



FORT BRAGG UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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312 South Lincoln Street, Fort Bragg, California 95437-4416

Telephone (707) 961-2850

Fax (707) 964-5002

May 15, 2018

Fort Bragg City Council
416 N. Franklin Street
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Members of the City Council,

I am writing to request Measure AA/AB funds to purchase an industrial lawn mower for the maintenance of Fort Bragg Unified School Districts athletic fields. The equipment the district is currently using was purchased in the mid 1970's, and is well beyond its intended service life. Replacement parts for the equipment has become very difficult to find, and when we are able to locate parts, they are quite expensive. Because of its age, the current equipment is very inefficient which leaves the athletic fields looking poorly maintained.

Our grounds department spends a tremendous amount of time trying to improve the fields. A new mower would allow them more time to further improve the fields instead of repairing aging equipment. The mower we have spec'd out is Tier 4 Compliant which significantly reduces emissions of particulates and oxides to near zero, has a wider cutting area than our current mowers which will reduce operating time, and is very highly rated among those in the landscape maintenance industry.

With a new mower, the grounds crew could spend more time improving playing surfaces. Improved playing surfaces are safer and more appealing to the eye. The district fields are used for high school baseball tournaments, middle school softball tournaments, multiple recreation league softball games and tournaments. There also several soccer leagues that use the fields regularly. Also, Fort Bragg used to host soccer tournaments which brought in teams from all over Northern California. With new equipment, we could make the fields safe and esthetically pleasing and host these soccer tournaments again, thus generating more revenue for our community.

Included with this request is the brochure and price quotation for the mower. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your consideration with this request and thank you for serving our community.

Barry M Silva
Fort Bragg Unified School District
Director of Facilities, Maintenance, Operations and Transportation
312 S. Lincoln St

Fort Bragg, CA 95437