

**FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION  
OF  
HUMBOLDT COUNTY**

President Dale Unea  
Vice President Rick Nicholson  
Secretary/Treasurer Rich Grissom

P.O.Box 7014  
Eureka, CA 95502-7014

August 11, 2021

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Humboldt  
825 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

Dear Supervisors,

On behalf of the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association (HCFA), I would like to express support for a one-time payment to the Westhaven Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) to support their ability to sustain the provision of fire and rescue services to areas located within the boundaries of County Service Area #4 (CSA #4). We support Supervisor Madrone's proposal to allocate unused funds to the WVFD from the FY 2020-21 Fiscal Year, Extended Fire Protection Services Agreement (Amador) between CSA #4/County of Humboldt and CAL FIRE. We expect the funds provided to the WVFD will be allocated from the remaining budgeted amount after filling contract obligations with Cal Fire for actual services rendered. We also expect that this will be a short-term stopgap measure to sustain the WVFD while a long-term solution is implemented that ensures that adequate, affordable, and sustainable services are provided to the residents living within the boundaries of CSA #4. The HCFA is working with the County on the solution.

The HCFA, recognizes the challenges associated with maintaining sustainable fire and rescue services and commends the WVFD for their continual improvements despite facing great obstacles. The WVFD is a critical member of the fire services network that responds to incidents within CSA #4 and the surrounding area. The Fire Services Committee of the HCFA is committed to continue working closely with the Board of Supervisors' Fire Services Ad Hoc and the Measure Z Planning Team to identify long-term solutions over the next year. We support a solution that ensures an appropriate, year-round services network, sustained by dependable revenue. The Fire Services Committee is standing by to assist in this planning effort.

On behalf of the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association, I thank you for inviting our input on this important decision.

Sincerely,

  
Dale Unea  
President - HVFCA