

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE R

Arcata, McKinleyville, Bayside, Manila and Jacoby Creek are the FIVE communities that make up the Arcata Fire Protection District.

MEASURE-R is desperately needed to continue to staff and operate all THREE fire stations; Downtown Arcata, McKinleyville, and the Mad River Station on Janes Road near the hospital. Since 1996 calls for services have increased by 172%, while sustainable funding has stayed the same for the past 14 years. A minimum of TWO trained firefighters are needed to safely staff each of the THREE stations that cover the 62 square mile Fire District, 24 hours a day -- 365 days of the year.

Your Fire District Board of Directors, the staff, and our Volunteer Fire Association, have worked hard to cut costs, secure grants, and implement new efficiencies wherever possible. The District's finances are fully transparent and accountable.

MEASURE-R is must-have funding that requires a 2/3 vote in order to pass. Every vote counts! The need for effective and reliable fire department services has never been greater. Protect quick 9-1-1 responses. Please join us to Vote **YES** on **MEASURE-R**.

For additional information on the Internet visit: <https://www.arcatafire.org/funding-measure-questions>. On Social Media enter #531AFD

/s/ Rene Campbell

/s/ Randy Mendosa

REBUTTAL TO THE ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE R

No on R

The main reasons Measure R is inadequate for addressing much need long-term Fire Service solutions are it fails to consider:

- A. The consolidated Arcata Fire Station could potentially be used as an incident command and skill development training center for first responders, fire fighters and law enforcement.
- B. There is an overwhelming need to provide on-site housing for qualified trainees committed to entering into this type of public service.
- C. The advantages of developing a much-needed school would likely alleviate the need for fully funded positions and ultimately decrease the tax burden for those who can least afford it.

We have a real opportunity to produce graduates of specialized training who would be eligible for a wide variety of employment throughout the county and the nation.

This measure, if approved by 2/3rds of Arcata voters, would generate \$2.2 million The current budget deficit is approximately \$250,000.

The question remains, can the \$250,000 be made up through the County's existing Measure Z resources instead?

Can we instead create a much-needed training facility that would develop skilled personnel that would be an asset to both local and national needs?

The answer is yes if we vote NO on R.

The Humboldt County Taxpayers League supports effective Law Enforcement and Fire protection. The added tax of Measure R is just too much and unjustified.

/s/ Uri Driscoll, Humboldt County Taxpayers League President

/s/ Kent Sawatzky, Humboldt County Taxpayers League Executive Director