

ELKHORN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BALLOT ARGUMENT

The FIRE DISTRICT has an annual budget of about \$60,000 in expenses, but it receives only approximately \$21,000.00 of its operating budget income from property taxes. There has never been an increase in the rate of taxes since the District's formation in the late 1960's. Since then there have been significant increases in insurance costs, fuel costs, equipment purchases and maintenance expenses, and safety equipment costs. The District has been relying on donations to cover the difference between its annual expenses of \$60,000 and its limited revenue of \$21,000. It is no longer feasible to rely on donations. The Elkhorn Fire Protection District's Board has determined that it is necessary to impose a very modest tax on all of the landowners within the District to produce enough revenue to meet the district's expenses. The proposed parcel tax upon landowners in the District would be at the rate of Two and 50/100 Dollars (\$2.50) per acre for assessed acreage within the District. This tax would be collected by the Yolo County Tax Collector to be included upon the annual property tax bills to landowners, starting in fiscal year July, 2015. Further, the District's Board would be authorized to adopt an annual inflation increase of the property tax based upon and limited by the increase in the Consumer Price Index over the prior year for the San Francisco/Oakland Bay Area, all urban consumers.

The Elkhorn Fire Protection District has provided effective, low cost public safety services to the residents, property owners and businesses within the district for over 40 years, while depending on volunteer firefighters. The modest tax being proposed will ensure the continued viability of this district at a low cost, high benefit for everyone within the district.