

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE K

On July 26, 2016, pursuant to Section 53723 of the Government Code, the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo adopted a resolution to extend the County of San Mateo's existing one-half cent retail sales and use tax. Section 53723 of the Government Code and Section 7285 of the Revenue and Taxation Code require that the measure for a general tax be submitted to the voters of the County for approval.

In November 2012, San Mateo County voters approved Measure A, which created a one-half cent sales and use tax (the "Measure A Sales Tax") for a period of ten years. By its terms, the Measure A Sales Tax is currently scheduled to expire in 2023. Under Measure K, the Board of Supervisors proposes to extend the existing retail sales and use tax imposed by Measure A for twenty years at the current tax rate of one-half cent, meaning that the sales tax would continue until March 31, 2043. This tax would continue to be imposed on retail transactions and uses, as defined by Chapter 5.152 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code.

The County's stated reason for extending the sales tax is to continue supporting many services and programs, such as: providing affordable housing to seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, and families; developing other long-term solutions to the affordable housing crisis; maintaining transit services for the elderly and people with disabilities; combatting human trafficking; maintaining emergency operations and 911 police, fire, and paramedic dispatch; maintaining child abuse protection programs; maintaining healthcare for low-income children, seniors, and people with disabilities; maintaining fire and emergency medical/paramedic response; maintaining preschool, afterschool, and library programs for children and teens; addressing the effects of sea level rise; keeping County parks open; maintaining countywide gang and drug task forces; and providing neighborhood health clinics.

A "yes" vote on this measure would continue the Measure A Sales Tax within the boundaries of San Mateo County at a rate of one-half cent for an additional twenty years, through March 31, 2043.

A "no" vote on this measure would not allow the Measure A Sales Tax to be extended, and the Measure A Sales Tax would expire on March 31, 2023.

This measure passes if a majority of those voting on the measure vote "yes."

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(500 word limit. 327 words)