

## **NOTICE OF ELECTION – BALLOT MEASURES**

NOTICE OF BALLOT MEASURES TO BE DECIDED UPON. NOTICE OF TIME WITHIN WHICH ARGUMENTS AND REBUTTAL ARGUMENTS FOR OR AGAINST MEASURES MAY BE FILED WITH THE REGISTRAR OF VOTERS. NOTICE OF CENTRAL COUNTING LOCATION. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR OF VOTERS FOR SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE ELECTIONS LAWS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA THAT ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024, THERE WILL BE A PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT AT THE PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION THE FOLLOWING MEASURE SHALL BE PUT TO A VOTE FOR THE QUALIFIED VOTERS IN THORNTON RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT.

### **THORNTON FIRE DISTRICT SPECIAL TAX**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

To ensure rapid local fire protection and emergency medical rapid response is continued, keep the fire station open; maintain firefighting, lifesaving equipment/ facilities and hire/retain firefighter/emergency medical positions; shall Thornton Rural Fire Protection District measure be adopted to levy 8 cents per residential sqft, 18 cents per sqft commercial, \$20 per acre, \$20 per year vacant land providing 1,000,000 annually, requiring independent oversight, and all funds for Thornton Rural Fire Protection District?

#### **FULL TEXT OF MEASURE S**

The Thornton Fire District shall be authorized to levy a special tax as described herein to provide funding to:

- Maintain rapid response times for fire protection and 9-1-1 emergency medical services; Keep the fire station open;
- Keep firefighting and lifesaving equipment and facilities up-to-date;
- Maintain emergency rescue services;
- Increase firefighter staff levels to meet minimum national standards;
- Restore firefighter and emergency medical responder positions;
- Attract and retain qualified firefighters;
- Equip firefighters to better respond to wildland fires;
- Replace aging fire engines;
- Repair and maintain aging fire stations;
- Maintain fire prevention services; and
- Prepare for future medical emergencies and natural disasters.

#### **Rate of the Special Tax; Duration**

The special tax shall be levied annually in the following amounts on each taxable parcel of land within the District, commencing fiscal year 2024-25 and continuing until repealed by the voters

<b>Property Type</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Improved Property	\$0.08 per building square foot
Unimproved Property	\$50 per parcel
Acre per Unit	\$20 per acre unit
Commercial	\$0.18 per building square foot

Taxable parcels are those parcels that appear on the annual secured San Joaquin County property tax roll and are billable for District services

### **Method of Collection**

The special tax shall be collected in the same manner as ordinary ad valorem property taxes are collected and shall be subject to the same procedure, sale, and lien priority in case of delinquency as is provided for ad valorem taxes; provided, however, that the Thornton Fire District Board of Directors may authorize other appropriate methods of collection of the special tax by resolution.

### **Accountability Measures**

In accordance with the requirements of Government Code sections 50075.1 and 50075.3, the following accountability measures apply to the special tax levied in accordance with this measure:

- (a) the specific purposes of the special tax are those purposes identified above;
- (b) the proceeds of the special tax shall be applied only to those specific purposes identified above;
- (c) a separate, special restricted fund shall be created into which the proceeds of the special tax must be deposited; and
- (d) an annual written report shall be made to the Board of Directors of the District showing (i) the amount of funds collected and expended from the proceeds of the special tax and (ii) the status of any projects or programs authorized to be funded from the proceeds of the special tax, as identified above.

The District shall establish an independent citizens' oversight committee, which shall conduct an annual, independent performance audit to ensure that the special taxes are expended only for the purposes set forth in this measure.

### **Approval of Measure and Resolution**

For purposes of Government Code section 50077.5, approval of the measure by two-thirds of the qualified voters voting thereon will be deemed to be voter approval of the resolution that proposed the measure, and the resolution shall be deemed to levy the special tax. The special tax set forth in this measure and the resolution shall be considered as approved and effective upon the date that the results of the election are declared by the Board of Directors of the District.

### **Appeals**

Any property owner who is assessed a special tax as provided for herein may appeal any determination by the District concerning the nature of the use of the property or the calculation of the amount of the tax by filing a notice of appeal at the District's office. Any such appeal must be filed by December 1 of the tax year for which the tax is levied. The appeal must be filed on the form provided by the District and contain a statement by the property owner of the nature and basis for the appeal in accordance with the District's appeal procedure.

## **ARGUMENTS AND REBUTTALS TIMELINE**

Thursday, August 15, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. is hereby fixed as the final date and time for the filing of arguments. Arguments for or against the measures listed are not to exceed 300 words in length. The 10-calendar day required public viewing period will be from Friday, August 16, through Sunday, August 25, 2024.

Friday, August 16, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. is hereby fixed as the final date and time for the filing of rebuttal arguments. Rebuttal arguments are not to exceed 250 words in length. The 10-calendar day required public viewing period will be from Saturday, August 17, through Monday, August 26, 2024.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that California Elections Code Section 9600 governs the form of said arguments and/or rebuttals. Arguments and/or rebuttals submitted to the San Joaquin County Registrar of Voters' Office must follow E.C. 9600. Authors of said arguments/rebuttals may call the Registrar of Voters' Office at (209) 468-8945 for more information on submitting an argument for or against a measure. To be eligible for printing and distribution as provided by law, such arguments and rebuttals must be received and filed at the Registrar of Voters' Office, 44 N. San Joaquin St, Suite 350, Stockton, CA 95202, no later than said date and time. All arguments and rebuttals must be submitted in block format. Limited use of bolding, underlining, capitalizing, italics or bullets (small solid circle only) is permitted. Arguments and rebuttals that are not in compliance will be reformatted and set in uniform type.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Vote by Mail processing may begin on the 29th day before the election, which is Monday, October 7, 2024. All ballots cast in the November 5, 2024, General Election shall be tallied at the central counting place, the San Joaquin County Registrar of Voters' warehouse at 7585 Longe Street, Suite 112, Stockton, California. Initial results will be available at 8:15 p.m. on election night and continue until the count is completed. Persons interested in viewing these procedures should contact the Registrar of Voters' Office at (209) 468-8945 for further information. (EC §§ 12109, 15101, 15104)

Office of the Registrar of Voters  
San Joaquin County