

COUNTY OF MENDOCINO



COAST LIFE SUPPORT DISTRICT SPECIAL ALL MAIL ELECTION

**TUESDAY,
MAY 5, 2020**

**VOTER INFORMATION
PAMPHLET**

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER:

TO VOTE:

Fill in the rectangle that appears next to your choice

Check marks, "X"s, or Slash marks are
NOT ACCEPTABLE marks on your ballot.



☐ YES

☐ NO

Please vote your ballot using **BLACK or BLUE ink** (*not pencil, or red, pink or green ink*)
Completely FILL IN / COLOR IN the entire rectangle.

THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN THIS ELECTION IS APRIL 20, 2020

- If you make a mistake in marking your ballot, please DO NOT try to correct it. DO NOT attempt to erase, white-out or cross out your choice after it has been made. Call our office or return the ballot to the election office (mark "SPOILED" on the envelope provided) and a replacement ballot will be issued.
- If you make an error in voting, if time permits, please return your spoiled ballot (marking "Spoiled" on the envelope) by mail, or call our office for a replacement ballot. If you have any questions, or if you've lost your ballot, please call the Elections Office at 234-6819.
- If you believe your signature has changed you may request a new Voter Registration Card to update your signature. Rest assured; if we think the signature on your return envelope does not match the signature we have on file, we will make every attempt possible to allow us to count your ballot. Please return your ballot early, this allows us ample time if there is a problem.
- If your spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother or sister, or a person residing in the same household is delivering (in person) your vote by mail ballot to the Elections Office, please sign the AUTHORIZATION portion on the envelope. We cannot count your ballot without proper authorization.
- If you moved within the county on or before the date shown to the left and did not re-register at your new address, you may vote and register for future elections with the county elections office. Please call our office, we will send you a new Voter Registration Card, or go to: <http://registertovote.ca.gov/> to register online to vote.

PLEASE SIGN YOUR VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT RETURN ENVELOPE

Vote by mail ballots are not counted without a valid signature on the vote by mail ballot return envelope. All signatures are matched with the signature on file

THIS IS A SPECIAL "ALL MAIL" ELECTION

**YOUR VOTED BALLOT MUST BE POSTMARKED BY ELECTION DAY AND
RECEIVED IN OUR OFFICE WITHIN 3 DAYS AFTER ELECTION DAY.**

**OR HAND DELIVERED TO OUR OFFICE NO LATER THAN 8 P.M.
ON ELECTION DAY – TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2020**

The Elections Office is located at:
501 Low Gap Road, Rm. 1020
Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 234-6819

or 1-(800) 992-5441, when prompted, enter 4371

SAMPLE BALLOT

OFFICIAL BALLOT

COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
2020 COAST LIFE SUPPORT DISTRICT

May 5, 2020

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:

- **To vote on a measure**, blacken the box next to the word "YES" or "NO."
Please use a black or blue ink pen only to mark your ballot.
- **If you make a mistake**, you can get a new ballot from a pollworker.

Blacken the box (■) that appears next to your choice.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RIGHT	Wrong	Wrong

MEASURE J

VOTE YES OR NO

"Shall the measure proposed by the Coast Life Support District to increase the current special tax rate to an amount not to exceed \$61 per unit of benefit for emergency medical services and operating expenses of the District as set forth in the ordinance, providing \$1,180,350 annually, until the tax is amended or repealed; and raising the appropriations limit of the District to permit spending of the revenue raised by the tax, be adopted?"

☐ YES
☐ NO

VOTER'S PAMPHLET

**The following pages contain
FULL TEXT OF THE BALLOT MEASURE,
IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS
AND ARGUMENTS**

**BALLOT ARGUMENTS ARE PRINTED EXACTLY
AS SUBMITTED BY THE AUTHORS.**

**ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF OR IN OPPOSITION TO THE
PROPOSED MEASURE, ARE THE OPINION OF THE AUTHORS.**

COAST LIFE SUPPORT DISTRICT**FULL TEXT OF MEASURE J**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COAST LIFE SUPPORT DISTRICT INCREASING THE CURRENT SPECIAL TAX FOR AMBULANCE, LIFE SUPPORT AND TRANSPORT PURPOSES, AND RAISING THE DISTRICT'S SPENDING LIMIT TO ALLOW USE OF PROCEEDS OF THE INCREASED TAX

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND INTENT

It is the purpose of this Ordinance to authorize an increase in the current special tax on parcels of real property that are within the Coast Life Support District, established by Chapter 375, Statutes of 1986, in order to augment funding for furnishing, operating and maintaining emergency medical services, ambulance, life support, and transport equipment and services.

This is a special tax within the meaning of Section 4 of Article XIII A of the California Constitution, and is being enacted pursuant to the authority and procedures of Chapter 375, Statutes of 1986 and Government Code section 50077. This tax is based on the use or the right of use of each Assessor's parcel; and is based, to the extent practical, upon the costs of providing ambulance and life support and transportation services associated with each parcel, its use and the improvements thereon. Since this tax is not an ad valorem tax, the exemptions contained in or authorized by Article XIII of the California Constitution shall not apply.

The taxes imposed by this Ordinance may be collected by the Counties of Mendocino and Sonoma ("Counties") on behalf of the District in the same manner and subject to the same penalty as other charges and taxes fixed and collected by the Counties.

The revenues raised by this tax shall be placed in a separate account and are to be used solely for the purposes of obtaining, furnishing, operating and maintaining emergency medical services, ambulance, life support and transport equipment or apparatus and services, and for other necessary operating expenses of the District, consistent with Section 40 of Chapter 375, Statutes of 1986 (Coast Life Support District Act).

SECTION II. SPECIAL TAX

The District's Board of Directors is authorized to levy a special tax within the boundaries of the Coast Life Support District each year, for the purposes stated in Section I, on each parcel of land shown on the respective County Assessor's parcel maps and carried on the County secured property tax rolls; provided, however, that such a special tax shall not be imposed upon a federal or state governmental agency or another local agency. This special tax shall be imposed in accordance with the following schedule.

The following are the special tax rates for the Coast Life Support District:

<u>Actual Land Use</u>	<u>Units of Benefit</u>
Undeveloped agricultural, timber, pasture or waste land	0
Vacant Buildable Lot, commercial or agricultural	1
Single Family Dwelling	3
Farm with residence or rural properties with multiple buildings	4
Duplex	6
Other Multi-Family Dwellings including trailer parks	8
Institutions, utilities, parks, schools, churches, hospitals and rest homes	8
Service stations, stores, enterprises, commercial, industrial office buildings	10
Hotels, motels, restaurants, golf courses, theaters	20

COAST LIFE SUPPORT DISTRICT**FULL TEXT OF MEASURE J – continued****SECTION III. SPECIAL TAX LIMIT**

The special tax authorized by this Ordinance shall not exceed \$61 per unit of benefit per year.

SECTION IV. REPORT AND HEARING

Each year prior to the imposition of said tax, the District's Board of Directors shall cause a report to be prepared showing each parcel, the owner(s) thereof, and the proposed levy thereon. The report shall also contain a summary by the District's chief fiscal officer stating the amount of funds collected and expended in the prior fiscal year, and the status of any project required or authorized to be funded by the tax. Upon the receipt of such report, the Board of Directors shall set a date for a hearing thereof and shall cause notice of such hearing to be posted at three (3) public places within the District or, in lieu of posting, by mailing notice of hearing to each property owner at the address disclosed on the latest tax roll. At said hearing, the Board of Directors shall make such corrections to the taxes proposed to be levied as may be required to conform to the schedule as set forth above.

SECTION V. COLLECTION

The tax shall be collected in the same manner and subject to the same penalty as other property taxes collected by the Counties.

SECTION VI. APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT

The appropriations limit for the District shall be increased by the amount of the tax money raised by imposition of this tax, for the maximum period permitted by law (four years).

SECTION VII. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

If any section, subsection, sentence, phrase or clause of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The Directors of the District hereby declare that they would have adopted the Ordinance and each section thereof despite the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, phrases or clauses be declared invalid.

SECTION VIII. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its confirmation by two-thirds of the voters in the District voting in an election to be held on May 5, 2020.

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS

A Measure by the Coast Life Support District for Special Tax and Raising Spending Limits

MEASURE J

This measure was placed on the ballot by the Coast Life Support District ("District") Board of Directors to seek voter approval to increase the current special tax for ambulance, life support and transport purposes, and raising the District's spending limit to allow use of the proceeds of the tax.

If approved, the measure would authorize the District to increase its existing parcel tax to sixty-one dollars (\$61) per unit of benefit. Units of benefit are assessed to parcels of land within the district based on the type of land use. Each use is assigned from zero (0) to twenty (20) units of benefit based on an established schedule.

The revenues raised by this tax must be placed in a special account and can be used only for the purposes of obtaining, furnishing, operating, and maintaining emergency medical services, ambulance, life support and transport equipment or apparatus and services, and for other necessary operating expenses of the District.

The measure also increases the District's appropriations limit by the amount of revenue raised through the increased special tax.

This measure was placed on the ballot by the Board of Directors for the Coast Life Support District.

This measure must be adopted by two thirds (2/3) of the voters.

A **"YES"** vote is a vote in favor of authorization of the special tax.

A **"NO"** vote is a vote against authorization of the special tax.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of the Ordinance or Measure J. If you desire a copy of the ordinance or measure, please call the elections official's office at (707) 234-6819 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.

DATED: February 14, 2020

s/Christian M. Curtis
Acting County Counsel
County of Mendocino

Argument in Favor of Measure J

Measure J is designed to enhance and sustain Coast Life Support District (CLSD) ambulance services. The last increase in this assessment was 8 years ago. What passage would provide:

Expand coverage to two paramedic/EMT teams 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Currently two teams are available in the daytime, but not overnight.

Higher level response to severity of 911 calls. Crews are covering more car accidents, cardiac events, strokes and falls. Falls often result in fractures or head injury. These incidents require complex and immediate treatment only provided by a paramedic during long ambulance transports to hospitals (such as cardiac monitoring, IVs, pain medication).

Ability to respond to increasing call volume and ambulance transports to hospitals. From 2007-2014, crews averaged 385 transports a year. Since 2015 the number has steadily climbed. In 2019, that number reached 554 – a 42% increase.

Recruit and retain highly experienced staff. Our rural setting makes job retention and recruitment challenging. Competitive wages are necessary to attract qualified paramedics and EMTs.

Ability to fund expense increases averaged over 10 years at 6%/year. These are costs CLSD doesn't control like workers' comp, insurance, equipment/maintenance, fuel costs, etc.

What it will cost: Example- A single family home goes from \$132 to \$183 increasing \$51/year, \$4.25/month or 14¢/day.

Our local EMS ambulance services are crucial to our wellbeing. This ballot measure requires a 2/3's majority to pass. Voting is by mail only.

We urge you to vote YES on Measure J and postmark your ballot by May 5th.

s/Geoffrey Beaty
CLSD Board President

s/Steven Winningham
Vote Yes on J for Enhanced and Sustainable Ambulance Services

s/David Caley
CLSD District Administrator

**NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE J
WAS RECEIVED.**