

Rebuttal to the Argument Against Measure D

The opponent of Measure D is misinformed, misguided and inaccurate.

Here are the facts:

Hayward voters approved **Measure A in 2009 to prevent devastating cuts** to city services in the wake of the Great Recession. Yet today, *even with an improving economy*, the demand for city services has increased as City of Hayward expenses also continue to rise.

Even with the UUT, the City of Hayward has slashed budgets to the bone; reduced employee positions without imposing layoffs; reached agreement with each employee bargaining group to share more of the burden of their employment benefits. All while maintaining a high level of service. During this same period, **ALL** City of Hayward employees went five years with absolutely no cost of living increases in their salaries.

Like 150+ other jurisdictions in California, Hayward's Utility Users Tax is subject to state and Federal laws. That some services, like satellite TV are not taxed, is the result of Federal law and outside the control of the City.

More importantly, Hayward's UUT funds now comprise the City's third largest revenue source. Approximately 75% of UUT funds (roughly \$12 million/year) **go directly to public safety operations (police and fire)**.

Without this VITAL funding, the City will be forced to make SEVERE service cuts.

Again, Measure D will NOT RAISE your tax rate. It simply extends WITHOUT INCREASING the current rate originally approved by voters. Legally, the State **cannot** take this funding away.

Protect **your** investment in Hayward - *without raising your tax rate*.

VOTE YES on D.

www.ProtectHaywardsFuture.com.

250 words (with "City of Hayward" counting as 1 word, "million/year" counting as two words, and bullets not counting in word count at all).

REV 031316v3

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