

INITIATIVE MEASURE TO BE DIRECTLY SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS

The City Attorney has prepared the following title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed ballot measure:

FOLSOM RESIDENTS PUBLIC SAFETY AND QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURE

The Residents Supporting Public Safety and Quality of Life Committee has petitioned, through a local citizens initiative, that the “Folsom Residents Public Safety and Quality of Life Measure” be placed on the November 5, 2024 ballot (“Measure”). The Measure asks voters to authorize the enactment of a new transactions and use (sales) tax on the sale and/or use of all tangible personal property sold at retail stores in the City and on-line sellers, at the rate of one cent for every dollar spent (or one percent), on an ongoing basis.

The Measure proposes a “special sales tax,” from which the revenue would remain in Folsom and be deposited into a special City account separate from the general fund for the City to used only for the following specific purposes, and in their respective percentages of expenditure, authorized in the Measure:

1. Twenty percent (20%) for “**Police and Crime Reduction**” to maintain and improve police services and additional staffing, and to provide equipment and facilities for Folsom Police.
2. Twenty percent (20%) for “**Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services**” to maintain and improve fire, rescue and emergency medical services, and to provide equipment and facilities for Folsom firefighters and paramedics.
3. Fifteen percent (15%) for “**Parks, Recreation Facilities and Trails**” to maintain and renovate existing parks, trails, and other recreation facilities, including sports facilities used jointly with the Folsom-Cordova Unified School District and provide for funding to complete identified incomplete parks and trails in Folsom.
4. Fifteen percent (15%) for “**Traffic Mitigation and Environmental Water Quality**” to improve traffic congestion and safety, street maintenance, storm system repair and maintenance, and to maintain creek corridor and water quality in Folsom.
5. Fifteen percent (15%) for “**Community Enhancement and Economic Development**” to be used for investments, job creation and projects to enhance quality of life and long-term economic viability for the City, such as those consistent a City adopted master plan.
6. Fifteen percent (15%) for “**Major Capital Improvement Projects**” to help fund major improvements to City infrastructure or facilities, including transportation/traffic safety, stormwater systems, parks and recreation facilities, public safety facilities, parking facilities, libraries and large capital equipment.

No proceeds from the special tax will be used to enhance existing public employee retirement benefits, replace existing developer obligations, or substitute existing funding mechanisms.

The Measure requires annual audits and appointment by the City Council of a Citizens Oversight Committee to ensure that funds generated by the special tax are and will be used as specified in the Measure.

As a citizens initiative, the Measure would become operative if passed by a simple majority vote of the voters voting on the Measure, and the Folsom Municipal Code would be amended by the enactment of an ordinance imposing the new special sales tax.

By: _____
Steven Wang, City Attorney
City of Folsom

Dated: December 5, 2023