

# Measure A

## Law Enforcement, Crime Prevention, and Other Essential City Services

### A City Proposed General Use Sales Tax

November 5, 2013 — Special Election



#### **What is Measure A?**

Measure A is a 3/4 cent general use sales tax that the City can use for public safety, restoring services and to get out of bankruptcy.

#### **When would it become effective?**

If approved by the voters, it will go into effect April 1, 2014.

#### **What will Stockton's sales tax rate be?**

The sales tax rate in the City of Stockton will be 9%: 125 California cities currently have a 9% sales tax rate; 18 cities have a rate higher than 9%; and 258 cities have a rate lower than 9%.

#### **How will Measure A funds be used?**

Measure B asks for voter opinion. Funds can be used for restoring police services and improving crime prevention, as found in the recently adopted Marshall Plan on Crime. This Plan calls for adding 120 police officers. Tax funds can also be used to fund the City's bankruptcy exit plan, restore reserves, replace failing assets and prepare for the next economic downturn.

#### **What would happen without Measure A?**

The City will have to further reduce services by approximately \$11 million a year. Ultimately, this would be a future City Council decision. However, in order to exemplify the potential impacts, while protecting current police services, the City would have to eliminate all libraries, parks and recreation programs, and reduce fire personnel by another 14%, in addition to the 30% reduction that has already occurred.

#### **How long will the tax last?**

The tax will expire after 10 years—or sooner, if general fund revenues reach 2009 levels adjusted for inflation, unless the City Council takes action. For the tax to continue, the City Council must take specific, public actions, including: hear Citizens' Oversight Committee recommendations; adopt findings with appropriate evidence that the tax is necessary; prove to the public that employee total compensation is not excessive; and hold 2 public hearings at least 14 days apart.

#### **Who will ensure accountability?**

A seven-member Citizens' Oversight Committee will review Measure A revenues, expenditures and annual independent audits; measure economic recovery; and make recommendations to the City Council.

## Measure B — An Advisory Measure

#### **What does Measure B do?**

- Provides current and future City Councils information about the intentions, expectations and will of the people.
- Seeks opinion of voters for use of Measure A funds:
  - 65% law enforcement & crime prevention services, such as those described in Marshall Plan on Crime; and
  - 35% to exit bankruptcy and recover from the Great Recession.

For more information, please call (209) 937-8212  
[www.stocktongov.com/BallotMeasures](http://www.stocktongov.com/BallotMeasures)