

Arguments in support or opposition of the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors.

Argument Against Measure E

How much more taxes are you willing to pay? When enough is enough?

Under our state constitution, “protection of public safety is the first responsibility of local government.” When budgeting, “local officials have an **obligation** to give priority to the provision of adequate public safety services.”

The County has neglected their responsibilities and now with this sales tax increase wants YOU to cover their negligence.

The Board of Supes wants to increase the sales tax to raise money for public safety services and probably your City has another local sales tax increase on the same ballot.

This is a General Fund tax that the County can spend on anything it desires. So you have to ask yourself, where is the \$9 million in additional taxes per year will be spend? The County claims that the money collected will be used for “ enhancing fire protection to reduce wildfire risk, preventing spread of wildfires , improving 9-1- 1 response times, adding rural and city firebreaks/reducing flammable vegetation, adding firefighters/paramedics, and improving early wildfire detection. CAN YOU REALLY TRUST THEM?

This proposed General Fund tax is nothing more than an effort to circumvent the two-thirds vote requirement for special taxes. Measure E can be approved by only the simple majority vote (50%). This also circumvents state accountability laws designed to ensure that taxes imposed for specific purposes are spent as intended.

Sales tax revenues are falling because of the shift to on-line retailing. Increasing the sales tax now will hurt local merchants. There is no need to increase the sales tax!

Even the promise of “citizen oversight” is hollow. We know how “oversight committee appointees” work.

Are you tired of been taken for a chump? Don’t be fooled. Vote NO on Measure E

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