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By Kaylie Harpin at 4:37 pm, Feb 18, 2022

#26

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MEASURE Z EXPENDITURES

The Advisory Committee meets on each Wednesday in March to review applications and will make recommendations to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors in April.

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Agency Name: Public Works Department

Mailing Address: 1106 2nd Street, Eureka, CA 95501

Contact Person: Thomas Mattson Title: Public Works Director

Telephone: 707-445-7421 E-mail address: tmattson@co.humboldt.ca.us

1. AMOUNT OF MEASURE Z FUNDING REQUESTED FOR FY 2022-2023: \$ 1,236,000

2. ENTITY TYPE -- Please check appropriate box.

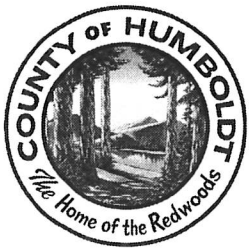
- a. Humboldt County Department
- b. Contract Service Provider to Humboldt County
- c. Local Government Entity
- d. Private Service Provider
- e. Non-Profit Service Provider
- f. Other, Describe: _____

3. Is this application a renewal or related to a project that has been funded by *Measure Z* in the past?
(check one) Yes No

4. 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, as described on the previous page?

The Humboldt County Roadway/Evacuation Route and Firebreak Wildfire Resiliency Project will create a full-time brush cutting crew and will improve brush and fire hazards along County maintained roads in order to reduce emergency response time, help to minimize damage to response vehicles for law enforcement, fire protection, emergency services and improve public safety on county right of ways. without roads emergency services will not get to where they are needed. This project is in partnership with Fire Safe Council, Cal-Fire, PG&E, Shelter Cove Resort Improvement District, and California Conservation Crops

In addition, this project will also fund expenses for creating roadside shaded-fuel brakes in the Shelter Cove Area. Shelter Cove is an isolated high-density residential area located in a high wildfire risk area with only one road in and out. This project will enhance the evacuation route as well as create fuel breaks.



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

The funds requested are for specific projects that currently have little to no funding to perform, and for cost of equipment, personnel and contractors needed to perform the work. The funding request can be scaled other than the personnel wages, meaning that whatever Measure Z funding is provided to the Department, it will be directed to the brush/tree projects in the order of priority listed and will improve safety of our roads system. These are all projects that have been determined to have a high value in terms of public safety and fire hazard reduction. If not performed potential for road closures, traffic delays and restriction of access to emergency services is high.

6. 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?

If awarded, the Measure Z funding will be directed at the specific projects in order of priority and used as matching funds to leverage additional grants if applicable. The requested funding will also allow the County to expand on work planned through cooperative partnerships with other agencies. Additionally, the proposed purchase of fixed assets will provide the county with much needed equipment which will have a lifespan well beyond fiscal year 2022-23. Through leveraging a diverse array of funding sources and partnerships, more progress can be made on addressing the county's backlog of road maintenance work than could otherwise be achieved with existing budgets.

7. 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 County maintained road system is maintained through the road fund, which is currently underfunded. Measure Z funds will help offset the backlog of projects needed on the County maintained road system. Many of these projects will not be executed without Measure Z funds.

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

Measure Z funds will be used as matching funds when seeking grants and cooperative projects with other agencies, which further leverages how far Measure Z funds can go. Our partners for the project are Fire Safe Council, Cal-Fire, PG&E, Shelter Cove Resort Improvement District, and California Conservation Corps

9. 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.

No.



10. Are there recurring expenses associated with this application, such as personnel cost? Please check yes or no Yes No

If you checked yes, detail those expenses here:

Ongoing Measure Z funding of \$467,700 per year.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Include the following with your application, making sure to **limit your responses to one page, per section**. Responses longer than the maximum, may not be read by committee members or considered as part of your application

Proposal Narrative: Brief description of your request for Measure Z funds – Please explain how it is an essential service or improves public safety. (one page maximum)

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)

Program Budget: Please utilize the template provided on the following pages. This will need to be updated if your agency is approved for funding.

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: 2/18/22

SIGNATURE: [Handwritten Signature]

SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETE APPLICATION TO:

Humboldt County Citizens' Advisory Committee on Measure Z Expenditures
c/o County Administrative Office
825 Fifth Street, Suite 112
Eureka, CA 95501-1153

MEASURE Z PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Humboldt County Roadway/Evacuation Route and Firebreak Wildfire Resiliency Project

There are many public roads throughout the County that have excessive levels of roadside fuels (flammable vegetation) that are in high fire hazard areas. These fuels need to be managed for a) wildfire evacuation (ingress and egress), b) general sight visibility for driver safety, and c) fire breaks to help contain wildfires. Humboldt County Public Works Road & Equipment Maintenance Division (“County Roads”) routinely maintains all County roads, and in rural areas this includes trimming roadside vegetation. However, due to funding and staffing cuts over recent decades, many key routes are overgrown with excessive quantities of vegetation.

Currently the County Roads vegetation maintenance program consists of:

- a) Each road crew mowing shoulders as part of all their other duties. The goal is mowing as many miles as possible each year on rural roads. (On urban roads, landscaping is maintained by the fronting landowners.)
- b) County Roads historically hires CAL FIRE inmate crews to help with roadside vegetation reduction, at this time Cal Fire has very few crews as a result of the new laws that release this level of offender.
- c) County Roads partners with CAL FIRE, Shelter Cove Resort Improvement District and the Fire Safe Council on roadside shaded-fuel breaks beyond the County right-of-way. The amount and type of work that these crews can do is limited by County staff, partner supervision and support equipment and the willingness of adjoining landowners to allow vegetation trimming and removal to occur on private property adjacent to the public right of way. This type of fuel reduction is labor extensive, but has a long-lasting effect on slowing the regrowth of vegetation depending on the microclimate of a region. County Roads is proposing to expand the existing partnership with private contractors and partner entities. When the proposed crews are not working on partnership projects with CAL FIRE, Shelter Cove Resort Improvement District and the Fire Safe Council, the crews would be performing routine vegetation mowing. With more equipment and staff to lead projects, County Roads estimates that the crew operating year-round would complete approximately 120 roadside miles of shaded-fuel breaks each year. This would free up the road crews to spend more time performing other maintenance activities.

County Roads is also looking to develop agreements with the California Conservation Corps (CCC) for their crews to assist with this work, as well as collaborating on projects with local Fire Safe Counsel’s (FSCs) and others doing fuel-hazard reduction to further leverage the effectiveness of the proposed project. Expanding these partnerships could be especially helpful when CAL FIRE crews are unavailable, and for projects beyond the County right-of-way. These partnership agreements would facilitate development of best management practices for creating strategic fuel breaks. Building partnerships with local FSCs would also support FSC work along county roads, such as waivers for Encroachment Permits and the sharing equipment (e.g. road work signs).

In addition, County Roads is also exploring developing agreements with our partner agencies (such as Caltrans, PG&E, and Shelter Cove Resort Improvement District (RID)) to support work along each other’s easements. These agreements would improve efficiency, allowing work to be completed by one jurisdiction within the easement of another when it is adjacent to an active project area. Currently, adjacent vegetation remains intact until the other jurisdiction can address it.

To achieve this, County Roads is seeking ongoing Measure Z funding for four new employees. The ability of County Roads to fully participate in this important fuel reduction program would be contingent on securing

on-going Measure Z funds to support the contracting and on-going staffing needs. We are also asking for funding for road specific project in Shelter Cove as part of this request (see map)

ATTACHMENT II - EXHIBIT E
Budget
Humboldt County Public Works

Budget Date: 2/17/22

Invoice # MZ- _____

Invoice Period: _____

Descriptions	Amounts	Approved Budget	Remaining Balance
A. Personnel Costs			
Title: Road Maintenance Supervisor Salary and Benefits Calculation: \$52.24 applied hourly labor rate.	108,663.00		(108,663.00)
Duties Description: Brush cutting, tree trimming, project management & supervision of RMW III positions.			
Title: Road Maintenance Worker III Salary and Benefits Calculation: \$42.79 applied hourly labor rate.	89,002.00		(89,002.00)
Duties Description: Brush cutting, tree trimming & project management.			
Title: Road Maintenance Worker III Salary and Benefits Calculation: \$42.79 applied hourly labor rate.	89,002.00		(89,002.00)
Duties Description: Brush cutting, tree trimming & project management.			
Title: Road Maintenance Worker III Salary and Benefits Calculation: \$42.79 applied hourly labor rate.	89,002.00		(89,002.00)
Duties Description: Brush cutting, tree trimming & project management.			
Title: Administration Salary and Benefits Business Manager \$64.74 applied hourly labor rate. Calculation: Fiscal Assistant \$29.30 applied hourly labor rate.	35,000.00		(35,000.00)
Duties Description: Staff time for tracking, billing and paying on contracts.			
Total Personnel:	410,669.00	0.00	(410,669.00)
B. Operational Costs (Rent, Utilities, Phones, etc.)			
Title: Tree Contractor Description: High canopy tree removal Shelter Cove area.	190,000.00		(190,000.00)
Title: Equipment Operating Cost Description: Equipment Usage	18,580.00		(18,580.00)
Title: Contracts Cal Fire inmate California conservation, and sheriff swap crews @ Description: 200.00 per day. Brush cutting, tree trimming,	75,000.00		(75,000.00)
Title: Safety Equipment Description: Personal Protective Equipment, Radios, Small Tools	20,000.00		(20,000.00)
Total Operating Costs:	303,580.00	0	(303,580.00)
C. Consumables/Supplies (Supplies and Consumables should be separate)			
Title: supplies for porta potty Description: Toilet paper, sanitizer & cleaning fees	2,000		(2,000.00)
Total Consumable/Supplies:	2,000.00	0	(2,000.00)
D. Transportation/Travel (Local and Out-of-County should be separate)			
Title: Local Mileage Description:	55000		(55,000.00)

ATTACHMENT II - EXHIBIT E
Budget
Humboldt County Public Works

Budget Date: 2/17/22

Invoice # MZ- _____

Invoice Period: _____

Descriptions	Amounts	Approved Budget	Remaining Balance
Total Transportation/Travel Costs:	55000	0	(55,000.00)
E. Fixed Assets			
Title: Equipment			
Description: Two (2) Brush Cutters	330,000		(330,000.00)
Title: Equipment			
Description: Two (2) Trailers to haul brush cutters	84,000		(84,000.00)
Title: Equipment			
Description: One (1) Porta Potty	10,000		(10,000.00)
Title: Equipment			
Description: One (1) Brush Chipper	40,000		(40,000.00)
Total Consumable/Supplies:	464,000.00		(464,000.00)
	<hr/>		
Total	1,235,249.00		(1,235,249.00)



Shelter Cove Fire Department

Resort Improvement District #1

Nick Pape, Fire Chief
9126 Shelter Cove Road
Whitethorn, CA 95589
Office: (707) 986-7507

February 16, 2022

To: Humboldt County Citizens' Advisory Committee on *Measure Z* Expenditures

From: Nick Pape, Chief Shelter Cove Fire

Dear Committee Members,

The Shelter Cove Fire Department (SCFD), part of the Resort Improvement District No. 1 (RID) fully endorses Humboldt County Department of Public Works' (DPW) application (Humboldt County Roadway/Evacuation Route and Firebreak Wildfire Resiliency Project) for Measure Z funding in 2022. The condition of Humboldt County's road system may be one of the most overlooked aspects of public safety in the entire county. While local police, fire, and emergency medical services agencies are vital to the well-being of county residences, none of us would be able to do our jobs safely, access people in need, and extinguish structure & wildfires without a safe and adequately maintained county road system.

In Shelter Cove and throughout our County, the lack of funding for County roads maintenance & repair has led to overgrown roads, deteriorated road surfaces, and failed culverts. Fully funding this application is critical to addressing our overgrown roadways and will build on the fuel reduction work already funded and planned for this year. This requested funding will also help propel support for additional state and federal resources to increase community resiliency to wildfires.

It's true that the improved condition of the Humboldt County roads may not be as obvious as showing off a new fire engine or seeing more law enforcement officers on the streets, but when it comes to the safety of the public in Humboldt County, most public safety positions rely on the Humboldt County roads in order to deliver the increase in services & capacity they have already achieved through Measure Z funding.

Recently SCFD and the RID worked with the Humboldt County Fire Safe Council to successfully acquire Cal Fire-Wildfire Prevention grant funding for \$165,000 to further treat vegetation along 10 miles of Humboldt County roads in Shelter Cove. Cal Fire's financial commitment to funding roadside projects like this demonstrates that the need of treating our roadways in this manner is worth pursuing and funding. Just within the

Shelter Cove development there are over 40 miles of paved Humboldt County roads and each one of them is capable of becoming a vital firebreak during a wildfire.

DPW's proposed treatment will cut back brush off the road easement and in certain locations limb trees up to 30 feet in height which will greatly increase the chances that wildfires can be contained and extinguished on the roadside and help protect civilians & public safety workers as they evacuate/aid in evacuation on these road systems.

An example of increased wildfire resiliency by creating/enhancing roadway fuel breaks was on August 9th, 2020, when SCFD responded to vehicle fire on Shelter Cove Rd. A truck pulling a camper caught fire in an area previously treated (for fuel reduction) with funds provided by Measure Z funding in 2019. This treatment helped keep the fire from spreading quickly into the tree canopy allowing SCFD to quickly contain the fire just off the roadside.

The SCFD feels strongly that the Humboldt County Department of Public Works' application for Measure Z funding (Humboldt County Roadway/Evacuation Route and Firebreak Wildfire Resiliency Project) be supported in full to ensure that county roads are in a condition that allows our first responders to rapidly and safely access the people in need and to better contain wildfires.

Take care and be safe,

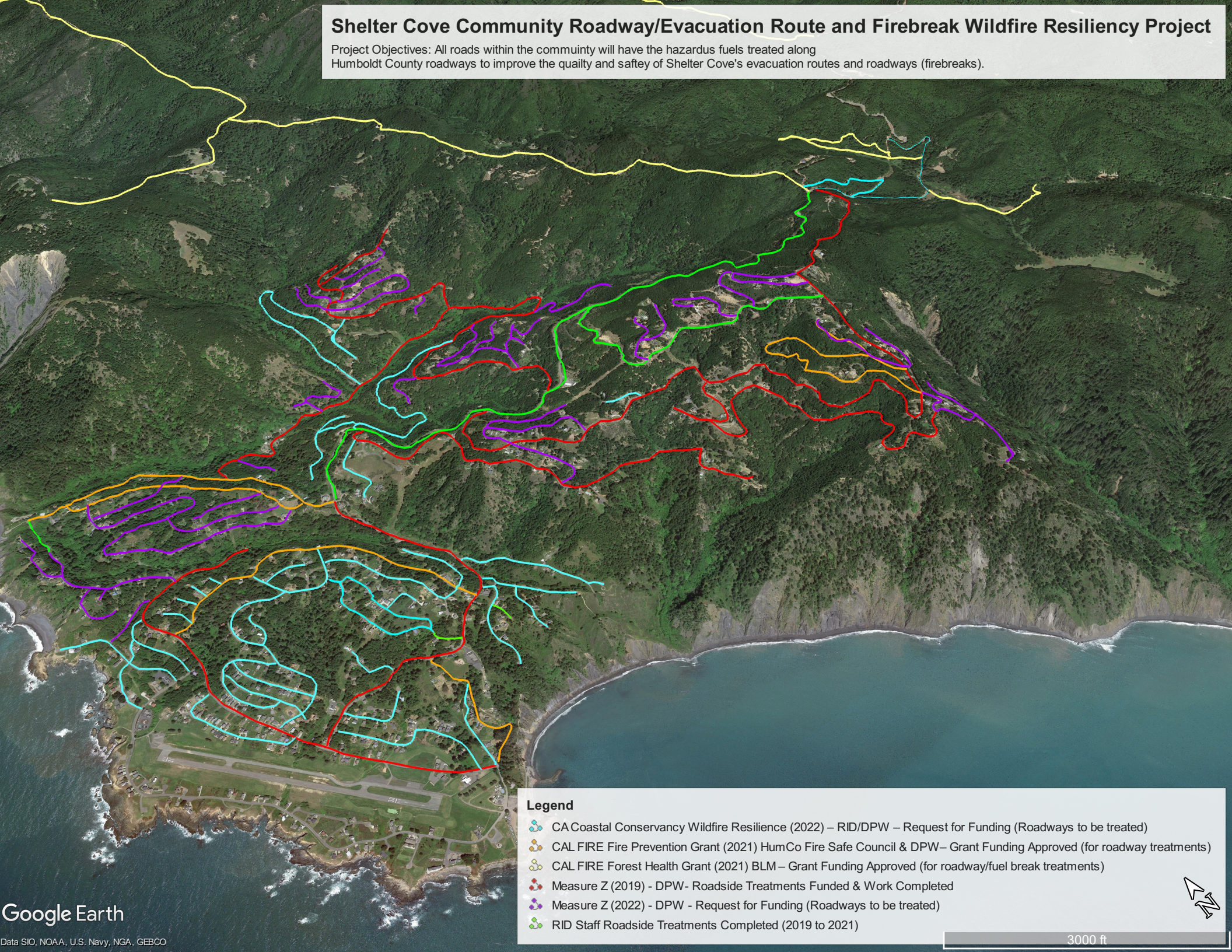
Nick Pape

Fire Chief







Shelter Cove Fire

Shelter Cove Community Roadway/Evacuation Route and Firebreak Wildfire Resiliency Project

Project Objectives: All roads within the community will have the hazardous fuels treated along Humboldt County roadways to improve the quality and safety of Shelter Cove's evacuation routes and roadways (firebreaks).



Legend

-  CA Coastal Conservancy Wildfire Resiliency (2022) – RID/DPW – Request for Funding (Roadways to be treated)
-  CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Grant (2021) HumCo Fire Safe Council & DPW– Grant Funding Approved (for roadway treatments)
-  CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant (2021) BLM – Grant Funding Approved (for roadway/fuel break treatments)
-  Measure Z (2019) - DPW- Roadside Treatments Funded & Work Completed
-  Measure Z (2022) - DPW - Request for Funding (Roadways to be treated)
-  RID Staff Roadside Treatments Completed (2019 to 2021)

