

Rebuttal to Argument Against Measure K

Fires, storms, floods and landslides have devastated our local forests, washed out roads and threatened local homes and businesses. Climate change has wreaked havoc on our communities.

To fight back, Santa Cruz County has poured resources into emergency response, prevention and recovery programs. Millions have in fact gone into wildfire prevention and recovery, flood mitigation, emergency response, and road repairs – and much more work remains to be done. Unfortunately, climate-driven natural disasters are our new reality in Santa Cruz County.

Our opponents would have rather seen their own Aptos Village Park renovated, but we believe these climate-driven natural disasters are a higher priority. There simply isn't enough local funding.

The County has endured seven federal disasters since 2017. That's why we need Measure K.

Measure K provides essential local funding for response and prevention programs to wildfires, floods and other worsening natural disasters, as the consequences of climate change strike more and more frequently.

To keep Santa Cruz County residents safe, we must make sure we have enough local frontline first responders, who are well-trained and resourced.

Measure K means a safer, stronger Santa Cruz County:

- Attract and retain frontline healthcare workers, nurses, emergency responders and others with affordable housing and other resources
- Continue repairing streets, potholes and washed out roads
- Provide mental health services for children and vulnerable populations
- Maintain neighborhood parks

By law, all Measure K funds remain local. No funds can be taken by the State. Public disclosure ensures responsible use of funds.

Firefighters, local leaders and teachers all agree – Vote YES on K for a safer, stronger Santa Cruz County!

/s/ Andrew Goldenkranz
Santa Cruz County Democratic Central Committee Chair

/s/ Casey Beyer
Santa Cruz County Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Nancy B. Macy
Valley Women's Club Founding Member

/s/ Elaine Johnson
Housing Santa Cruz County Executive Director

/s/ Tom Broz
Farmer/Owner of Live Earth Farm