Rebuttal to the Argument In Favor of Measure T

This 100% city sales tax increase is wrong. The economy continues to decline and a third of households suffer job losses. This tax increase worsens the situation for all, especially seniors and small businesses. Many families are struggling.

City department spending this year is up $4,248,187, 6.5% higher than (2018-19), just two years ago when the economy was healthy. Fire, alone, costs $16,708,317 in salaries and benefits, an average of $264,489 for each of its 62 personnel.

Although dire warnings are made about losses in safety services, no currently filled sworn positions have been cut in our police and fire. Our town is as safe as it’s ever been.

Ignoring the will of the people as expressed in the defeat of Measure G, the council continues with its plans to pack thousands in high-rise apartments downtown. The net effect is to worsen even further the inequality in the property tax burden for the homeowner.

While seeking ever more from the taxpayer the council sacrificed valuable commercial land vital to our future to a housing tract.

The City has $18.2 million in reserves. A fraction of those funds added to conservatively estimated revenues can carry us through this time of crisis.

We face increases in property taxes, in water and $40 million for a mandated wastewater plant upgrade.

Our schools face millions in cuts.

Our treasured library has been sacrificed to continuing non-essential council priorities.

The city must share the burden with all of us.

Vote NO on T

William E. Cunningham, Treasurer, Redlanders for Responsible Growth Management
William Chavez
Karen Bergman, Citizen of Redlands
Kat Cavarno, Citizen of Redlands
Tom Atchley