

MEASURE K

2016-17 Annual Report



About this Report

This report is presented to the Measure K Citizens' Oversight Committee along with a report entitled "Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed Upon Procedures for City of San Pablo Measure K Collection, Management and Expenditures for the Year Ended June 30, 2017."

The Independent Accountant's Report was prepared by:

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About Measure K

Measure K was a City of San Pablo (City) special sales tax measure approved by a 71% "Yes" vote on the June 3rd, 2014 ballot.¹ The measure authorized a quarter-cent increase in the City's sales tax in perpetuity (the current sales tax rate is 9.0%). As a special tax, the money generated from Measure K is restricted to fund the creation and operation of an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Squad out of Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (ConFire) Station 70 in downtown San Pablo.

With the closure of Doctor's Medical Center and unstable funding of Fire Station 70 from ConFire, the City Council authorized that Measure K be placed on the ballot to ensure that emergency medical services (EMS) provided through Station 70 continue in the future. Many local residents depend upon Station 70 for 100% of their EMS services. Indeed, Station 70 is the second busiest fire station in the District, with over 3,000 service calls annually. Prior to the passage of Measure K and due to budget restrictions that grew out of the economic downturn, Station 70 was only staffed by three fire fighter/paramedics on one Engine Company.² Funding from Measure K allowed the District to add one EMS Squad Vehicle supported by two additional personnel dedicated solely to respond to emergency medical calls.

¹ Contra Costa County Elections Division (2014). *Official Results, June 3, 2014 Statewide Primary Election*. Retrieved from http://results.enr.clarityelections.com/CA/Contra_Costa/51632/134539/Web01/en/summary.html

² City of San Pablo (2014). *Measure K*. Retrieved from <http://www.ci.san-pablo.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=1380>



Financials

During FY 2016-17, Measure K provided \$751,752 in revenue and \$1,200,000 was spent in Measure K expenditures. Maze and Associates conducted an agreed-upon procedures engagement to assist the City in accounting for and reporting on the collection, management, and expenditure of the Measure K revenue for the period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017. The purpose of this engagement was solely to support the City in complying with the requirements of Section 3.26.140 of Ordinance 2014-007 and was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. City management was wholly responsible for the collection, administration, and expenditure of Measure K funds.³

Measure K expenditures included four quarterly payments of \$300,000 (totaling \$1,200,000) for Fire Station 70 enhanced EMS services for the months of July 2016 through June 2017. The funds were used to cover the contracted personnel cost of the EMS squad service during that time frame.

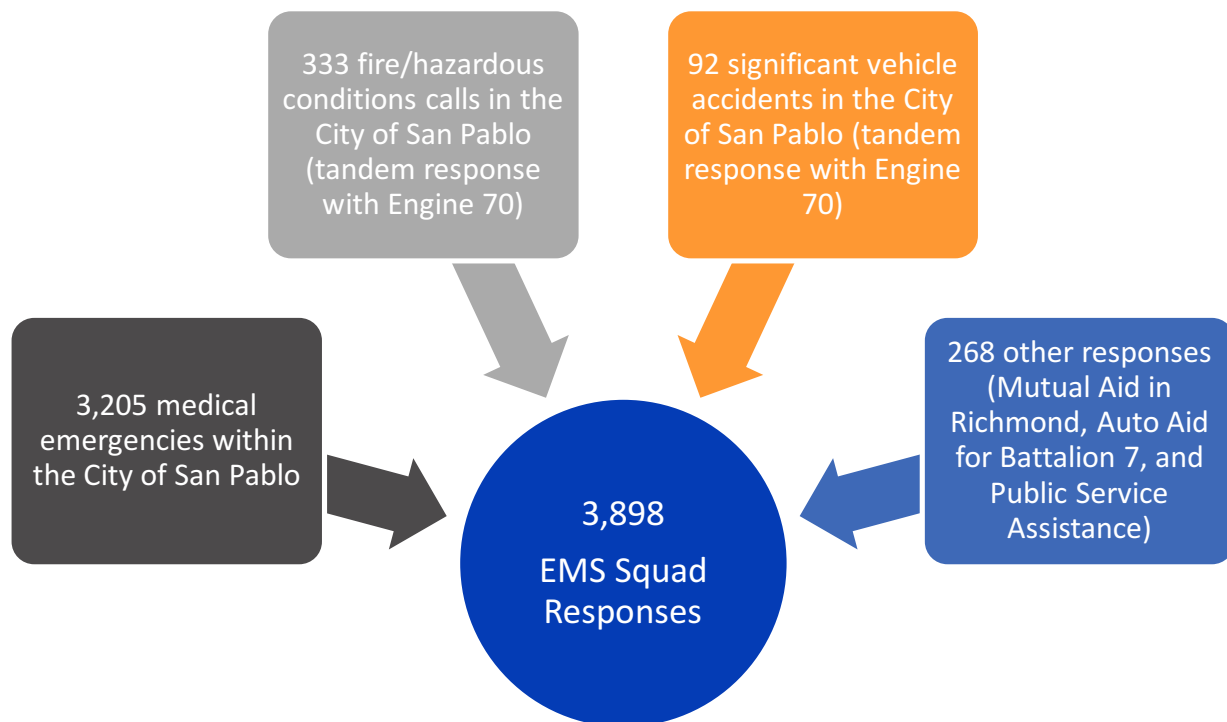
³ Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed Upon Procedures for Measure K Collection, Management and Expenditures for the Year Ended June 30, 2017.

Impact

The new EMS squad launched service on May 1, 2015, one month sooner than initial estimates. Fiscal year 2015-16 marked the first full year of operation for the EMS squad. The squad (titled ‘Squad 70’ within the county) responds independently to medical calls that can be handled by its initial response, such as respiratory issues, fractures, fainting, or illnesses. The large elderly and care-home population of the City generates a high volume of such medical calls for service.

In fiscal year 2016-17, the EMS squad responded to a total of 3,898 emergency calls. Of these calls, 3,205 were for medical emergencies in which Squad 70 responded alone 1,251 times while both Squad 70 and Engine 70 responded to 1,954 calls jointly. Additionally, both Squad 70 and Engine 70 responded jointly to 333 fire/hazardous conditions calls and 92 significant vehicle accident calls. Squad 70 also responded to an additional 268 calls for Mutual Aid in Richmond or Automatic Aid for Battalion 7 and other public service assistance calls (Figure 1).⁴ The Squad 70 vehicle has traveled approximately 28,386 miles. At this rate, staff expects that the vehicle will need to be replaced in five or six years.

FIGURE 1. BREAKDOWN OF EMS SQUAD RESPONSES FOR JULY 2016 - JUNE 2017



⁴ EMS squad response data provided by City of San Pablo.

The addition of Measure K's EMS squad relieves significant pressure on the fire apparatus responding from West County. While Squad 70 responds to medical calls, Engine 70, the remaining county fire engine also located at Station 70, remains available for concurrent fire calls or other emergencies requiring the response of the larger and more robustly-equipped fire engine. Prior to the existence of Squad 70, Engine 70 was among the busiest in the county but was regularly unavailable because of minor medical calls for service, leaving a service gap. Reports of fires, vehicle accidents, cardiac arrest, or serious trauma, which elicit the response of both Squad 70 and Engine 70 to handle the logistics and multiple hazards that often occur on such scenes, can now be managed more quickly and efficiently.

