

MEASURE U
CITY ATTORNEY'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS

The City Council of City of Union City is submitting to the voters the question of whether to approve an ordinance that would temporarily extend an existing special tax for "public-safety services" within the City. If approved, Measure U would continue an existing tax approved by voters in 2004 and extended by voters in 2009 and 2016 that would otherwise expire in 2021.

The City operates a police department and contracts with the Alameda County Fire District to provide public safety services for the City. Both departments employ a significant number of full-time employees. The City also operates other departments that provide youth violence prevention and intervention services that contribute to the maintenance of community public safety. Proceeds from the Measure will be used to purchase, operate and maintain equipment for public-safety services, pay salaries of police and fire personnel, and provide funding for youth violence prevention and intervention services and other related expenses.

The Measure will automatically expire after eight years unless extended by voters. Measure U will be imposed on occupants of residential and non-residential property within the City. If Measure U is approved, in fiscal year 2021-22, the most common rate for single-family parcels is for parcels between 5,000 - 9,999 square feet and is \$168 annually and the most common rate for non-residential parcels is for parcels between 100,000 - 249,999 square feet and is \$5,719.97 annually with varying rates for other property types and sizes. The amount of the tax will be based on the use of the property and parcel size and will be adjusted annually by the Consumer Price Index or three percent (3%), whichever is greater.

As with the previously approved public-safety services taxes, the Measure will not be imposed on unimproved parcels, a partial refund will be available for unoccupied improved non-residential parcels, and a low income exemption from the tax will apply.

If approved, one hundred percent (100%) of the proceeds of this local tax would be placed into a special account and designated for public safety services within the City.

A "Yes" vote is a vote to approve the extension and modification of the voter-approved public-safety services excise tax for eight years generating approximately \$5 million annually to the police, fire and youth violence and prevention budgets. A "No" vote is a vote to not extend the existing tax as modified and the existing tax would no longer be collected after it expires. If Measure U does not receive at least two-thirds (2/3) approval of those voting, the Measure will fail and the 2016-approved public-safety tax will expire in June, 2021, resulting in the loss of approximately \$4.3 million annually to the police, fire and youth violence prevention budgets.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure U. If you desire a copy of the proposed ordinance, please call the City Clerk's office at 510-675-5448 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.

Kristopher J. Kokotaylo, City Attorney
City of Union City
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