

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF VACAVILLE MEASURE M

The Measure M proponents imply they're just extending an existing tax, but they're actually TRIPLING it! And it's a tax they PROMISED would last ONLY FIVE YEARS.

Proponents say "Measure M protects Vacaville taxpayers by keeping Vacaville's sales tax rate lower" How does TRIPLING AND EXTENDING what was promised to be a temporary tax "protect" taxpayers? That's FALSE ADVERTISING!

They say new taxes are needed to provide police, firefighters, and street maintenance. But those essential services should be first priority for Vacaville's existing \$170 MILLION budget! If maintaining essential services requires a tax increase, then where is the \$170 MILLION going?

There's also no guarantee the new tax will fund essential services. Mayor Augustine is trustworthy, but he's 79. THIS TAX LASTS 20 YEARS! There's no guarantee how tomorrow's officials might spend this money.

One thing's for sure. Vacaville wouldn't need a tax increase if it brought city salaries and pensions under control.

When the combined incomes of an average Vacaville household total only \$75,000, why must hundreds of city employees receive individual salaries over \$100,000?

In this year's Budget Summary, the #1 listed impact is "continuing increases in healthcare and retiree costs." Not fighting crime, extinguishing fires, or repairing streets.

The budget is crippled by heavy healthcare and pension debts for former employees who no longer provide public service. And it's because Vacaville won't follow the example of other cities that switched from CalPERS to cheaper retirement plans.

Say NO to wasteful spending. **Say NO to Measure M.**

s/ Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, Timothy A. Bittle, Director of Legal Affairs,
s/ Solano County Taxpayers Association, George Guynn Jr. President