



CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MEASURE Z EXPENDITURES

(Advisory Committee will make recommendations to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors as to expenditure of funds derived from *Measure Z*.)

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Agency Name: Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association

Mailing Address: PO Box 7014, Eureka CA 95502

Contact Person: Dale Unea

Title: Vice President HCFA

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E-mail address: samoavfd@gmail.com

1. **AMOUNT OF MEASURE Z FUNDING REQUESTED FOR FY 2019-20: \$ 2,366,794.00**

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 ☒ Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association

RECEIVED
FEB 25 2019
CAO

3. **Please provide brief description of proposal for which you are seeking funding.**

The Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association (HCFA) is seeking funding in three areas that would directly benefit volunteer/rural fire agencies. Per the County's own information regarding Measure Z goals, "volunteer fire departments and firefighters play critical roles in protecting life and property here in Humboldt County. Additional resources will help maintain rural fire and ambulance protection services, allowing our first responders to better - and more safely - protect County residents". These funding requests will be utilized to directly support this stated goal for Measure Z funds as approved by our County voters.

First, HCFA is seeking funding in order to purchase equipment for volunteer/rural firefighters in order to bring them up to a nationally recognized minimum level of safety equipment. Humboldt County is served by 38 individual fire departments, with 36 of these being made up entirely of volunteers. The members of these organizations, due to extremely limited revenue sources and resources struggle to provide safe adequate response services to their communities. There are unmet and ongoing equipment needs, including departments whose PPE was not replaced in previous funding cycles due to prioritizing the more significant of situations first. The four years of Measure Z funding has helped, but there are significant needs that still must be addressed.

If awarded, these funds would be utilized to purchase the recognized national standard for the minimum level of safety equipment needed to equip volunteer firefighters for performing the emergency response duties that they now perform and for the possibility of expanding services in connection with future County development.

The 2015-16 Measure Z funding cycle assisted local volunteer fire departments through the purchase of structural and wildland PPE, with additional PPE needs were addressed in 2016-17 and 2017-18. In the 2015-16 cycle, the HCFCFA developed a PPE specification for both structural and wildland PPE to simplify ordering. This consistency of PPE specification and vendor allows PPE to continue to be replaced that had not previously reached the required date of replacement or was not yet worn out or damaged in previous funding cycles with consistent PPE, rather than each department ordering individually. Lifespan for structural PPE is 10 years. The price was held through the first two years, but due to industry-wide raw material cost increases, the price did increase 10% during the 2017-18 funding cycle. Fire shelter style for wildland fires has changed in recent years; the new style is the safety standard for wildland use now, and there is a need to upgrade to this style. Funding for replacement fire shelters was requested but cut from the 2017-18 funding application. Industry standards set forth under the NFPA regulate fire hose use based upon age, with fire hose manufactured in 1987 or prior to be removed from service. Many of our volunteer fire departments rely on firehose that pre-dates the 1987 requirement. This hose is prone to failure of the inner and outer jacket, causing a burst hose line, or separation of the interior liner, which causes significant loss of adequate fire flow, and can cause pump failure if the liner enters the fire pump. As awarded in 2016-17, Measure Z funding was utilized to obtain compliant fire hose through a purchase plan based upon a request for proposal. Unfortunately, not all hose replacement needs were able to be met due to reduction of the overall Measure Z funding in 2016-17, and a request for fire hose with the 2017-18 application was also cut. SCBA's were replaced for a large number of departments in the first funding cycle, but some departments did not receive Z funded SCBA's because theirs were serviceable. There is a need to replace a large number of various brand of existing SCBA bottles for these existing SCBA's. While the packs can continue in service, the bottles have a maximum lifespan of 15 years, and many departments have existing bottles that have undergone their final hydro and are in the final years of service. In late 2016-17, HCFCFA was able to purchase 116 SCBA bottles with remaining funding from cost savings on other equipment purchases. In 2017-18, the funding request for the additional SCBA bottles needed (approximately 100) was cut. There is still a significant need to replace the identified SCBA bottles, with little to no funding ability through already impacted fire department budgets.

HCFCFA is also requesting final funding to support the placement of one multi-use regional training facilities, and to provide upgrade support to a current training facility. The new facilities would be located geographically in the county to provide fire departments a place to train their personnel; departments struggle to meet ever increasing training mandates set down by the federal and state government, OSHA, NIOSH, NFPA, and even the County of Humboldt's workers comp insurance carrier to show training requirements as current and ongoing. The facilities would be available not only for fire department use, but would allow law enforcement training, CERT training, and other training uses. Fixed facilities have been placed in Redway to serve southern Humboldt, and is needed in Fortuna to serve the Eel River and Van Duzen areas. Upgrade to the drill facility on Hilfiker Lane in Eureka is also requested to allow an all-weather training surface (concrete/asphalt) to be placed to allow training in all weather conditions; unfortunately, departments using the facility must pull hose and equipment through gravel and mud for more than half of the year, which damages and wears the equipment. Since inception in 2004, this facility has been used by the majority of fire departments in the County (and other regions of the state), and by local law enforcement agencies.

HCFCFA is requesting a continuation of support through funding in order to pay dispatch fees incurred by all volunteer fire departments and Arcata Fire. Currently Cal Fire, under a contract agreement, performs emergency dispatch services for nearly all of the fire agencies within Humboldt County. These dispatch and communication services are a key component for the successful response of volunteer/rural fire agencies to emergencies within the County. Without a reliable, unified and dedicated communications system, first responders would not receive timely notification of emergencies and would be unable to respond to calls for assistance. These funds would be utilized to directly support and maintain these dispatch services, ensuring that there is no disruption or lapse in critical communications and emergency services. As noted, this would be a continuation of fiscal support from the previous two Measure Z funding cycles.

The Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association is requesting funding to be allocated towards the continuation of a formal planning effort to address the mismatch between fire-related district boundaries and where the fire service provides emergency response on a regular basis as well as other challenges that are impacting the sustainable provision of fire and rescue services throughout the county. Much work has been done to address these issues, but it is going to be a multiyear process. There are still important populated areas of the county that do not fall within the boundaries of any fire-related district and the sustainability of public safety services

from fire departments is still jeopardized in many areas. "Goodwill service" is still being provided from many district fire departments or non-district fire companies throughout the county. This goodwill service is not supported by any sustainable revenue source and requires district resources to respond outside of their jurisdictional boundary which puts additional strain on already overburdened resources. The non-district fire companies were established by their communities out of the need for fire service and do not receive tax revenue and survive on fundraising which can be unreliable. To ensure the continuation and improvement of this vital public safety service, where it is so clearly needed, the Fire Chiefs' Association seeks funding to expand district boundaries where appropriate to match their true service areas, to form new districts where non-district fire companies currently provide service, to coordinate with the County of Humboldt on the formation of County Service Areas (CSAs), to evaluate the feasibility of consolidations where appropriate, and to provide planning support to develop strategies to sustain and improve emergency and fire rescue services in Humboldt County. Many of these small volunteer fire departments do not have the administrative staff or expertise to start and complete the district formation and expansion process. Therefore, we recommend funding County staff to assist in this process. This work will not only benefit the local fire agencies and local communities by ensuring the continuation of critical public safety services but would benefit the County going forward by allowing planned subdivisions and new development to occur, which will generate additional property tax revenue.

Coupled with the above-mentioned planning effort is a request to fund out of jurisdiction responses through Measure Z funding. This was brought as an application in 2016-17 by the CAO's Office as a method to fund out of jurisdiction responses in the 299/Redwood Creek/Mad River corridor areas where three fire departments currently provide coverage well outside of their response jurisdiction with no ongoing sustainable revenue source for that response. The cost of this "goodwill service" falls to the residents within the existing district boundaries. This is a complex issue that will take time to design the best funding framework, be that formation of a County Service Area (CSA), annexation, or designated funding source. This past year, the Board of Supervisors chose to utilize Measure Z funding for this service while a long-term solution is developed through County Planning, Fire Services Subcommittee, CAO's Office, and the affected jurisdictions. The Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association was advised that moving forward through the 2017-18 funding cycle, the CAO's office would not be submitting a Measure Z application to support service for this area, so HCFA included the request in the 2017-18 funding application. This is a continuation of service from the 2016-17 and 2017-18 funding cycles. The request is being made to cover the mentioned area of 299/Redwood Creek/Mad River, as well as the area of the Avenue of the Giants, where one or two departments are covering the areas of neighboring jurisdictions when those jurisdictions cannot respond and where there are also important areas that are not within the boundaries of any fire related district. County Planning and LAFCo efforts are ongoing in these areas, but the responding jurisdictions and their community members continue to bear the cost of this ongoing response.

4. Measure Z funding is scheduled to "sunset" in 2020. How are you developing a plan for sustainability, including diversification of funding sources, in order for your proposal to carry on without reliance on future Measure Z funds?

Humboldt County's volunteer/rural Fire agencies are in need of immediate funding in order to continue to provide first responder emergency response services. Measure Z funding would be immediately applied towards purchasing and maintaining basic essential PPE, fire training facilities, replacement fire hose, and dispatch fee assistance to ensure that there will not be a reduction or degradation in current fire service responses.

HCFA, in collaboration with planning partners, is working to establish long-term sustainability by securing funding through fire district and CSA formation and expansion as well as through the identification of other strategies to sustain these critical services into the future. The allocation of a portion of Measure Z funds towards County staff to assist fire agencies in the process of becoming formal fire-related districts and/or annexing goodwill service areas, lays the groundwork for independence and financial sustainability. These efforts will also go a long way towards reducing further reliance on Measure Z funding when it sunsets in 2020. For example, the formation of the Fruitland Ridge, Bridgeville, and Briceland Fire Protection Districts and annexations completed by the Telegraph Ridge Fire Protection District and the fire service boundary of the

Fieldbrook Community Services District demonstrates that this planning effort can play a significant role in transitioning to a more sustainable emergency services delivery system.

In addition, fire-related districts are official government agencies that are eligible for grants such as the annual Federal Assistance to Firefighters grant program and pre- and post-disaster grant programs funded through FEMA. Currently, many fire agencies in the County are not official government organizations and therefore are ineligible to receive some grants and other types of funding and assistance. Assisting these agencies in forming districts would solve this problem.

Adding to the many good reasons for district formation is a newly passed State law that prohibits the creation of new subdivisions within County areas that are not within a fire-related district. Establishing new fire-related districts and increasing existing district boundaries to include goodwill service areas provides a three pronged solution, by:

1. Enabling fire agencies to be self-sufficient through formal funding and having, at least, a minimum level of safety equipment;
2. Becoming eligible for more grant funding and;
3. Supporting future subdivision and associated development within Humboldt County ensuring a source of revenue for not only local fire jurisdictions but also revenue for the County in the form of new property taxes and resulting economic development.

Coupled with the above mentioned planning effort is the need to fund out of jurisdiction responses through a long term method. Tremendous areas of Humboldt County fall under no fire department or fire protection district. These out of jurisdiction areas are often served by neighboring departments who receive no funding to offset the costs of response or wear and tear on vehicles and equipment. The total cost of this "goodwill service" falls to the residents living within the existing district boundaries. This is a complex issue and it will take time to design the best funding framework, be that formation of a County Service Area (CSA), annexation, or designated funding source to offset costs. In 2016-17 the Board of Supervisors began the process to utilize Measure Z funding (which continued in 2017-18) for this service while a long term solution is developed through County Planning, Fire Services Committee, CAO's Office, and the affected jurisdictions. County Planning efforts are ongoing in these areas, but many of the responding jurisdictions and their community members continue to bear the cost of this ongoing response. A HCFCFA sub-committee is working with County staff to develop annexation options to increase county tax funding in annexed areas that were previously unprotected.

5. 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 Chief's request for Measure Z funding that are a continuation of an existing program includes the funding of communication dispatch fees, continuation of the funding of the formal planning efforts with County planning partners, funding to continue to address PPE and fire hose needs within departments, and continuation of the out of jurisdiction responses. All have been supported by Measure Z funding in past funding cycles.

The communication dispatch fees paid to CALFIRE on behalf of all participating fire agencies for dispatch services is a continuation of service funding. Historically the County has paid 75% of this dispatch contract which amounts to approximately \$75,000 annually. Arcata Fire District also utilizes CALFIRE for dispatch services, with an annual projected cost of approximately \$120,000. HCFCFA is requesting funding for the remaining 25% of the contract cost for these agencies, and approximately 50% of the contract cost for Arcata Fire District. Funding these costs allows HCFCFA and the participating agencies to place funds not currently being used to pay dispatch fees into reserve to pay for future communications equipment maintenance and repair costs, unanticipated equipment repair costs, insurance costs, and staffing costs. Dispatch fees have been funded throughout the lifespan of Measure Z.

Currently, many fire districts and fire companies are called upon to provide emergency response services to areas outside of the district boundaries of any local agency. This currently happens throughout our county. These services are supported by revenue generated within existing districts and intended for services to those within district boundaries or through fundraising. The planning and district formation and annexation work that Measure Z will fund if this proposal is approved, will lead to a more sustainable and equitable financial support structure for countywide emergency services. Efforts have been underway in the 299/Redwood Creek/Mad River corridor, as well as various areas in southern Humboldt along the Avenue of the Giants. Other areas are also in need of assistance from the County Planning partners. This funding began in with Measure Z.

PPE purchase remains a necessary funding item within departments as personnel come and go within an organization and properly sized equipment is not available, PPE is damaged through use, and PPE reaches the end of its 10-year life cycle based upon wear and industry standards. The original specification for PPE under Measure Z was developed with the fore thought to provide a standard to utilize for all departments from one manufacturer. Numerous departments outside of Humboldt have utilized the "Humboldt PPE Specification" to order PPE in their respective areas within California and Oregon. A industry-wide base fabric price increase occurred in 2017-18 which affected all manufacturers of PPE, so cost per set will increase slightly moving forward. This is a continued request for Measure Z support to allow purchase.

6. If you are awarded *Measure Z* funds, how will you use them to leverage additional grants, contributions, or community support?

As noted above, funds obtained from Measure Z would be used for the establishment of fire-related districts that are officially recognized local governmental entities. The County has in the past years matched Measure Z funds with existing funding allocated to this effort up to \$10,000. The existing funds are limited and are not sufficient for achieving the goals explained in this proposal. Leveraging the two funding sources will ensure significant progress towards achieving the desired goals. In addition, hundreds of hours of volunteer fire department time will be contributed to the work described in this proposal as an In-Kind match. These matching funds and hours can be tracked and documented, upon request.

In addition, formal district formation will provide a constant and secure source of tax revenue that would be obtained from the collection of local parcel and property taxes and/or assessments paid directly by community members who reside within each of these newly formed jurisdictions. Once the district formation process has been completed, fire agencies would then be eligible to apply for and obtain both State and Federal grants that are only available to official local fire agencies.

Measure Z funds spent now would build the foundation for solving the long-standing problem of a lack of sustainable revenue for local fire agencies. Money invested toward the establishment of fire-related districts with taxing authorities serves the two-fold purpose of developing a source of local tax support on an annual basis and meeting the requirements for more grant programs which expands opportunities for grant funding into the future. Therefore, Measure Z funds spent to expand and establish fire-related districts or County Service Areas (CSA's) will leverage not just one, but a combination of strategies, such as: the establishment of new or increased tax revenue; increasing fire department eligibility for grant programs; and by gaining buy-in from the local community. The application also includes short term support for departments providing out of jurisdiction responses for which they are not currently funded. This buys time to allow a more permanent solution to be found and helps to ensure that "good will" service will not end to the numerous areas being served, which come at great cost to departments responding far outside their districts.

Support of the requested training facilities (3) and existing facility enhancements (1) open the door to grant-funded training class delivery. Many agencies, including State Office of Emergency Services, Department of Homeland Security, and others provide grant opportunities to fund training, but many require a facility and hands-on training location prior to funding a grant. Funding and placing these training facilities and improvements gives multiple venues where grant funded training could be given at, and hands-on learning could occur. Funding the personnel costs for the regional Training Officer positions lends to this grant funding, both from locating and submitting grant requests, but also through effective management and delivery of the grant funded training programs.

7. Will this proposal require new or expanded activity on the part of another entity to be fully functional and effective? If so, please describe.

A major component of the effort toward fire agency funding and self-sufficiency involves work performed by Humboldt County staff in support of establishing sustainable revenue sources for fire protection. The fire service has already forged a strong working relationship with County staff through the Humboldt County Fire Safe Council and previous efforts towards the establishment of specific fire districts including Briceland, Bridgeville, Fruitland Ridge and annexations including Telegraph Ridge and Fieldbrook. The County has already devoted funds towards finding solutions to issues related to the delivery of sustainable and equitable emergency services and directing Measure Z funds towards the continuation and expansion of this work would benefit both the County and local fire agencies together. The County would benefit by having a portion of the cost of supporting the fire service research paid for by Measure Z funds and the fire agencies would benefit from district formation and expansion and future self-sufficiency through localized tax revenue collection.

Additionally, as previously noted, the County is now facing issues related to changes to the state Subdivision Map Act that prohibits new sub-divisions in areas that are not located within the boundaries of a fire-related district or other agency that meets the standards of the law. Using Measure Z funds in support of the County's efforts to address this issue will ensure that formal fire agencies are established and remove a substantial obstacle for future development as well as provide for future property tax revenue for local agencies and the County.

The requested funds will also be used to cover costs associated with the necessary involvement of the Local Agency Formation Commission which has the role of receiving, reviewing, and approving applications for fire-related district formation and expansion. In addition, we propose to cover the fees associated with holding district formation elections and processing annexations to existing districts with the requested funds. Funding these costs to address this issue in the way proposed here has been prohibitive for communities in the past.

8. Are there recurring expenses associated to this application, such as personnel costs? Please check yes or no and if so, please detail those expenses. ☐ Yes ☒ No

ATTACHMENTS—Please include the following with your application

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

Humboldt County is served by 38 individual fire departments, with 36 of these being made up entirely of volunteers. The members of these organizations, due to extremely limited revenue sources and resources struggle to provide safe adequate response services to their communities. There are unmet and ongoing equipment needs even after four years of Measure Z funding, including departments whose PPE was not replaced in previous funding cycles due to prioritizing the more significant situations first. If awarded, these funds would be utilized to purchase the recognized national standard for the minimum level of safety equipment needed to equip volunteer firefighters for performing the emergency response duties that they now perform and for the possibility of expanding services in connection with future County development. The 2015/16 Measure Z funding cycle assisted local volunteer fire departments through the purchase of structural and wildland PPE, and additional PPE needs were addressed in 2016-17 and 2017-18, but additional PPE is needed. Fire shelters are a part of PPE, and recent changes to the standard fire shelter drive replacement of older shelters. Currently a minimum of 125 are identified for replacement. Funding was cut for fire shelters in the 2017-18 Measure Z request, and no shelters were purchased. Industry standards set forth under the NFPA regulate fire hose use based upon age, with fire hose manufactured in 1987 or prior to be removed from service; much hose is still in service. This hose is prone to failure of the inner and outer jacket, causing a burst hose line, or separation of the interior liner, which causes significant loss of adequate fire flow, and can cause pump failure if the liner enters the fire pump. As awarded in 2016-17, Measure Z funding was utilized to obtain

compliant fire hose through a purchase plan based upon a request for proposal. Unfortunately, not all hose replacement needs were able to be met due to the reduction of the overall Measure Z funding to HCFA in 2016-17 and 2017-18. SCBA's were replaced for a large number of departments in the first funding cycle, but other departments did not receive Z-funded SCBA's because theirs were serviceable. While the packs can continue in service, the bottles have a maximum lifespan of 15 years. Many departments have existing bottles that are in the final years of service. 116 SCBA bottles were replaced at the end of 2016-17 through remaining Measure Z funds under HCFA due to savings on fire engine purchases. There remain 138 SCBA bottles that are identified for replacement in the next year, with departments not having the funding to make that purchase. Funding to complete construction of one new and necessary basic upgrades to an existing training facility are requested. These facilities will be used by fire departments to meet mandatory training requirements, to improve firefighter skills and knowledge, to support grant funded training and firefighter training academies, and utilized by law enforcement, CERT, and other applicable training uses. If awarded, these funds would be utilized to purchase additional needed PPE, fire shelters, additional compliant fire hose, SCBA bottles, and training facilities. We are requesting \$2,255,817 to support this effort.

HCFA is requesting a continuation of support through funding in order to pay dispatch fees incurred by thirty-six of the thirty-eight fire agencies within the County. Currently Cal Fire, under a contract agreement, performs emergency dispatch services for nearly ALL volunteer/rural fire agencies within Humboldt County. These dispatch and communication services are a key component for the successful response of fire agencies to emergency and non-emergency incidents within the County. Without a reliable, unified and dedicated communications system, first responders would not receive timely notification of emergencies and would be unable to respond to calls for assistance. As noted, this would be a continuation of fiscal support from the previous three Measure Z funding cycles. We are requesting \$87,620 to support continuation of this effort for the 2019-20 funding cycle.

The Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association is requesting funding to be allocated towards the continuation of a formal planning effort to address the mismatch between fire-related district boundaries and where the fire service provides emergency response on a regular basis as well as other challenges that are impacting the sustainable provision of fire and rescue services throughout the county. Much work has been done to address these issues but it is going to be a multiyear process. There are still important populated areas of the county that do not fall within the boundaries of any fire-related district and the sustainability of public safety services from fire departments is still jeopardized in many areas. "Goodwill service" is still being provided from many nearby district fire departments or non-district fire companies throughout the county. This goodwill service is not supported by any sustainable revenue source and requires district resources to respond outside of their jurisdictional boundary which puts additional strain on already overburdened resources. The non-district fire companies were established by the community out of their need for fire service and do not receive tax revenue and survive on fundraising which can be unreliable. To ensure the continuation and improvement of this vital public safety service, where it is so clearly needed, the Fire Chiefs' Association seeks funding to expand district boundaries where appropriate to match their true service areas, to form new districts where non-district fire companies currently provide service, to coordinate with the County of Humboldt on the formation of County Service Areas (CSAs), to evaluate the feasibility of consolidations where appropriate, and to provide planning support to develop strategies to sustain and improve emergency and fire rescue services in Humboldt County. Many of these small volunteer fire departments do not have the administrative staff or expertise to start and complete the district formation and expansion process. Therefore, we recommend funding County staff to assist in this process. This work will not only benefit the local fire agencies and local communities by ensuring the continuation of critical public safety services, but would benefit the County going forward by allowing planned subdivisions and new development to occur, which will generate additional property tax revenue.

Significant effort has been put into addressing the challenges associated with sustaining and improving the delivery of fire and rescue services provided by local resources to communities in Humboldt county. One of the many lessons learned through this effort has been the need for a more robust and ongoing volunteer recruitment and retention strategy. All local fire departments in the County depend fully or partially on volunteers and many have indicated that recruiting and retaining these volunteers is their biggest challenge. Local residents and businesses depend on these fire and rescue services and there is a need to involve more community resources in contributing to their survival by fostering increased volunteerism. As firefighter numbers fall, services suffer in our communities. In just the past few years, we have seen fire companies close their doors, and neighboring departments become impacted as they try to pick up the coverage for these areas

as is discussed in the next paragraph. We are requesting \$90,980 to support the continuation of the planning effort for the 2018-19 funding cycle.

Coupled with the above mentioned planning effort is a request to fund out of jurisdiction responses through Measure Z funding. This was brought as an application in 2016-17 by the CAO's Office, and supported by the Board of Supervisors, as a method to fund out of jurisdiction responses in the 299/redwood Creek/Mad River corridor areas where three fire departments currently provide coverage well outside of their response jurisdiction with no ongoing sustainable revenue source for that response. The cost of this "goodwill service" falls to the residents living within the existing formal district boundaries. This is a complex issue that will take time to design the best funding framework, be that formation of a County Service Area (CSA), annexation, or designated funding source. This past year, the Board of Supervisors chose to utilize Measure Z funding for this service while a long term solution is developed through County Planning, Fire Services Committee, CAO's Office, and the affected jurisdictions. The Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association was advised that moving forward through this funding cycle, the CAO's office would not be submitting a Measure Z application to support service for this area, so the Chiefs is including the request with this application. The request is being made to cover the mentioned area of 299/Redwood Creek/Mad River, and to fund also for the area of the Avenue of the Giants, where one or two departments are covering the areas of neighboring jurisdictions when those jurisdictions cannot respond. County Planning effort are ongoing in these areas, but the responding jurisdictions and their community members continue to bear the cost of this ongoing response. We are requesting \$453,000 to work to support the various areas currently identified where out of district response is a critical issue.

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)

If awarded, this will be the fifth year of funding to support efforts to improve sustainability and equity in how emergency services are supported in Humboldt County. Annually, HCFCA (assisted significantly by County Planning) compiles a fire service report for the County Board of Supervisors detailing the fire departments in the county. Included with this is a breakdown of the challenges facing fire departments. Recent reports have also detailed how Measure Z funding has assisted fire departments throughout the county. Through this report, the Board has recognized that there are emergency service delivery challenges and directed staff to identify funding to support ongoing services while long-term solutions are being sought. In addition, the Board directed staff to evaluate the feasibility of establishing CSAs as appropriate to address out of jurisdiction response areas. Fire service representatives, County staff, Board of Supervisors, and LAFCo staff have participated in many meetings and calls as work is completed to address this issue. Areas that have received detailed evaluation to date include what is being referred to as the Mad River/Redwood Creek Study Area, which includes the Highway 299 corridor. In addition, work to establish sustainable and equitable service delivery has been completed for areas along the Avenue of the Giants where one or two departments are typically responding into neighboring jurisdictions or non-district areas to provide public safety services. Options have been evaluated for the possible formation of a fire protection district or a consolidation to support the efforts of the Honeydew Fire Company and the Redcrest Fire Company. Shively has developed response capability, and currently partners with Redcrest Fire. In addition, staff have assisted the Garberville Fire Protection District in evaluating options for annexing it's out of district service area. This work is ongoing and the right solution for each area must still be identified and agreed on before moving forward. This is a complex issue that is likely going to take years to address. Additionally, areas involving recruitment and retention of volunteers is being worked on. With dwindling numbers of responders, services will suffer or go away altogether; the county saw this occur when the Weott Volunteer Fire Department was disbanded. It is worth the investment now to ensure that the future level of emergency services for the citizens of Humboldt County are not compromised.

This will also be the fifth year of funding to continue to support and sustain payment of dispatch fees incurred by 36 of the 38 fire agencies in the County. Currently CALFIRE, under a contract agreement, performs emergency dispatch services for nearly all fire agencies within Humboldt County. These dispatch and communication services are a key component for the successful response of the majority of fire agencies to emergencies within the County. Without a reliable, unified and dedicated communications system, first responders do not receive timely notification of emergencies and are unable to respond to calls for assistance.

With the County historically paying 75% of this dispatch contract annually, departments have paid the remaining 25% of the contract cost. Continuing to fund this remaining 25% in year four by the County as it was funded in all other years of Measure Z has allowed HCFCFA the ability to place funds previously dedicated to dispatch fees into a reserve account to help pay for future communications equipment maintenance and repair costs. Over time this fund could then be developed to pay for communications systems repairs and upgrades thereby increasing the self-sufficiency of the fire agencies to manage communication system change requirements into the future. Continued funding of 50% of Arcata's dispatch fees will ease potential reduction in staffing.

Funding in 2016-17 through an application submitted by the CAO's office began to address out of jurisdictional response for the 299/Redwood Creek/Mad River areas. This funding provided Blue Lake Fire, Willow Creek Fire, and Kneeland fire with monies to offset standby, readiness, and responses out of their jurisdiction into the mentioned areas. The application will not be made by the CAO's office this year. There has been a desire by the Board of Supervisors to utilize Measure Z funding for this project while a more permanent funding mechanism is developed. Adding to the previously funded area is the Avenue zone where one or two departments currently are responding across an area normally covered by five to six departments between Phillipsville and Weott, and even to the Redcrest area as needed. Numerous other areas also exist where this occurs across our county. Departments responding out of jurisdiction do not receive funds from the areas responded to, and the expense is carried by their department and district. This has pushed some to look toward suspending response due to cost.

Though not a true continuation of a funding program, over the previous four years of Measure Z the County funded purchase of structural and wildland PPE. A specification for PPE was established with the successful vendor, which has provided consistency for the first three years. A raw materials cost increase affecting all vendors occurred in 2017-18. The cost per unit set will increase by 10% going forward. HCFCFA has determined the need for an additional 85 sets of structural PPE and 92 additional sets of wildland PPE this year. These needs come from changes and addition of personnel within departments, and from required replacement at the end of PPE service life that was not purchased in the first three years of Measure Z funding because the garments had not yet reached their service life. The service life for structural and wildland PPE is 10 years as defined by NFPA 1851: Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting. Frequency of use also directly affects the lifespan of PPE. Ongoing is the need to finish replacement of fire hose begun with the 2016-17 funding cycle, but cut in the 2017-18 funding cycle. With a reduction of available funding by \$392,000 in the 2016-16 funding cycle, and a reduction of \$931,000 in the 2017-18 funding cycle, purchase of hose was prioritized or put off, and not all out of compliance hose was able to be replaced as needed.

Program Budget: Attached

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: February 25, 2019 _____

SIGNATURE: _____



SUBMIT THIS APPLICATION TO:

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

FY 19-20 Measure Z Budget Proposal
Humboldt County Fire Chief's Association

Date: 2/25/19

19-20

Descriptions	Amounts	Approved Budget	Remaining Balance
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A. Personnel Costs

Title: Salary and Benefits Calculation:		
Duties Description:		
Title: Salary and Benefits Calculation:		
Duties Description:		
Title: Salary and Benefits Calculation:		
Duties Description:		
Title: Salary and Benefits Calculation:		
Duties Description:		

Total Personnel:

B. Operational Costs (Rent, Utilities, Phones, etc.)

Title: County Planning Contractual Services County Planning contractual services including staff time to facilitate work sessions, draft documents and LAFCo application materials, general project management, coordinate stakeholder meetings, data analysis, GIS map preparation, LAFCo support and time as needed. Cover applicable submittal fees including LAFCo application fees, Board of Equalization mapping fees, election fees, and/or other Description: applicable fees.	\$ 91,000.00	
Title: County Dispatch Fees Annual dispatch fees, Chiefs Association 25% share that was Description: Department cost, plus adding 50% of Arcata cost (\$62,620 added).	\$ 87,620.00	
Title: Out of Jurisdiction Response - 299 Corridor/Maple Creek As per Board of Supervisors request to use Measure Z funding as a gap measure to fund out jurisdiction response while a long term solution is achieved, and as per the CAO application from 2016-17, funding breakdown is as follows: Willow Creek Fire -- \$106,954; Blue Lake Fire - Description: - \$94,963; Kneeland Fire -- \$50,938.	\$ 252,855.00	
Title:		
Description:		

Total Operating Costs: \$ 431,475.00

C. Consumables/Supplies (Supplies and Consumables should be separate)

Title:		
Description:		
Title:		

FY 19-20 Measure Z Budget Proposal
Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association

Date: 2/25/19

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Descriptions	Amounts	Approved Budget	Remaining Balance
Description:			
Title:			
Description:			
Title:			
Description:			
Total Consumable/Supplies: \$		-	

D. Transportation/Travel (Local and Out-of-County should be separate)

Title:			
Description:			
Title:			
Description:			
Title:			
Description:			
Title:			
Description:			
Total Transportation/Travel			

E. Fixed Assets

Title: Fire Shelters For Wildland PPE	\$ 9,700.00		
Description: Fire Shelter replacement to compliant shelter. 25 shelters			
Title: Comuincation- Radios	\$ 575,619.00		
Description: Handheld and Mobile			
Title: Personal Protective Equipment - Structural (45 Sets)	\$ 107,500.00		
Description: 45 sets Structural PPE, \$2377.79 per set.			
Title: Personal Protective Equipment - Wildland (61 sets)	\$ 59,500.00	0	0
Description: 61 Sets Wildland PPE, \$974.61 per set			
Title: Fire Hose	\$ 67,035.00		
Replacement of pre-1987 fire hose per NFPA standard. 80 lengths 2.5" At \$147 per; 48 lengths 1.75" at \$111 per; 40 lengths 1.5" at \$96 per, 40 Description: lengths 3" at \$204 per, 30 lengths 1.5" wildland at \$120 per.			
Title: SCBA Packs	\$ 435,365.00	0	0
Description: 97 @ 4488.26			
Title: SCBA Bottles	\$ 111,000.00		
Replacement of SCBA bottle, for departments with SCBA's that were not replaced by Measure Z. Bottles have a 15 year service life (hydro tests every 3 years, maximum of 5 tests). Bottles must be replaced no later than 3 years after final hydro. There are a large number of bottles (150+) in this category county-wide. Price per bottle of various Description: manufacturer approximately \$1,000 per unit.			
Title: Training Facility Upgrade -- Eureka	\$ 250,000.00		

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Humboldt County Fire Chief's Association

Date: 2/25/19

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Descriptions	Amounts	Approved Budget	Remaining Balance
Provide funding for paving to establish an all-weather/all-season training surface at the Chris Kemp Regional Training Center on Hilfiker Lane. Current training area is primarily gravel and soil, turning to mud in Fall, Description: Winter, and Spring. Provide paving.			
Title: Fixed Training Facility	\$ 319,600.00		
Fund one fixed training facility in Fortuna. Cost as follows: Predesigned and built fixed training tower package, \$282,100 (tax inc), Engineering report with site plans: \$5000; Permitting: \$2500; foundation materials Description: and electrical: \$25,000. Total cost allocation per location \$319,600.			
Total Fixed Assets:	\$ 1,935,319.00		
Total:	\$ 2,366,794.00		