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REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

**CITY OF VICTORVILLE
CITY ATTORNEY'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS - MEASURE __**

Measure __ asks voters to approve an ordinance enacting a one percent (1.0%) general transactions and use (sales) tax within the City of Victorville. This general tax will provide funding for essential municipal services including, but not limited to: public safety services including police, fire, emergency medical response, and code enforcement services; addressing homelessness in the City; keeping public areas clean and free of graffiti; repairing and maintaining public buildings and infrastructure, such as the City library, recreational facilities and parks; improving and maintaining city streets, sidewalks, curbs, storm drains and gutters, and repairing potholes; senior and youth services; and other municipal purposes and services. The revenues from this tax (an estimated \$15 million per year) will supplement, not replace, existing City essential municipal services expenditures as reflected in Victorville's FY 2020/2021 budget.

Currently, State and local retail sales tax in Victorville is 7.75% of the purchase price; but Victorville only receives 1% of this amount. The remainder goes to the State and the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority. This 7.75% "sales tax" is a combination of "sales and use tax" and "transactions and use tax." Both are levied on the sale or use of tangible personal property sold at retail, with certain exceptions. Retailers collect the tax at the time of sale and remit the funds to the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration, which administers the tax. Measure __ would increase the current total sales tax rate in Victorville from 7.75 to 8.75%, adding one cent to the price of an item that costs a dollar.


If adopted, collection of the tax is expected to commence April 1, 2021, with all proceeds being deposited in the City's general fund. The proceeds and expenditures of the tax will be audited and accounted for in the City's annual independent audit report, which is available for public review.

The tax will be collected where the sale is made in Victorville or where the goods are delivered and placed into use in Victorville. Merchandise purchased in a "walk-in" retail store is assumed by the State to be used within the city in which the store is located and the applicable tax will be paid by both residents and nonresidents, unless the retailer is asked to ship the merchandise outside the city as part of the sale or it is a motor vehicle (which is taxed based on the city of registered use). Certain necessities of life, including purchases of food or medicine, are exempt from the tax.

Measure __ was placed on the ballot by a 4/5 vote of the Victorville City Council. If passed, Measure __ will remain in effect until amended or repealed by the voters.

A "Yes" vote is a vote to approve the additional one cent tax for essential municipal services in Victorville. A "No" vote is a vote against the tax. Measure __ will be approved if it receives a majority of "Yes" votes.

August 4, 2020


Andre de Bortnowsky, City Attorney