

VOTE NO ON MEASURE H

Why Should You Vote No On the Chico City Council's Measure H Sales Tax Increase?

- **There is No Guarantee How the Money Will Be Spent**
The measure contains a long list of possible uses for the money (many vague) but no details, dollar amounts or completion dates are assigned to anything. Instead of necessities like street maintenance, the money can be spent on unsustainable employee costs, boondoggles and possibly hundreds of millions in new bonds (debt)! Remember, the money from the garbage tax was supposed to be spent for street maintenance but was siphoned off for the pensions. And that is only one example of our money being mismanaged!
- **There is No Citizen Oversight Council**
Our city councils have proven over and over they can't be trusted to spend our money wisely.
- **The Tax is PERMANENT Despite What The City Says**
The ballot measure deceitfully says the tax will be in effect until "ended by voters." Do you think the city will ever put a repeal on the ballot? Of course NOT! So it will require professional signature gathers to collect in excess of 12,000 signatures to get a repeal on the ballot and that will cost thousands of dollars. Who is going to pay for that? No one! You will NEVER get a chance to repeal this tax.
- **The Tax is REGRESSIVE**
Working people, poor people and those on fixed incomes will pay a disproportionate amount of their incomes and savings for this tax. In 2019 a city consultant said the per capita cost would be about \$200 a year and that's before the worst inflation in forty years.
- **This Is No Time for Another Tax Increase**
Inflation at a 40 year high, looming recession, 22.4% of Chicoans living in poverty, record debt, taxes and the cost of living are already too high, etc. And the city just passed a 67% sewer rate increase! Among other taxes, the city already taxes us 5% on gas, electric, telecom, water and has "franchise fees" of 2% on gas and electric and 10% on garbage. We have enough taxes!
- **The City's Revenue Has Been Growing for Years**
The city has never had more money to spend and the streets and the rest of the city's infrastructure have never been worse. The city's revenue is up 40% FY15-16 through FY20-21 and when the audited financial reports come out for last fiscal year revenue will be up again. (As usual, the city doesn't publish the audited financials until 6 months after the FY closes!)
- **The City Has a Spending Problem, Not a Revenue Problem**
For many years money that should have been spent for essential programs like infrastructure maintenance has been siphoned off for massive unfunded liabilities which continue to grow anyway. These liabilities are unsustainable. A tax increase will NOT solve this problem but only enables the city to delay taking action resulting in more tax increases later.

Instead of voting for a tax increase, demand the City Council reform these unsustainable liabilities so they are not passed down to your kids and grandkids! Go to <http://chicosaysno.weebly.com> to get this flyer and distribute it to everyone you know! Thank you!