

**Ordinance 2023-1**  
**RE: UPDATING MENDOCINO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**SPECIAL FIRE AND RESCUE TAX**

**WHEREAS**, on March 27, 2002, the Board of Directors of the Mendocino Fire Protection District (the "District") passed Ordinance No. 2002-1 establishing a Special Tax for fire suppression, prevention, and related services under California Government Code Section 53978 and Article X111A of the California Constitution in the amount of \$70.00 per unit each fiscal year, and this levy was approved by the voters of the District in the election held on November 5, 2002; and,

**WHEREAS**, the District has determined that an increase in the amount of this tax is required to ensure continued funding of essential services; and,

**WHEREAS**, at its meeting on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, the Board of Directors of the Mendocino Fire Protection District set the time and place to consider the of adoption of an Ordinance to repeal the current rate and replace it with a new rate of \$130.00. Such consideration will occur on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 6 pm at the Mendocino Fire Station at 44700 Little Lake Road, Mendocino, 95460; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the Mendocino Fire Protection District did, on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 vote to repeal the current Ordinance and adopt this Ordinance determining and proposing for voter adoption an update to the SPECIAL FIRE AND RESCUE TAX to be used to obtain, furnish, operate and maintain fire suppression and protection equipment, for paying salaries or benefits to fire fighting personnel, as the Board may determine necessary, and for such other necessary fire protection, suppression, and prevention expenses, emergency medical and hazardous response, and search and rescue services provided by the Mendocino Fire Protection District; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the Mendocino Fire Protection District determined in said Ordinance that each unit of the proposed updated SPECIAL FIRE AND RESCUE TAX can be increased if necessary on an annual basis by no more than the US Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index Western Region by Board vote in an open meeting, and that said Special Tax shall be collected in the same manner provided by statute for the collection of property tax and that if a two-thirds voter approval is cast, the said Special Tax will become effective concurrent with the 2025-2026 Property Tax billing cycle with a rate of \$130 per unit; and,

**WHEREAS**, if any section, subsection, sentence, phrase, or clause of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Ordinance. The Directors of the District here declare that they would have adopted the Ordinance and each section despite the fact that one or more sections, subsections, sentences, phrases, or clauses be declared invalid.

**NOW, THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED**, that the Mendocino Fire Protection District SPECIAL FIRE AND RESCUE TAX adopted by this Ordinance be applied to parcels within the District as follows:

<b><u>Type of Property</u></b>	<b><u>Number of Units</u></b>
Unimproved land	½ Unit
Improved Residential (Single Family & Duplex)	1 Unit
Multiple Residential	1 Unit per building
RV and Trailer Parks	1 Unit for property & ½ Unit per permanent housing space
Retail, Office, Service Shops, Wholesale, Light Manufacturing	1 Unit per Business
Restaurant, Bar	4 Units
Lodging	1 Unit & ½ Unit per room
Service Station	3 Units
Non-Governmental, Institutional, Recreational	2 Units

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its confirmation by a two-thirds vote of those voters of the District casting votes at the General Election held on November 5, 2024.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Directors of the Mendocino Fire Protection District on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES

ABSTAIN

ABSENT

Date: December 13, 2023