[Argument Against Hayward Sales Tax Measure]
Vote NO on Measure Stop this <u>NEW</u> Hayward sales tax.
Hayward's high cost of living already is <u>unbearable</u> . Grocery, gas, and electric bills are skyrocketing. Many families already are struggling.
Measure will cost you \$20,000,000.00 every year until 2054. We cannot afford this <u>NEW</u> \$400,000,000.00 tax.
We read Measure's "fine print." The City's Resolution calls this a "temporary" tax. But Measure's NEW tax will end in 2054. That's NOT "temporary".
Hayward's sales tax already is <u>10.75 percent</u> . That's the <u>highest</u> sales tax rate <u>ever</u> in California history Measure's NEW tax will cause more Hayward businesses to shut down and move jobs elsewhere .
Hayward's NEW tax confuses top City officials! City Attorney Michael Lawson made an unforgiveable error in preparing his "Impartial Analysis." He initially claimed, "Currently, the tax on retail sales in Hayward is nine and a half percent (9.5%) of the purchase price." The City Attorney corrected his <u>big</u> mistake after we pointed it out.
The City <u>wastes</u> your money. <u>75</u> City employees received more than <u>\$400,000</u> in total pay/ benefits in 2023 (TransparentCalifornia.com). That's nearly <i>four times</i> Hayward's median household income. Measure picks <u>your</u> pocket to fill theirs!
The City <u>falsely</u> claims that this new tax would fund so-called "essential" services. In reality, <u>all</u> of the \$400,000,000.00 would go into the "General Fund." This means that the City can spend it on ANYTHING , including <i>more</i> high-priced City bureaucrats . <i>We cannot trust the City</i> .
Measure is <u>unnecessary</u> . Voting NO will cause NO harm to City services.
The Measure Ordinance falsely claims that the existing tax "would be in place through December 31, <u>2024</u> ." The existing City tax actually expires in <u>2034</u> , TEN years from now! So there's NO need to rush . They have <u>10 more years</u> to come back with a better proposal .
Demand honest City government. Vote NO!
Marcus Crawley
President, Alameda County Taxpayers' Association