



**PIONEER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**FIRE • RESCUE • EMS**

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**Board of Directors**

Allen Wood – Chair  
Lori Ingram – Vice Chair  
Michael Juliff – Secretary  
Ripley Howe  
Allan Polinsky

August 29 2016

To members of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

The Pioneer Fire Protection Board is asking for your **NO** vote regarding the extension of Proposition 90 in El Dorado County.

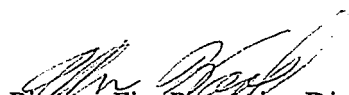
In reading this, please keep in mind, to small agencies every allocated tax dollar counts.

As you are aware Fire service's in El Dorado County's rural areas are drastically underfunded. Our District has employed every operational efficiency imaginable, has no unfunded liabilities, and still finds ourselves unable to operate within our secured funds. The continuance of this program exemplifies a willingness on the County Boards part to ignore the budgetary short falls this program inflicts. The Staff report prepared regarding this issue is found to be lacking at best. It does however indicate a steadily increasing revenue loss to the county. It states " The County Assessor confirmed the general Fund loss in FY 15/16 totaled \$305,000 which does not account for the loss of property tax revenue to schools community colleges, and special districts which total an additional \$800,000-\$900,000 each year." It seems ironic that a recent survey stated that public safety is a major concern of residents of El Dorado County. This is supported by the overwhelming support of residents of the Pioneer Fire protection district that supported Measure F that created an assessment of \$85.00 a parcel The Pioneer Board recently voted to increase this by an allowed amount of .85 cents. which will afford the District approximately an additional \$2,300 annually. This seems futile when the County is willing to forego \$900,000 in revenue annually. The staff report warns of more people taking advantage of this in future years so we must assume the losses will only continue to grow.

Ironically the Assessor's office receives a fee of \$500.00 for processing the Prop. 90 requests, due to the additional workload. However no such reimbursement is given to agencies for lost revenue. If the Board of Supervisors sees fit to continue to deprive effected agencies of this revenue source they should augment the budgets of the effected agencies as they have done with the assessor's office. The Board continues to demonstrate a willingness to divert funds without regard for the affected entities. The staff report fails to recognize the increased workload for EMS services as it relates to an elderly demographic. In light of the state of EMS service in this county it makes no sense to throw away tax dollars when there is no documented benefit to do so. There are 11 counties participating in this program most large with significant tax bases where such losses are not noticed. A number of counties opted out stating there was no benefit to continue. Revenue and Taxation Code Section 69.5 states that "it is adopted only after consultation between the Board of Supervisors and all other local affected agencies within the counties boundaries." We are unaware of an opportunity afforded for such a consultation. The Counties own staff report confirms a loss of revenue of approximately 1.2 million dollars but there is no confirmation as to how these lost revenues are made up to the affected agencies. Also there seems to be a violation of a basic tenant that taxation is based upon that " everyone should pay their fair share." Considering what El Dorado County has to offer, affordable housing, open space, wildlife, and

outdoor activities, why does the Board think they need to pay people to move here at the expense of current property owners.

We ask that you vote **NO** and support the residents of the county and in particular the residents of our fire district that we are struggling to serve and say no to the special interest groups.



Pioneer Fire Protection District  
Board Chairman