

Argument Against Measure U

Measure U costs everyone. It will cost residents more to buy from local businesses and, to stay ¹⁷ competitive, some local businesses will be forced to absorb the cost of the tax. All taxable goods -- from ¹⁸ gasoline, tires, and cars to diapers, clothes, home building supplies and even fast food -- will see a ¹⁷ substantial increase in the sales tax charged (while the tax rate increases by 1% of an item's cost, this is ²⁰ almost a 13% increase in the amount of sales tax charged); and for this we have no guarantee that any of ²¹ the projected additional tax of up to \$160 million will be used to fund the sewer project because the funds are going into the town's general coffers. ²⁷

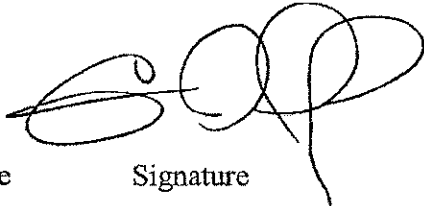
Don't be fooled. Non-residents will only generate the estimated increase in sales tax revenues if they ¹⁷ don't care about higher local prices. Local residents may stop buying gasoline locally and buy it in Joshua ¹⁸ Tree or Morongo Valley. Our Measure I revenues that are already earmarked for road and transportation projects may fall as a result. ²¹

While the assessed sewer cost to property owners may fall, the actual cost to property owners is unclear ¹⁸ as prices rise and local businesses are less competitive. If this tax passes, it locks Yucca Valley into a 30-year uncompetitive tax structure for another generation, and transfers money from the pockets of struggling families and businesses into the hands of government. ⁴³

Vote "NO" on Measure U now and send it back to the Town Council to come up with a specific plan, a transparent analysis, and a grass-roots solution that works for everyone. ³³

The undersigned author of the primary argument against ballot measure U at the General Municipal Election for the Town of Yucca Valley to be held on November 6, 2012 hereby state that this argument is true and correct to the best of (his/her/their) knowledge and belief.

Curt Duffy



8/23/12


Printed Name

Signature

Date.

FILED

AUG 23 2012

BY  DEPUTY
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

270 words