

## **ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE F**

McKinleyville, Bayside, Manila, Jacoby Creek and Arcata are the FIVE communities that make up the Arcata Fire Protection District, protecting and serving 37,000 people in a 62 square mile area. Your Fire District has its own Board of Directors and does not receive any funding from the City of Arcata nor the County of Humboldt.

Your Fire District needs the funding provided by Measure F to pay the bills. The District has operated for the past 14 years without any tax increases. Obviously, the costs of doing business in 2020 are much higher than 2006. As your citizen representatives on the Board of Directors, we can assure you the Fire District has made all possible budget cuts and is fully transparent and accountable.

Five minutes can make a huge difference in saving lives and preventing major damage to property. In order to achieve the best possible response time, fire stations are always distanced apart from each other. MEASURE F must pass with a 2/3 voter majority to keep all three of your fire stations staffed with two firefighters each, 24 hours a day.

Budget cuts have already forced rotating fire station closures. This has created terrible conditions for both the community and our firefighters. Continued fire station closures WILL change ISO insurance ratings that WILL eventually increase fire insurance costs for property owners.

How can our FIVE communities possibly go without an effectively functioning fire department! Please join us in voting YES for Measure F.

For additional information on the Internet visit: <https://www.arcatafire.org/measure-f>

/s/ Nicole Johnson, Board President

/s/ Randal J Mendosa, Board Vice President