



Meeks Bay Fire Protection District

Please Watch For Your Mailed Ballot In June 2009

What is the Fire Suppression and Protection Measure?

This measure will be voted on by property owners by mailed ballot in June-August 2009. If approved this measure would provide funding for:

- Improved Emergency Response Services
- Hiring of Additional Professional Firefighters
- Continued Wildland Fire Protection
- Enhanced Firefighter Training and Education
- Improved Dispatch System
- Fire Equipment Replacement
- Community Education and Outreach
- Keeping local control of fire services

About the Meeks Bay Fire Protection District

The District offers fire protection & emergency services in communities of Tahoma, Glenridge, Meeks Bay, Tahoe Hills, Rubicon and Gold Coast.

The District currently employs 4 full-time firefighters, a Fire Chief, an office manager, a handful of seasonal and part-time firefighters and a few volunteer firefighters. The District maintains fire equipment for both structural and wildland fire fighting. In addition to emergency response, the District provides public education, fire prevention and participates in community events.

To volunteer with the District, or to ask questions, please contact Chief John Pang at (530) 525-7548

Why Is a Funding Measure Needed?

Although the Fire District maintains the highest possible level of service it is now operating well below the firefighter staffing levels recommended by the California Fire Chiefs Association and the National Fire Protection Association ("NFPA"). The NFPA recommends at least 3 firefighters per engine, whereas the Meeks Bay Fire Protection District can currently only afford to provide one full-time firefighter per shift, most of the year.

The Fire District is currently funded through a small portion of the property taxes, special tax revenue and an 'Augmentation Fund' received directly from El Dorado County.

Due to the State budget crisis, the County is not able to guarantee the Augmentation Fund for fiscal year 2009-10 and, if cut, it would reduce the District's budget by 25% or more.

As a result the District would be forced to reduce or eliminate fire protection and emergency medical services or programs. If the Augmentation Funding is eliminated, this assessment would merely maintain the District's current level of service.

Fiscal Controls

This measure includes strong fiscal controls as well as the District's commitment to only assess for the amount actually needed to improve and/or maintain services.

Look for your Ballot in the mail in late June 2009