# Quincy Fire Protection District, California, Measure A, Fire Services and Emergency Response Parcel Tax (March 2018)



TEXT OF MEASURE ▼

SUPPORT \*

OPPOSITION \*

PATH TO THE BALLOT

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MOPE -

A **parcel tax** was on the ballot for Quincy Fire Protection District voters in Plumas County, California, on March 6, 2018. It was **approved**.

A **yes** vote was a vote <u>in favor</u> of adopting a parcel tax of \$98.50 per parcel within the district to fund fire services, emergency medical services, and emergency hazardous material responses.

A **no** vote was a vote <u>against</u> adopting a parcel tax of \$98.50 per parcel within the district to fund fire services, emergency medical services, and emergency hazardous material responses.

Measure A was designed to maintain the fire services and emergency response parcel tax at the same rate <u>approved by 78 percent of voters in 2013</u> with annual adjustments of no more than 2 percent. While the measure approved in 2013 was designed to expire after four years, Measure A (2018) was designed without an expiration date.

A <u>two-thirds (66.67%) vote</u> was required for the approval of Measure A.

## **Election results**

Quincy Fire Protection District Measure A		
Result	Votes	Percentage
❤ Yes	1,214	79.87%
No	306	20.13%

Measure A: Quincy Fire Protection District Fire Services Parcel Tax



The basics

**Election date:** 

March 6, 2018

Status:

ApprovedMajority required:66.67%

**Topic:** 

California parcel tax
Amount: \$98.50 per
parcel
Expires in: Never

# **Text of measure**

## **Ballot question**

The ballot question was as follows:[1]

Shall Quincy Fire Protection District resolution proposing a special tax of \$98.50 per parcel per fiscal year be adopted on all parcels within boundaries of Quincy Fire Protection District, excluding parcels exempt from county property tax, for the purpose of funding fire protection and prevention services and emergency medical and hazardous materials responses, commencing in fiscal year 2018-19, continuing in perpetuity, with optional annual adjustments not exceeding 2 percent, and tax proceeds collected and apportioned along with county property taxes?

#### Related articles

California parcel tax on the ballot

March 6, 2018 ballot measures in California

Plumas County,
California ballot
measures
See also

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#### **Full text**

The full text of the measure is available here.

#### Tax rate statement

The following tax rate statement for Measure A was submitted to Plumas County:

The Quincy Fire Protection District is responsible for fire protection and prevention, emergency medical services, and hazardous material emergency response services within the District.

In order to fund a safe level of the above-mentioned services, the District proposes to levy a special tax of \$98.50 per parcel per fiscal year (includes the \$2.50 per parcel annual administrative charge the county adds for collection of the tax) on all parcels within boundaries of Quincy Fire Protection District, excluding parcels exempt from county property tax, commencing in the 2018-19 fiscal tax year, and continuing in perpetuity, with optional annual adjustments not exceeding 2 percent, and tax proceeds collected and apportioned along with county property taxes."

The revenues raised by this special tax will only be used to defray operating expenses and for capital improvement expenditures that ensure a continued delivery of the full spectrum of services described above.

To ensure that revenue from this special tax is commensurate with inflation, the tax rate may increase in future years by an annual amount not to exceed 2% per year, based on

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changes in the Western States Consumer Price Index (CPI) or 2%, WHICHEVER IS LESS, Under no circumstances can a cost of living adjustment be added without the proposed modification of the fee being noticed and placed on the agenda of the Quincy Fire Protection District's Board of Directors regular meeting with an opportunity for public input and discussion.

If the special tax is approved by two-thirds of the voters voting on the measure, the District's appropriations limit will remain at its current level, since the proposed tax rate is the same as the rate that has been in effect for the past five years. In the event the tax rate is increased according to the process described above, the appropriations limit will increase proportionately. [2]

# **Support**

## **Supporters**

The following individuals signed the official argument in favor of the measure: [3]

- Dennis Clemens, chairman Measure A Committee
- James Boland, Rotarian
- Kitty Gay, director CAN
- Greg Hagwood, sheriff/coroner Plumas County
- John Kimmel, CPA

## **Arguments in favor**

## Official argument

The following official argument was submitted in favor of the measure: [3]

Basic funding for QFPD is dependent on property taxes calculated by a formula in Proposition 13 which was passed by voters in 1978. Over time, the formula has increasingly fallen short of adequately funding emergency services. In 2013 voters approved a parcel tax of \$98.50 by an overwhelming majority of 78%. The current parcel tax is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2018.

The need for on-going supplemental funding persists. Eligible voters are asked to approve a per parcel tax of \$98.50 per year (\$96.00 to District, \$2.50 to Plumas County for administrative cost) beginning July 1, 2018. The parcel tax would be ongoing and could be subject to small annual adjustments for inflation (no more than 2%).

These tax dollars will provide for many necessary and sometimes deferred activities and expenses such as regular maintenance, repair and replacement of existing equipment and facilities; providing volunteers with Workers Compensation Insurance coverage; instructors and materials for in-service training in hazmat procedures, mountain rescue

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methods, and emergency medical services; up-to-date record keeping and information gathering systems; and ongoing acquisition of government mandated protective clothing and emergency service equipment.

The performance record of our QVFD emergency responders over the years has allowed the Fire Protection District to secure an exceptionally high rating from the Insurance Services Office (1S0), which helps to lower many homeowners' insurance premiums. In some cases this savings alone could be more than the parcel tax.

We want our volunteer firefighters to perform their vital services safely, quickly, and efficiently. They are dedicated to protecting and assisting all of us in this community. They need your commitment and support. [2]

# **Opposition**

No official argument in opposition was filed for Measure A. If you know of any opposition arguments that should be included here, please contact <a href="mailto:editor@ballotpedia.org">editor@ballotpedia.org</a>.

## Path to the ballot

See also: Laws governing local ballot measures in California

This measure was put on the ballot through a unanimous vote of the Quincy Fire Protection District Board of Directors in Plumas County, California, on October 12, 2017.

## See also

#### Local measures



- Local measures in 2018
- <u>California parcel tax</u> on the ballot
- Plumas County measures
- Parcel tax

#### California



- March 6, 2018 measures in California
- <u>Local ballot measures</u>, California
- Parcel tax elections in California

#### News and analysis



- State and local preemption conflicts
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