

## Argument Against Measure T

This **100% SALES TAX INCREASE** is being sold to Redlands Taxpayers as necessary to respond to the Covid emergency. It is not necessary, and it will **CONTINUE FOREVER**.

**NON-ESSENTIAL SPENDING** increases every year. The Council **wasted \$250,000** on **MEASURE G**. They ignore the vote of people and continue planning thousands of multi-story apartments downtown. Critical issues of traffic and parking do not receive the attention they deserve.

Money continues to be wasted on **CONSULTANTS**.

This year's **city budget** is **6.5% HIGHER** than two years ago. **Up 31.4% in seven years**, twice the rate of inflation. **Police is UP 14.2%**, **fire UP 11.9 %** this year **over two years ago**.

**Most city employees** received a **3% RAISE in July**. Most of the current budget goes to employee wages and pensions. Many live outside Redlands. That tax money is lost to our economy.

This measure **DOUBLES** the sales tax the City collects each year, about \$13,500,000 in (2018-2019) while adding an estimated **additional BURDEN of \$730 annually** on a family of four.

Unemployment is increasing. **29% of local households** have reported a **LOST JOB**. The U of R has laid off forty-five employees. Many **SENIORS** are **STRUGGLING**.

Our **SCHOOLS** face millions in **CUTS**.

There's **NO GUARANTEE** on how this money will be spent.

Meanwhile, money for our treasured **LIBRARY** is cut. Sacrificed to mis-guided priorities.

This tax increase **HURTS LOCAL BUSINESSES** that are already struggling, some closing.

Water rates are way up with another increase planned, yet our use is restricted. A large increase in sewer rates is coming to pay for a \$40,000,000 mandated upgrade which will affect all.

It is time for the City to **LIVE WITHIN ITS MEANS AND TIGHTEN ITS BELT AS ALL OF US MUST DO**, during this difficult time.

Vote **NO** on **MEASURE T**

William E. Cunningham, Treasurer, Redlands for Responsible Growth Management

James K. Forsythe, Citizen of Redlands

William Chavez, Citizen of Redlands