Available**

The estimated amount of Measure Z funding available for FY 2025-26 is \$1.3 million.

**1. Amount of Measure Z Funding Requested For FY 25-26\***

1,019,099.00

**Agency Priority**

N/A - I am only submitting one application ▼

Agencies are encourage to submit one project per application. If your agency is submitting more than one application, please rank this application in terms of your agency's priority here.

SUMMARY OF EXPENSES

Item	\$ Amount	% of Total
Salaries (wages)	Salaries Amount*	Salaries %*
	0.00	0
Benefits	Benefits Amount*	Benefits %*
	0.00	0
Overhead and Occupancy (Administrative, Rent, Utilities, Phones, etc.)	Overhead/Occupancy Amount*	Overhead/Occupancy %*
	0.00	0
Equipment/Supplies/Services	Equip./Services/Supplies Amount*	Equipment/Services/Supplies %*
	0.00	0
Transportation/Travel	Transportation/Travel Amount*	Transportation/Travel %*
	0.00	0
Fixed Assets	Fixed Assets Amount*	Fixed Assets %*
	1,019,099.00	1,019,099.00
TOTAL	Total Amount of Application*	TOTAL 100%
	1,019,099.00	

**ENTITY TYPE\***☐

Humboldt County Department

☐

Contract Service Provider to Humboldt County

☒

Local Government Entity

☐

Private Service Provider

☐

Non-Profit Service Provider

☐

Other (please describe)

**ENTITY TYPE**

Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association

If you selected other, please briefly describe the entity you represent.

**Is this application a renewal or related to a project that has been funded by Measure Z in the past? \***

Yes ▼

If you checked "yes" please include the following:

1. a report detailing results from the most recent year the project was funded, and:
2. a completed Staffing Report detailing when the funded positions were filled during the most recent year you received funding for this project.

These documents must be uploaded in the "Required Attachments" section of this application.

**Describe how the scope of your proposal fits the intent of Measure Z. Specifically, how will it maintain and improve public safety and essential services?\***

The Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association (HCFCA) plays a critical role in maintaining and improving public safety across Humboldt County. Our association serves as the backbone of fire protection and emergency response by directly supporting all fire agencies within the county. The intent of Measure Z is to ensure that essential services, including public safety, are properly funded and equipped to serve the community effectively. HCFCA aligns with this mission by enhancing fire protection capabilities without requesting funds for staffing. Our firefighters and emergency personnel serve on a volunteer basis, providing fire protection resources for the county at no cost to taxpayers in terms of personnel expenses. Rather than seeking funding for salaries, we are simply requesting the necessary tools and equipment to effectively carry out our duties. Firefighters cannot perform lifesaving operations without reliable gear, vehicles, and emergency response tools. Investing in these resources directly enhances our ability to respond swiftly and efficiently to emergencies, whether they involve fires, medical calls, or other critical incidents. By equipping our firefighters with the right tools, Measure Z funding will allow us to improve emergency response times, increase firefighter safety, and ensure that all residents of Humboldt County receive the highest level of protection. The HCFCA remains committed to upholding the values of service, preparedness, and community safety, and with the support of Measure Z, we can continue to provide essential public safety services to those who need them most.

**Please provide a brief description of the proposal for which you are seeking funding.\***

The proposal we are seeking funding for is centered around ensuring that the dedicated firefighters and emergency responders of Humboldt County have the necessary tools to continue serving our community effectively. The individuals who make up the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association (HCFCA) are your neighbors, friends, and colleagues. We are the ones who get up in the middle of the night, leave our families, and respond to emergencies across the county. This work is not just a job for us; it's calling, and we live it every day. We dedicate countless hours of our personal time to training and honing our skills to ensure we are prepared for any situation, from wildfires to medical emergencies. Our commitment to public safety is unwavering, but to do this work effectively, we need the proper equipment and tools. While our teams are deeply committed to the service we provide, it is the equipment—fire engines, protective gear, communication devices, and rescue tools—that ensures we can respond swiftly and safely to every emergency. This proposal is not about funding salaries or personnel costs. We are asking for the essential tools needed to continue providing high-quality service to the residents of Humboldt County. With the proper resources, we can continue to deliver the level of safety and protection that our community deserves. Your support will directly impact on our ability to serve you and keep our community safe.

**How have you developed a plan for sustainability, including diversification of funding sources, for your proposal to carry on without reliance on future Measure Z funds? Please provide detail of your plan for sustainability here.\***

The Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association (HCFCA) has taken proactive steps to ensure the long-term sustainability of fire and emergency services while also recognizing the continued need for Measure Z funding. One of our key strategies is providing financial support to the HCFCA Fire Services Planning Team, which plays a vital role in assisting fire agencies with identifying and developing funding opportunities. This Planning Team includes employees of the County of Humboldt and LAFCO contractor Planwest Partners, who together have many decades of specialized knowledge and technical skills. Their efforts help agencies pursue and establish available financial revenue sources, explore grant opportunities, and assess the feasibility of expansion or consolidation to enhance efficiency and long-term stability through base funding. While we actively pursue these sustainability efforts, we firmly believe that continued Measure Z funding aligns with the original intent of the voters who supported this measure. Public safety remains a top priority for our communities, and ensuring fire departments have the necessary resources to respond effectively to emergencies is essential. The demand for fire and emergency services continues to grow, and ongoing funding ensures that we can provide the tools and equipment needed to protect lives and property across Humboldt County. HCFCA remains committed to exploring alternative funding sources, including grants, partnerships, and cost-sharing initiatives. However, given the critical nature of emergency services and the challenges of securing consistent funding, we believe that continued Measure Z support is both justified and necessary to maintain the level of protection and response that Humboldt County residents expect and deserve.

**If this request is for the continuation or expansion of an existing program/service, what is the current source of funding for that program/service?\***

The components of the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs request for Measure Z funding are a continuation of existing programs, including the funding of communication dispatch fees. Continuation of the funding of the HCFCA Fire Services Planning Team and funding to continue to address PPE and fire hose needs within departments. All have been supported by Measure Z funding in past funding cycles.


**If you are awarded Measure Z funds, how do you plan to leverage these funds to secure additional grants, contributions or community support? \***

The Association, regional teams, and individual departments are always seeking additional funding opportunities. However, the grant process is time-intensive, from application to implementation and follow-up. Even the Measure Z process requires surveying 43 departments, writing the application, presenting our case, and waiting for funding approval—often until January before we can utilize the funds. We acknowledge concerns about quarterly reporting delays but ask the committee to recognize the extensive effort required to make this funding possible. Despite these challenges, we remain committed to leveraging Measure Z funds to enhance public safety and explore further funding opportunities as resources allow."

**Will this proposal require new or expanded activity on the part of another entity to be fully functional and effective? If so, name that entity and describe what that participation would look like. \***

The Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association (HCFCA) believes that we contribute more than our fair share to public safety while not always receiving the same funding opportunities that county agencies do. We want to express our sincere gratitude to the committee for its continued support and for recognizing the vital role we play in protecting our communities. However, it is important to acknowledge the broader reality of Measure Z funding. Currently, over 90% of these funds are allocated to county agencies, leaving minimal resources for other public safety organizations like ours. This imbalance significantly limits funding opportunities for non-county agencies despite the fact that we are also critical to the safety and well-being of Humboldt County residents. We are not arguing that county agencies are undeserving of these funds, but rather that they are not the only public safety entities in need of support. As taxpayers and voters, we believe these funds should be distributed more equitably to ensure that all public safety agencies, including volunteer fire departments, have the necessary resources to serve their communities. Sustaining public safety is challenging for everyone, but it is especially difficult for volunteer agencies. County agencies struggle to maintain staffing due to funding uncertainties but consider the challenge of keeping volunteers engaged when they lack even the basic tools to do their jobs. Fire chiefs face immense pressure to meet NFPA standards, pay for insurance, and simply keep fuel in fire engines—all while managing the increasing burnout rate among volunteers and leadership alike. Again, we deeply appreciate the committee's ongoing support, but much work still needs to be done. We urge the committee to consider the broader public safety landscape and ensure that funding is distributed in a way that supports all agencies committed to protecting the people of Humboldt County.

**Are there recurring expenses associated with this application, such as personnel cost? \***

No 

**If you checked yes, please detail those expenses here.**

Please note, the Citizens' Advisory Committee in May, 2023, adopted a stance that it would not recommend funding for new, ongoing county positions.

## REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Be sure to include the following with your application.

### Prior Year Results

If your request is a continuation of a program funded with Measure Z in prior fiscal years, please provide the results of implementation. (one page maximum)

### Upload Prior Year Results Attachment

 No file chosen

### Program Budget

[Download the budget narrative](#), then upload using the button at right.

### Upload Program Budget Attachment\*

HCFCA Measure Z 25-26 Final.docx

### Staffing Report

If your request was previously funded, please [download and complete the staffing report](#), then upload it using the option provided here.

### Upload Staffing Report Attachment

No file chosen

### Letters of Support

If you have letters of support from members of the community you can upload them here.

### Upload Letters of Support

No file chosen

**I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above statements and all attachments are true and correct.**

**Date\***

2/14/2025

01:30 PM

**Signature\***

Rick Nicholson

Type Approving Official's Name

## HCFA Measure Z 25/26 Regional Breakdown

HCFCA Measure Z Proposed Budget 2025/2026	
Planning	\$150,000.00
Dispatching 55/45%	\$275,000
Southern Trinity Workers Comp	\$15,000
Humboldt County Rescue Coalition	\$60,000
North Bay region (includes fire net upgrade)	<b>\$500,000.00</b>
Eel River region	<b>\$500,000.00</b>
Southern Humboldt region	<b>\$500,000.00</b>
<b>Guaranteed 25/26:</b>	\$979,929.00
<b>Z Committee App Request 25/26</b>	\$1,,019,099.00
<b>Total Requested</b>	<b>\$2,000,000.00</b>
<b>Total Funded</b>	

## HUMBOLDT COUNTY RESCUE COALITION 2024-25 MEASURE Z REQUEST

Priority	Item	Description	ERVTRT	SHCTRT	Total	Price	Subtotal
1	Apparatus Apron	Concrete Apron for SHCTRT Main Station		1	1	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
1	Swiftwater Boat	Rescue Boat, non-powered	0	1	1	\$3,100.00	\$ 3,100.00
1	Swiftwater Helmets	WRSI Helmets & Liners	12	16	28	\$160.00	\$ 4,480.00
1	Swiftwater Dry Suits	Kokatat Dry Suits		8	8	\$1,500.00	\$ 12,000.00
1	Swiftwater Gloves	NRS HydroSkin	12	16	28	\$40.00	\$ 1,120.00
1	Swiftwater Booties	NRS Storm Boot	12	16	28	\$150.00	\$ 4,200.00
1	WSAR Packs	W/Water filters, pads, space blankets, bivies		8	8	\$300.00	\$ 2,400.00
1	Rescue Hardware	Rope Rescue Hardware			0		\$ 2,700.00
	OR Gear	Ocean Rescue Equipment					\$ 10,000.00
1	Training						\$ 4,000.00
1	Insurance						\$ 2,000.00
1	General Supplies						\$ 2,000.00
Priority	Item	Description	ERVTRT	SHCTRT	Total	Price	Subtotal
1	Apparatus Apron	Concrete Apron for SHCTRT Main Station		1	1	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
1							
1	Swiftwater Helmets						
							\$60,000.00

## North Bay Measure Z Estimated Budget 2025/2026

<b>Total Allocated:</b>	<b>500,000.00</b>
SCBA	\$82,000.00
Hose	\$40,000.00
Apparatus	\$150,000.00
Extrication equipment	\$108,000.00
Extractor (PPE washers)	\$40,000.00
PPE	\$80,000.00
<b>Total Requested</b>	<b>\$500,000.00</b>

## Eel River Valley Measure Z Estimated Budget 2025/2026

<b>Total Allocated:</b>	<b>500,000.00?</b>
SCBA Fill Station	\$90,000.00
New Type 6 Fire Apparatus- Rio Dell	\$190,000.00
New Type 6 Fire Apparatus- Ferndale	\$190,000.00
Fire Hose- Bridgeville	\$30,000.00
<b>Total Requested</b>	<b>\$500,000.00</b>

## SHVFCA Measure Z Budget 2025/2026

<b>Total Allocated:</b>	<b>500,000.00</b>
1 Type 6	\$190,000
Workers comp insurance payments	\$120,000
Training	\$30,000
Apparatus Maintenance/pump testing	\$90,000
PPE	\$70,000
<b>Total Requested</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>



# 25-26 Measure Z Regions

3 Regions and the Chiefs Association \$2,000,000

## Northern Hum Agencies Lead Agency ACV

1. Hoopa VFD
2. Kneeland
3. Orick
4. Orleans
5. Fieldbrook
7. Trinidad
8. Samoa
9. Westhaven
10. Willow Creek
11. Blue Lake
12. Arcata
13. Humboldt Bay

\$500,000

## Eel Valley Agencies Lead Agency FRT

1. Rio Dell
  - a. Redcrest
  - b. Shively
  - c. Scotia
2. Fortuna
3. Bridgeville
4. Loleta
5. Carlotta
6. Ferndale

\$500,000

## So Hum Agencies Lead Agency SHE

1. Alderpoint
2. Briceland
3. Weott
4. Redway
5. Fruitland
6. Palo Verde
7. Myers Flat
8. Miranda
  - a. Phillipsville
9. Telegraph Ridge
10. Shelter Cove
  - a. Whale Gulch
11. Salmon Creek
12. Honeydew
13. Whitethorn
14. Garberville
15. Petrolia

\$500,000

## HCFA

- Dispatching
- Insurance
- Grant Match
- Admin Support
- HRCR
- Arson
- Communications

\$500,000