

## **Notice of Intention to Circulate Petition**

Notice is hereby given by the persons whose names appear hereon of their intention to circulate the petition within the County of Del Norte for the purpose of placing an Initiative Ordinance on the ballot for the general election of Tuesday, November 6, 2018. A statement of the reasons of the proposed action as contemplated in the petition is as follows:

The Crescent City harbor suffered over \$54 million dollars in damage due to the Tsunami disasters of 2006 and 2011. Following these two natural disasters the United States of America and the State of California paid for all but \$5.5 million dollars (\$5,500,000.00) to rebuild the Crescent City Harbor for the citizens of Del Norte County. The Crescent City Harbor District (Harbor District) borrowed the \$5.5 million dollars (\$ 5,500,000.00) from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to pay for the remaining portion of the disaster damage to the harbor.

The USDA did not cover all the repairs to the harbor that were needed. The Harbor District still needs to repair the Citizens Dock, the Whaler Island Groin and the Outer Harbor Basin Seawall.

Currently, the Harbor District is running a \$498,000.00 (Four Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand-dollar) operating deficit per year and will run out of operating funds within the next 2 and ½ years. The Harbor District is in grave financial difficulty because of the Tsunami Loan Payment to the USDA.

The harbor supports both the commercial and sports fishing fleets and supports over 850 jobs in Del Norte County. We need a fully functioning harbor. The harbor spurs on economic growth and provides tourist dollars for our community.

If the Crescent City Harbor District were to default on the USDA Loans and file for bankruptcy, our community would risk the loss of many of those 850 jobs that are associated with the operation of the harbor and the surrounding businesses. If the harbor were to close, there would be enormous economic impact on our community that would gravely affect the citizens of Del Norte County. The closure of the Crescent City harbor would ultimately affect the economic, cultural, aesthetic way of life in our community.

We are asking our fellow citizens to vote for this measure. By voting for this measure, you will increase the Transient Occupancy Tax by 2% and help fund the Harbor District. The visitors to our community pay the Transient Occupancy Tax when they rent a hotel or motel room or when they rent an RV space

overnight in the County. The funds generated by the Transient Occupancy Tax will be used to:

- (1) Pay off the USDA \$5,425,000 debt caused by the 2006 and 2011 Tsunami's, and
- (2) Pay for the needed repairs to the harbor that were not covered by the disaster loan.

Remember, the visitors to our County will pay the 2% increase in the Transient Occupancy Tax and not the local citizens. Please, vote to pass this measure and save the harbor and safeguard 850 jobs for our community.

### **Full Text – Proposed Ordinance**

**Section One.** Section 3.08.030 of Chapter 3.08 of the Del Norte County Ordinance Code, "Rate – Payment," is hereby amended. The first sentence of existing Section 3.08.030 will be replaced by the following two sentences, with the rest of that section to remain unchanged by this Proposed Ordinance:

3.08.030 Rate – Payment.

For the privilege of occupancy in any hotel, except a hotel that is permitted as a recreational vehicle park, each transient is subject to and will pay a tax of ten percent of the rent charged by the operator. For the privilege of occupancy in any hotel that is permitted as a recreational vehicle park, each transient is subject to and will pay a tax of two percent of the rent charged by the operator.

**Section Two.** Section 3.08.020, Subdivision A, of Chapter 3.08 of the Del Norte County Ordinance Code, setting forth the definition of "Hotel" for purposes of Chapter 3.08, is amended by adding the following sentence to that subdivision, to read as follows, with the rest of that section to remain unchanged by this Proposed Ordinance:

For purposes of this Chapter only, "hotel" also means space rented in a recreational vehicle park.

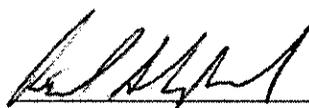
**Section Three.** This ordinance increases an existing transient occupancy tax, sometime called the "TOT" or bed tax. It also establishes a new 2% tax on RV space rentals to transients (tenants for not over thirty consecutive calendar days). Funds derived from the increase approved hereby will be deposited to a special account established by the Auditor-Controller of Del Norte County and, upon the binding agreement of the Crescent City Harbor District to use the funds for, first, the repayment of

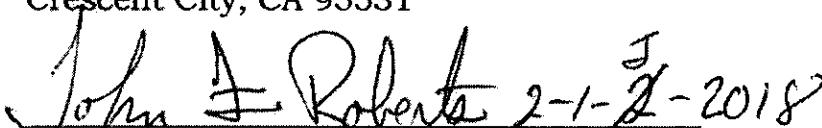
the Tsunami Disaster Loan (the \$5,425,000 2012 Harbor Restoration Project loan), and second, to make needed repairs and maintenance on Harbor District facilities pursuant to a publicly-approved Harbor Facilities Plan.

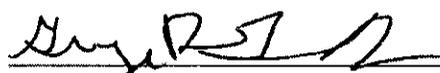
**Section Four.** If passed by the voters of Del Norte County, this ordinance will take effect January 1, 2019.

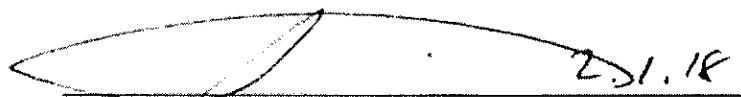
**Section Five.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unenforceable, such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Therefore, we the undersigned duly registered voters of Del Norte County request that a Title and Summary of the Proposed Ordinance be prepared and that said measure be placed on the November 6, 2018, general election ballot.

  
Rick Shepherd 2-1-18  
Dated  
200 Bertsch Avenue  
Crescent City, CA 95531

  
John F. Roberts 2-1-2-2018  
Dated  
11780 Ocean View Drive  
Smith River, CA 95567

  
George Bradshaw 2-1-18  
Dated  
1671 A Street  
Crescent City, CA 95531

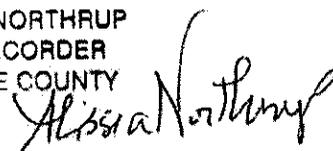
  
Donald MacArthur 2-1-18  
Dated  
353 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Crescent City, CA 95531

RECEIVED

@ 8:30am

FEB 01 2018

ALISSIA D. NORTHRUP  
CLERK/RECORDER  
DEL NORTE COUNTY



### **Ballot Title**

An Initiative Measure to Increase the County's Transient Occupancy Tax to Raise Funds for the Harbor for Specified Purposes

### **Ballot Summary**

Currently, the County imposes an eight percent tax on the privilege of occupying a hotel room. This is called the Transient Occupancy Tax. It is paid by the guest, and collected and remitted to the County by the hotel operator. This measure would raise the eight percent tax to ten percent on all hotel rooms, except space rented in recreational vehicle parks. Space rented in a recreational vehicle park is not currently taxed by the County. This measure would impose a two percent Transient Occupancy Tax on space rented in a recreational vehicle park.

These taxes would apply in the unincorporated area of Del Norte County. The money raised by this tax will be deposited into a special account and used by the Harbor District to repay its Tsunami Disaster Loan and to pay for repairs and maintenance of Harbor District facilities.

According to the initiative's proponents, the Harbor District borrowed \$5,500,000 from the United States Department of Agriculture to help pay to rebuild the Harbor following the tsunamis of 2006 and 2011. The proponents state this loan did not cover all of the repairs the harbor needed; repairs are still needed to Citizens Dock, the Whaler Island Groin, and the Outer Harbor Basin Seawall. According to the proponents, the Harbor is running an annual deficit of \$498,000 and will run out of operating funds within the next two and half years. This tax increase is therefore intended to help cover the deficit and avoid a default on the loans.

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATE TO INITIATIVE PETITION**

I, ALISSIA NORTHRUP, COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER/REGISTRAR OF VOTERS of the County of Del Norte, State of California, hereby certify:

That the Initiative - Harbor TOT Rate Increase:

Measure # - has ~~or has not~~ been filed with this office on April 27th, 2018.

That said petition consists of 82 sections:

That each section contains signature purporting to be the signatures of qualified electors of this County.

That attached to this petition at the time it was filed was an affidavit purporting to be the affidavit of the person who solicited the signatures and containing the dates between which the purported qualified electors signed the petition.

That the affiant stated his or her own qualifications, that he or she had solicited the signatures upon that section, that all of the signatures were made in his or her presence, and that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief each signature to that section was the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be.

That after the proponent filed this petition, I verified the required number of signatures by examining the records of registration in this county, current and in effect at the respective purportive dates of such signing, to determine what number of qualified electors signed the petition and from that examination I have determined the following facts regarding this petition:

- 1. Number of unverified signatures filed by the proponent (raw count): 1107
- 2. Number of signatures verified: 1107
  - a. Number of signatures found SUFFICIENT: 863
  - b. Number of signatures found NOT SUFFICIENT: 244
    - 1. NOT SUFFICIENT because of DUPLICATE: 20

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 3rd day of May, 2018.

ALISSIA NORTHRUP

County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters

By: *Theresa Hill*  
Deputy Elections Clerk



# Petition Statistics

5/3/2018 2:59:14PM  
HARBOR TOT RATE INCREASE

Petition ID:255

Total Sigs Required	1,107
Total Sigs Submitted	1,107
Total Sample Size	1,107
Total Sigs Verified	1,107

		TOTAL CHALLENGED
ILL	ILLEGIBLE	
	Total	1
MAX	DUPLICATE	
	Total	20
NA	NO ADDRESS	
	Total	6
NACT	VALID INACTIVATION OR CANCELLATION	
	Total	15
NMDIF	NAME DIFFERENT	
	Total	9
NR	NOT REGISTERED	
	Total	111
POBOX	P O ADDRESS	
	Total	10
SIG	SIGNATURE MISCOMPARES	
	Total	1
WA	WRONG ADDRESS	
	Total	71
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TOTAL		244

TOTAL VALID : 863

THIS IS A TRUE CERTIFIED COPY OF THE RECORD  
FILED IN THE COUNTY OF DELAWARE RECORDER'S  
OFFICE IF IT BEARS THE SEAL IN PURPLE INK



BY David Northrup  
DEPUTY