

## ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE T

After the loss of utility tax revenue, and after the loss of revenue from the state, our general fund income for the city has remained virtually unchanged. We have as much income as we ever had, due to increased revenue from property and sales taxes.

Based on this level of income, our police department will remain fully staffed. Violent crime is down and a large majority of our citizens feel safe.

There is also money in the budget for capital improvement projects through the fiscal year 2010. Nevertheless, at every opportunity our city council has unanimously voted to increase our tax burden.

Our city council had the utility tax for over fifteen years and showed no self-control by spending virtually every penny.

Everything above is indisputable, leading to the following conclusion:

WE HAVE A TAX-AND-SPEND CITY COUNCIL WHICH  
THINKS IT HAS NEVER HAD ENOUGH MONEY AND  
BELIEVES IT NEVER WILL HAVE ENOUGH MONEY

It is especially disturbing that city council would choose this year to ask for a new tax. With prices rising, one would expect any concerned council member to realize that most families do not have extra money, already having had to curtail vacations or eating at restaurants. This tax would be another burden on every family's already stretched budget. Yet our city council does not seem to care about the citizens' problems. All they know is that they want more money. However, they will see an increase in income based on the fact that rising prices mean rising sales tax revenue.

Obviously, they do not care about the citizens' financial status. Therefore it is our obligation to make the choice that they refuse to make and vote against this tax.

s/ Larry Dobkin