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## UUT EXTENSION -- ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

The Utility Users Tax – which voters approved in 2003 and extended in 2008 – is an essential component of the City’s operating budget, generating \$11 million per year or 22 percent of total General Fund revenues. The UUT replaced the PERS property tax which was previously levied on all property owners. The City has used UUT revenue to increase services, including public safety, code enforcement, street maintenance, senior center operation and more. As in most cities, public safety expenditures represent approximately 70% of general fund expenditures and budget reductions inevitably impact these services.

Approval of Measure W maintains the tax at its current 8 percent rate for the next five years, at which point it sunsets. It is not a new or an additional tax.

Extending the UUT is necessary to preserve critical City services. Since 2007, general fund revenues have declined by nearly \$8.5 million, due to the economic downturn. Even with a UUT extension, the City faces a projected 2014 budget deficit of \$7.6 million. This will require difficult choices, including salary/benefit concessions for City employees, possible layoffs, and service reductions.

If the UUT is not extended, projected City revenue would be one-third less than in 2007. This would require significant service reductions, including:

- Loss of up to 20 positions in the police department.
- Reduction in paramedic staffing, fire prevention programs and the Arson and Swat medic program.
- Closure of the Las Colinas fire station.
- Reductions in street sweeping, graffiti abatement, park maintenance and sidewalk repair.
- Reduction or elimination of services at the pool, senior center and community center.
- Establishment of usage fees for sports fields.
- Reduction of two code enforcement officers and/or support staff, and three to five public works positions.

Your yes vote will help the City maintain essential services to the community.

**FILED**

DEC 18 2012

BY K. Hartup DEPUTY  
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

299 words

## FORM OF STATEMENT TO BE FILED BY AUTHORS OF ARGUMENTS

All arguments concerning measures filed pursuant to Division 9, Chapter 3 (beginning with 9200) of the Elections Code shall be accompanied by the following form statement to be signed by each proponent, and by each author, if different, of the argument:

The undersigned authors of the Primary arguments in support of the ballot Measure W at the General Municipal Elections for the City of Rialto to be held on March 5, 2013, hereby state that the argument is true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

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| Print Name <u>LINDA H. CHAPMAN</u><br>Title <u>Chair for Measure W Committee</u> | Signature <u>Linda Loretta Chapman</u><br>Date <u>12-17-12</u> |
| Print Name <u>KAREN LOZANO</u><br>Title <u>CITY COMMISSIONER</u>                 | Signature <u>[Signature]</u><br>Date <u>12-17-12</u>           |
| Print Name <u>MICHAEL E. STORX</u><br>Title <u>CITY ADMINISTRATOR</u>            | Signature <u>[Signature]</u><br>Date <u>12/18/12</u>           |
| Print Name <u>CELIA D. ROBERTSON</u><br>Title <u>MAYOR</u>                       | Signature <u>[Signature]</u><br>Date <u>12/18/12</u>           |
| Print Name <u>DANA B RHODES</u><br>Title <u>RESIDENT</u>                         | Signature <u>[Signature]</u><br>Date <u>12-18-2012</u>         |