



# Preserving Quality of Life and City Services

Potential Sales Tax Measure to Address Local Needs



A vibrant street scene in Redlands, California. The foreground shows a brick sidewalk leading towards a street lined with trees and parked cars. A prominent street clock with a white face and Roman numerals stands on a black post. To the right, a brick building with a wooden door is visible. The sky is blue with light clouds.

## Here in Redlands

- Excellent city services, programs and amenities:
  - Parks, local businesses, A.K. Smiley Public Library, senior and youth programs, public safety services



# Did You Know?

- Redlands is one of the few cities in the County with its own Police and Fire Departments
- Calls to the Redlands Fire Department have increased by 50% since the last fire station was built
- We have fewer police officers, firefighters and paramedics in Redlands today than we did 10 years ago



# Protecting Public Safety

- Ensuring the City has enough police officers, firefighters and paramedics is critical to maintaining fast response times
- Addressing homelessness in Redlands is also going to require additional public safety resources



# Maintaining Local Infrastructure

- Basic repairs and maintenance to public facilities, storm drains and sidewalks needed
- Over 12 miles of damaged sidewalks and 15 miles of damaged curbs in need of repair
- When repairs are not addressed, they become a lot more expensive in the future



# Maintaining City Services in the Economic Downturn

- The City has created a balanced budget every year for the past 12 years. However, the scope of the City's needs is greater than the current resources available.
- The City is facing a \$5.6 million budget shortfall that is expected to widen in the future due to the current economic climate.

The Redlands City Council is exploring the best way to preserve the City's public safety, city services and local infrastructure, including placing a one-cent sales tax measure on the November 2020 ballot.





# Potential Local Sales Tax Measure

A potential measure could:

- Address the homeless problem
- Maintain police services including neighborhood police patrols, crime prevention and investigations
- Reduce gang activity and drug-related crimes



# Potential Local Sales Tax Measure

- Keep public areas, parks and recreation facilities well-maintained and free of graffiti and maintain public buildings and infrastructure including sidewalks, curbs and storm drains
- Provide fire protection and paramedic services and replace outdated lifesaving and firefighting equipment





# Mandatory Fiscal Accountability

A potential local sales tax measure would require fiscal accountability protections, including:

- All money would stay in Redlands to address local needs
- By law, no funds could be taken away by the State
- Independent citizens' oversight and annual audits required
- Groceries, prescription medicine and other essential items would be excluded from the sales tax measure



# Learn More

Learn More: [www.cityofredlands.org/localneeds](http://www.cityofredlands.org/localneeds)



## Questions?

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