

Kensington Fire Protection District



Board of Directors

President Larry Nagel
Vice President Kevin Padian
Don Dommer
Janice Kosel
Julie Stein

Date: May 26, 2021

To: Sonia Bustamonte
Chief of Staff, Contra Costa County District 1
11780 San Pablo Avenue
Suite D
El Cerrito, CA 94530
E-Mail: Sonia.bustamante@bos.cccounty.us

From: Larry Nagel
President, Kensington Fire Protection District
217 Arlington Avenue
Kensington, CA 94707
E-mail: lnagel@kensingtonfire.org

Re: **Contra Costa Special Districts Request County Support for COVID-19 Relief**

Cc: KFPD Board of Directors: President Nagel, Vice-President Padian, Board Directors Dommer, Kosel, and Stein

Dear Sonia:

The water, wastewater, fire protection, resource conservation, park, and other special districts serving our mutual constituents in Contra Costa County have been excluded from direct access to COVID-19 relief funding. We formally request the County Board of Supervisors join a [growing coalition](#) of over 700 organizations and local leaders to request that funds coming to the State of California from the recently signed federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) be made available to California's special districts providing our communities with vital services.

The counties of Fresno, Inyo, Kings, Mariposa, San Bernardino, San Luis Obispo, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Ventura have already signed on to our coalition. Additionally, [46 State Legislators have signed a letter](#) to Governor Gavin Newsom supporting our request, as have [Senators Dianne Feinstein and Alex Padilla](#) along with [15 members of the California Congressional Delegation](#).

California's special districts now face a projected \$2.4 billion unmet fiscal need due to COVID-19. Without access to the relief funds, this impact will translate into lost jobs, reduced services, and compounding economic consequences to our local economy.

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The ARP will provide the State of California with \$27.1 billion and will send another \$15.9 billion to cities and counties, with Contra Costa set to receive \$224,058,903. The ARP also provided states, cities, and counties with explicit authority to share a portion of these funds with special districts, which the States of Colorado and Oregon have done with ten percent of their COVID-19 relief funding.

With California enjoying a \$75 billion surplus, we believe the state is the appropriate body to exercise its transfer authority and use these additional federal relief dollars to assist the special districts serving our region. But if we want them to act, they need to hear from all of us.

Please support our special districts, our frontline workers, and the communities we serve by joining our coalition through the online form at www.csga.net/take-action/covid.

Thank you for your attention; I hope we can count on your help.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Larry Nagel".

Larry Nagel,
President