

## Sonoma County Fire Districts' Association

August 23, 2020

Greetings Supervisor XXXXXX

The Walbridge Fire once again demonstrates need for, and dedicated work of the Sonoma County Fire community.

Measure G lost by two percentage points preventing funding for our proposed Silver Plan. The need of the fire service community did not go away, just the opportunity to fund the need.

You asked us to take the county out of the fire service business. Our Fire Districts have stepped up with consolidations and future consolidations.

In our opinion, it will require some additional funding to make our fire services the most effective they can be. Funding for consolidations, staffing and safety, apparatus and equipment, capital improvement of stations, improved emergency warning systems and vegetation management is important to the success of the plan.

Currently, there is an opportunity for the Board to commit some funding for these purposes from the \$149.3 Million dollar settlement from PG&E. Our fire districts took a great financial hit from the fires of the last few years and using some of this funding to push forward the vision and plans we have made together would be a responsible and wise use of this funding.

I am sure the Fire Service Working Group would have some great and effective suggestions on one time use funding or on ongoing funding for various aspects of these plans.

The Sonoma County Fire Districts Association is willing to participate in the funding plan discussions to continue the process of making fire service in Sonoma County the model other counties will look to as a successful and truly effective example of effectiveness and efficiency.

We appreciate your strong consideration of this funding request.

Sincerely,

Frank Treanor

President, Sonoma County Fire Districts Association

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