14-00896

December 17, 2014

2014 DEC 17 ANTI: 16

COUNTY OF SAMIA BARBARA CLERK OF THE

Joseph E. Holland, County Clerk-Recorder-Assessor Santa Barbara County Registrar of Voters P.O. Box 61510 4440-A Calle Real Santa Barbara, CA 93160-1510

Michael Allen, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors 105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 407 Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re:

<u>Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District May 5, 2015 Mail Ballot Bond</u> Measure Election

Enclosed please find the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District Governing Board RESOLUTION NO. 2014-10 "RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CARPINTERIA-SUMMERLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ORDERING AN ELECTION.

AND ESTABLISHING SPECIFICATIONS OF THE ELECTION ORDER" adopted on November 18, 2014 calling for a May 5, 2015 local mail ballot bond election.

Also enclosed is our Tax Rate Statement.

We expect Exhibit B to be printed in its entirety in each sample ballot/voter pamphlet.

By this letter we are formally requesting to review a proof of the ballot statement language, the full text of the ballot proposition, impartial analysis and ballot arguments that would appear in the voter pamphlet prior to publishing. Please direct this proof to the undersigned as soon as it is available.

If possible, the District would like to request the measure letter designation of "___". If not possible, the District requests that we not be assigned the letter "___".

We would be more than happy to provide you with the resolution electronically in order to facilitate your work, or to assist with this process in any other manner.

This letter also authorizes you to contact David Casnocha of Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth, our bond counsel, at (415) 283-2241 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Mingee

Fire Chief

Enclosure

cc: David G. Casnocha

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-10

RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CARPINTERIA-SUMMERLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ORDERING AN ALL MAIL-BALLOT ELECTION, AND ESTABLISHING SPECIFICATIONS OF THE ELECTION ORDER

WHEREAS, the Governing Board (the "Board") has determined that certain facilities and fire and medical safety equipment within the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District (the "District"), Santa Barbara County (the "County"), need to be acquired, constructed and improved to enable the District to provide quick response times to 9-1-1 calls for fire and medical emergencies, meet state-mandated seismic safety requirements for fire stations, and improve firefighting, medical emergency care services, rescue services and hazardous material mitigation offered to the residents of Carpinteria and Summerland; and

WHEREAS, the current fire stations do not meet today's seismic safety standards for California fire stations, do not satisfy the standards to accommodate modern fire apparatus, and District need to be improved to enhance the District's ability to recruit and train both firefighters and first responders to emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the District has completed its Fire Protection Master Plan 2012-2022 (the "Master Plan", which was the culmination of a four year planning process which involved input from both firefighters, the Board, Fire Chief, and members of the Carpinteria-Summerland communities; and

WHEREAS, the Master Plan established goals for both the operations of the District, the delivery of its safety services, the improvement of its two fire safety stations and the upgrade of life-saving fire protection and emergency equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Master Plan identified the need to (i) complete the construction of Fire Station 62 in Summerland with the added capacity to accommodate a multi-purpose emergency operations room and (ii) remodel current Station 61 in Carpinteria to a capacity of seven fire fighters, six response apparatus and the City of Carpinteria's emergency operations center; and

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Board, in order to maintain high quality local fire protection and prevention services and to provide prompt response times to 9-1-1 medical emergencies, it is advisable to provide the funding for improvements to Fire Stations 61 and 62, the possible construction of a third fire station facility, and the acquisition of certain life-saving apparatus acquisition by means of a general obligation bond; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 46, approved by the voters of the State of California on June 3, 1986 ("Proposition 46"), amended Section 1(b) of Article XIIIA of the California Constitution by adding a provision which exempts from the 1% of full cash value limitation, those ad valorem taxes used to pay for debt service of any bonded indebtedness for the acquisition or improvement of real property approved on or after July 1, 1978, by two-thirds of the votes cast by voters voting on the proposition; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to subject the expenditure of all bond moneys to independent citizen oversight and annual independent financial audits to ensure that all funds are spent on the new station and purposes approved by the voters; and

WHEREAS, Section 9400 *et seq*. of the Elections Code of the State of California (the "Elections Code") requires that a tax rate statement be contained in all official materials, including any ballot pamphlet prepared, sponsored or distributed by the District, relating to the election; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to authorize the filing of a ballot argument in favor of the proposition to be submitted to the voters at the election; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the California Elections Code, it is appropriate for the Board to request consolidation of the election with any and all other elections to be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2015, and to request the Santa Barbara County Registrar of Voters to perform certain election services for the District; and

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2014 the Governing Board adopted Resolution No. 2014-19 which it desires to rescind.

NOW THEREFORE, THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CARPINTERIA-SUMMERLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. That the Board, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 13925, hereby calls an election to submit to the electors of the District, by a mail ballot, the question of whether bonds of the District in the aggregate principal amount not-to-exceed \$10,650,000 (the "Bonds") shall be issued and sold for the purpose of raising money for the purposes described in Exhibits A and B hereto. Both exhibits are directed to be printed in the voter pamphlet.
- <u>Section 2</u>. Pursuant to Elections Code Section 4002, 4108 and 1500 the election shall be conducted by mail ballot and the date of the all-mail ballot election shall be May 5, 2015.
- <u>Section 3</u>. That the purpose of the election shall be for the voters in the District to vote on a proposition, a copy of which is attached hereto and marked Exhibit "A" and incorporated by reference herein, containing the question of whether the District shall issue the Bonds to pay for fire protection facilities to the extent permitted by such proposition.
- <u>Section 4</u>. That the authority for ordering the election is contained in Health and Safety Code Sections 13925 and 13926.
- <u>Section 5</u>. That the authority for the specifications of this election order is contained in Health and Safety Code Section 13926.
- Section 6. That this Resolution shall stand as the order to call an election within the boundaries of the District on May 5, 2015 in conformance with the Uniform District Election Law, Part 4 of Division 10 of the Elections Code and Sections 4002, 4108 and 1500 of the Elections Code.

Section 7. That the Secretary to the Board is hereby directed to send a certified copy of this Resolution to both the Santa Barbara County Registrar of Voters and the Clerk of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors no later than December 30, 2014.

Section 8. That the maturity of any bonds issued pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 13925 et seq. hereto shall have a maturity not exceeding thirty (30) years.

Section 9. Pursuant to Section 13927 of the Health and Safety Code and Section 10002 of the Elections Code, the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County is requested to permit the Registrar of Voters to render all services relating to the election, for which services the District agrees to reimburse the County, such services to include the publication of a Formal Notice of Bond Election (as described in Exhibit C) and the mailing of the sample ballot and tax rate statement (described in Section 9401 of the Elections Code) pursuant to the terms of Section 12112 of the Elections Code and such other procedures to conduct an all-mail ballot election; and further directs, requests and authorizes the preparation of an impartial analysis of the ballot measure to be prepared by the Santa Barbara County Counsel to be included in the voter pamphlet relating to this election.

Section 10. If any section, subsection, phrase or clause of this Resolution is for any reason found to be invalid, such section, subsection, phrase or clause shall be severed from, and shall not affect the validity of, all remaining portions of this Resolution which can be given effect without the severed portion.

Section 11. The members of the Board are hereby authorized, but not directed, to prepare and file with the Santa Barbara County Registrar of Voters/Elections Department, a ballot argument in favor of the proposition contained in Exhibits A and B hereto, within the time established by such Department.

Section 12. The officers of the District are, and each of them acting alone is, hereby directed to take such other actions and to execute such other documents as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this Resolution.

Section 13. Resolution 2014-19 is hereby rescinded.

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED this 16th day of December, 2014.

		GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CARPINTERIA SUMMERLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	
		Ву	
	\sim	President	
V,			
	Secretary		

EXHIBIT A

"CARPINTERIA-SUMMERLAND FIRE/ EMERGENCY SERVICE FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT MEASURE. To improve local fire stations, provide prompt response times to 9-1-1 medical emergencies, maintain high quality local fire protection/prevention services, acquire, construct, upgrade, rebuild, repair/equip life-saving fire protection facilities/sites/emergency equipment, make Carpinteria and Summerland fire stations earthquake safe, shall Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District issue \$10,650,000 in bonds at legal rates, with citizens' oversight, annual audits, no money for administrators' salaries, and all money staying local?"

Bonds - Yes

Bonds - No

EXHIBIT B

FULL TEXT BALLOT PROPOSITION OF THE CARPINTERIA-SUMMERLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ALL-MAIL BALLOT BOND MEASURE ELECTION MAY 5, 2015

The following is the full proposition presented to the voters by the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District.

"CARPINTERIA-SUMMERLAND FIRE/ EMERGENCY SERVICE FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT MEASURE. To improve local fire stations, provide prompt response times to 9-1-1 medical emergencies, maintain high quality local fire protection/prevention services, acquire, construct, upgrade, rebuild, repair/equip life-saving fire protection facilities/sites/emergency equipment, make Carpinteria and Summerland fire stations earthquake safe, shall Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District issue \$10,650,000 in bonds at legal rates, with citizens' oversight, annual audits, no money for administrators' salaries, and all money staying local?"

The Governing Board of the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District has evaluated its ability to deliver prompt, lifesaving emergency medical and fire protection throughout the Carpinteria-Summerland area. This evaluation is contained in the District's Fire Protection Master Plan 2012-2022, incorporated herein, which reflects the input of community members, local business leaders and the firefighters who serve our community. In identifying the facility needs of the District, the Governing Board makes five important determinations regarding its maintenance of high quality local fire protection and prevention services. The District must:

- (i) Provide prompt response times to 9-1-1 medical emergencies;
- (ii) Upgrade, acquire and repair life-saving fire protection and emergency equipment;
- (iii) Provide earthquake safe fire stations;
- (iv) Improve workplace safety for our local firefighters; and
- (v) Ensure that the fire stations have enough space to house the number of firefighters to make our communities safe.

BOND PRIORITY PROJECTS

- 1. Rebuild or construct earthquake safe fire stations in Summerland and Carpinteria which stations would:
 - (i) Ensure quick response times to 9-1-1 calls for fires and medical emergencies;
 - (ii) Improve workplace safety for local firefighters;
 - (iii) Expand and improve training space for firefighters;
 - (iv) Accommodate enough firefighters response apparatus to make communities safe; and
 - (v) Provide a multi-purpose emergency operations room.
 - 2. Acquire necessary equipment needed to save lives in a medical emergency.

The project costs include architectural, engineering, and similar planning costs, and a customary contingency for unforeseen design and construction costs. The final cost of the projects will be determined as plans are finalized, construction bids are awarded and the project are completed. The project may include the demolition of some existing facilities or the lease-purchase of facilities and equipment. Necessary site preparation/restoration may occur in connection with new construction, including ingress and egress, removing, replacing, or installing irrigation, utility lines, trees and landscaping, relocating fire access, and acquiring any necessary easements, licenses, or rights of way to the property. Bond proceeds shall only be expended for the specific purposes identified herein.

FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

THE GOVERNING BOARD WILL APPOINT A CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AND CONDUCT ANNUAL INDEPENDENT AUDITS TO ASSURE THAT FUNDS ARE SPENT ONLY ON FIRE STATION IMPROVEMENTS AND EQUIPMENT AND FOR NO OTHER PURPOSE. THE EXPENDITURE OF BOND MONEY ON THESE PROJECTS ARE SUBJECT TO STRINGENT FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS. A FINANCIAL AUDIT WILL BE PERFORMED ANNUALLY, AND ALL BOND EXPENDITURES WILL BE MONITORED BY AN INDEPENDENT CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO ENSURE THAT FUNDS ARE SPENT AS PROMISED AND SPECIFIED.

NO ADMINISTRATOR SALARIES

BOND MONEY SHALL BE USED ONLY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FIRE STATIONS AND THE ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT, AS DESCRIBED, AND NOT FOR ADMINISTRATOR SALARIES AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES.

EXHIBIT C

FORMAL NOTICE OF BOND ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the qualified electors of the CARPINTERIA-SUMMERLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT of Santa Barbara County, California, that in accordance with the provisions of the Health and Safety Code and the Elections Code of the State of California, an all-mail ballot election will be held on May 5, 2015, at which election the following proposition shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District and voted upon:

"CARPINTERIA-SUMMERLAND FIRE/ EMERGENCY SERVICE FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT MEASURE. To improve local fire stations, provide prompt response times to 9-1-1 medical emergencies, maintain high quality local fire protection/prevention services, acquire, construct, upgrade, rebuild, repair/equip life-saving fire protection facilities/sites/emergency equipment, make Carpinteria and Summerland fire stations earthquake safe, shall Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District issue \$10,650,000 in bonds at legal rates, with citizens' oversight, annual audits, no money for administrators' salaries, and all money staying local?"

Bonds - Yes

Bonds - No

All of the purposes enumerated in the foregoing proposition shall be united and voted upon as one single proposition. Said bonds proposed to be issued and sold shall bear interest at a rate not to exceed twelve percent (12%) per annum, payable at the time or times permitted by law, and the number of years the whole or any part of the bonds are to run shall not exceed thirty (30) years from the date of the Bonds or the date of any series thereof.

The Santa Barbara County Registrar of Voters, by this Notice of Election, has called the election pursuant to a Resolution of the Governing Board of the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District, adopted December 16, 2014, in accordance with the provisions of Health and Safety Code Sections 13925 and 13926.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here	cunto set my hand this day of	, 2014.
	Registrar of Voters,	
	Santa Barbara County, Calif	fornia

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)	
)ss	
SANTA BARBARA COUNT	Ϋ́)

I, VETETHORDS, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2014-10, which was duly adopted by the Governing Board of the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District at meeting thereof held on the 16th day of December, 2014, and that it was so adopted by the following vote:

Secretary

AYES: Johnson, Taff, Thompson, Fanucchi

NOES: Baker

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

TAX RATE STATEMENT CONCERNING MEASURE

TAX RATE STATEMENT REGARDING PROPOSED \$10,650,000

CARPINTERIA-SUMMERLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

An election will be held in the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District (the "District") on May 5, 2015, to authorize the sale of up to \$10,650,000 in bonds of the District to finance projects as described in the measure. If such bonds are authorized and sold, principal and interest on the bonds will be payable only from the proceeds of tax levies made upon the taxable property in the District. The following information is provided in compliance with Sections 9400-9404 of the Elections Code of the State of California. Such information is based upon the best estimates and projections presently available from official sources, upon experience within the District, and other demonstrable factors. Based upon the foregoing and projections of the District's assessed valuation, the following information is provided:

- 1. The best estimate of the tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue during the first fiscal year after the sale of the first series of bonds, based on a projection of assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$0.00980 per \$100 of assessed valuation (or \$9.80 per \$100,000 of assessed value) for fiscal year 2015-16.
- 2. The best estimate of the tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue during the first fiscal year after the sale of the last series of bonds, based on a projection of assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$0.00980 per \$100 of assessed valuation (or \$9.80 per \$100,000 of assessed value) for fiscal year 2018-19.
- 3. The best estimate of the highest tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue, based on a projection of assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$0.00980 per \$100 of assessed valuation (or \$9.80 per \$100,000 of assessed value), which is projected to be the same in every fiscal year that the bonds remain outstanding.

Voters should note the estimated tax rate is based on the ASSESSED VALUE of taxable property on Santa Barbara County's official tax rolls, <u>not</u> on the property's market value. In addition, taxpayers eligible for a property tax exemption, such as the homeowner's exemption, will be taxed at a lower effective tax rate than described above. Property owners should consult their own property tax bills and tax advisors to determine their property's assessed value and any applicable tax exemptions.

The attention of all voters is directed to the fact that the foregoing information is based upon projections and estimates only, which are not binding upon the District. The actual

tax rates and the years in which they will apply may vary from those presently estimated, due to variations from these estimates in the timing of bond sales, the amount of bonds sold and market interest rates at the time of each sale, and actual assessed valuations over the term of repayment of the bonds. The date of sale and the amount of bonds sold at any given time will be determined by the District based on the need for project funds and other factors. The actual interest rates at which the bonds will be sold will depend on the bond market at the time of sale. Actual future assessed valuations will depend upon the amount and value of taxable property within the District as determined by the Santa Barbara County Assessor in the annual assessment and the equalization process.

Michael Mingee Fire Chief Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District