

SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL PARCEL TAX MEASURE B

B "Should library services for all City residents including children, teens, adults and seniors, be preserved, including after-school reading programs, homework assistance, library operating hours, 24/7 online access, programs for seniors, and other services, by enacting a new \$12 per year single-family residential parcel tax for 12 years, and specified amounts for other uses, adjusted for inflation, that the State cannot take, with independent financial audits to ensure funds are spent only on City of Sacramento libraries?"

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE B PREPARED BY SACRAMENTO CITY ATTORNEY

Measure B has been placed on the ballot by the Sacramento City Council. Approval of Measure B would impose a parcel tax for core library services provided within the City of Sacramento, as set forth in City Ordinance 2014-004. Disapproval of Measure B would mean the parcel tax would not be imposed.

The City Council enacted Ordinance 2014-004 to impose an annual parcel tax for library services within the City of Sacramento for 12 years, beginning in fiscal year 2014-2015. After fiscal year 2025-2026, the parcel tax authorized by this measure would no longer be imposed.

The tax proposed in Measure B is in addition to the parcel tax approved by the voters in 2004 (Measure X). Measure B does not affect the Measure X parcel tax, which is codified in Chapter 3.148 of the Sacramento City Code.

The Measure B ordinance provides that the tax is imposed to assist in funding "core library services" within the City of Sacramento. The ordinance further provides that "core library services include, without limitation, open hours at city libraries, library staff, acquisition of library materials, and access to technology."

The Measure B parcel tax would be collected from the owners of all non-exempt properties within the City of Sacramento. The amount of the tax for each land use type is set forth in the full text of the measure. For example, each developed single-family residential parcel would be taxed \$12.00 for the first year (2014-2015). The tax for each land use type would be increased annually to reflect any increase in the consumer prices index, not to exceed three percent (3%) per year.

The city's current general fund contribution to library services would not be replaced by the parcel tax proceeds. With one exception, the measure prohibits the city from collecting the tax in any year during which the city's general fund contribution to the Sacramento Public Library Authority falls below \$7,635,500. The exception permits the tax to be collected if the reduction in general fund contribution to the Sacramento Public Library Authority is in the same proportion to the reduction in the city's net general fund budget (excluding police and fire budgets, and expenditures offset by fees and other non-tax revenues).

The ordinance will take effect only if two-thirds of the voters voting on Measure B approve it. A "yes" vote is in favor of

approving the ordinance establishing the parcel tax. A "no" vote is against approving the ordinance establishing the parcel tax.

FULL TEXT OF MEASURE B

AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 3.150 OF THE SACRAMENTO CITY CODE TO IMPOSE A PARCEL TAX FOR CORE LIBRARY SERVICES ON REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:

SECTION 1

On November 2, 2004, the voters of the City of Sacramento approved by a two-thirds vote a parcel tax within the City of Sacramento for the purpose of funding additional library services including children's programs, homework centers, increased hours, new book funding, and technology in branch libraries. The amount of the parcel tax was set at \$26.60 per year for single family residences and at specified amounts for all other properties for 10 years beginning with the 2007-2008 fiscal year. Rate increases are limited to 3% annually, and not more than \$8.00 total during the life of the tax for single family residences. The last year of the tax is 2016-2017. The tax for a single-family residence for 2013-2014 is \$29.92.

In order to stabilize library funding and avoid deep service level cuts, it is the purpose of this ordinance to impose an additional parcel tax of \$12.00 per year for single family residential, and specified amounts for other uses, subject to an annual adjustment, for 12 years beginning in fiscal year 2014-2015. This ordinance shall take effect only upon approval by two-thirds of the voters of the City of Sacramento.

This ordinance supersedes the ordinance adopted by the City Council on January 14, 2014 titled "Adding Chapter 3.150 of the Sacramento City Code to Impose a Parcel Tax for Core Library Services on Real Property within the City of Sacramento."

SECTION 2

Chapter 3.150 is added to the Sacramento City Code to read as follows:

Chapter 3.150 PARCEL TAX FOR CORE LIBRARY SERVICES

3.150.010 Parcel tax imposed.

A parcel tax for library services is imposed upon every parcel of real property in the city to assist in funding the core library services provided in the city. Core library services include, without limitation, open hours at city libraries, library staff, acquisition of library materials, and access to technology.

3.150.020 Tax rates.

The tax rates for fiscal year 2014-2015 shall be:

Residential		
Single family		\$12.00
Multi-family	a.	\$9.00 per unit, units 1-4
	b.	\$6.00 per unit, units 5-15
	c.	\$3.00 per unit, units over 15
(Add a. plus b. plus c. for total multi-family tax per parcel)		
Condominiums		\$9.00 per condominium
Mobile Homes		\$6.00 per mobile home
Non-Residential		
Institutional		\$54.00 per acre (first 5 acres)
		\$13.50 per acre (acres over 5)
Professional		\$36.00 per acre (first 5 acres)
		\$9.00 per acre (acres over 5)
Commercial/Industrial and Recreational		\$18.00 per acre (first 5 acres)
		\$4.50 per acre (acres over 5)
Vacant		
Misc. vacant, parking lots, airports, cemeteries and mortuaries		\$4.50 per acre (maximum taxed area per parcel: 5 acres)
Exempt Uses		
Common area, Agriculture, Utilities, Public Agencies		\$0.00

3.150.030 Annual adjustment of tax rates.

The tax rates for fiscal year 2014-2015 set forth in section 3.150.020 shall be increased annually in proportion to the increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), San Francisco Area, all items, most recently available prior to the date of increase, provided, however, that this increase shall not exceed three percent in any year.

3.150.040 Collection by the county.

The tax shall be collected on behalf of the city by the county auditor. The city clerk shall file with the county auditor a certified copy of a tax roll with a request that the taxes be posted to the county roll for general property taxes. This filing shall occur on or before August 1st of the fiscal year in which the taxes are to be collected. The tax shall be collected at the same time and in the same manner and shall

be subject to the same late charges and penalties for delinquency as general property taxes and all laws providing for the collection and enforcement of such property taxes shall apply to the collection and enforcement of the tax. After deduction of the collection charges of the county auditor, the net amount of the taxes collected shall be remitted to the city for transfer to the Sacramento Public Library Authority to be used to provide core library services within the city of Sacramento.

3.150.050 Parcel tax not to replace general fund contribution.

The city's current general fund contribution to library services may not be replaced by the parcel tax. If the city general fund contribution to the Sacramento Public Library Authority is reduced below seven million six hundred thirty-five thousand six hundred dollars (\$7,635,600.00), the parcel tax shall not be levied; provided, however, that if the reduction to the city general fund contribution is no more than the same proportion of reduction that is imposed on the city's net general fund budget for non-safety departments (which are all operating departments except police and fire) in any year during the twelve-year period of the tax, then the tax nonetheless may be levied.

(The city's net general fund budget for non-safety departments is the total general fund contribution to their operating budgets excluding expenditures that are offset by fees or other non-tax revenues.) Following any reduction from the minimum level of seven million six hundred thirty-five thousand six hundred dollars (\$7,635,600.00) and for the parcel tax to be levied in any subsequent year, the library must receive increases in its city general fund contribution proportional to the increases in the non-safety departments' net general fund budgets up to at least the minimum level of seven million six hundred thirty-five thousand six hundred dollars (\$7,635,600.00).

3.150.060 Twelve-year term.

The tax shall be imposed beginning with the 2014-2015 fiscal year for a period of 12 years, ending with fiscal year 2025-2026.

3.150.070 Low-income rebate.

The city manager shall establish a program to rebate any tax imposed by this chapter that is paid with respect to residential property that is the principal residence of the owner, if the gross household income is 80 percent or less of the Sacramento County area median income as published annually by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Department.

SECTION 3

This ordinance shall take effect only upon approval by two-thirds of the voters of the City of Sacramento voting in an election held on or before June 3, 2014.

Adopted by the City of Sacramento City Council on February 4, 2014 by the following vote:

Ayes: Members Ashby, Cohn, Fong, Hansen, Pannell, Schenirer, and Warren

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Member McCarty and Mayor Johnson

Attest:

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE B

Be there for your libraries! Vote yes on Measure B to preserve our library services and improve them for all Sacramento city residents. Measure B augments the existing city parcel tax by just one dollar per month and requires independent yearly audits to protect tax payers.

Measure B is needed to keep up with three new libraries, greater demand for on-line services and the need to stay open evenings and weekends when people can actually use our libraries. Measure B requires that all funds be spent exclusively for local library services within the City of Sacramento. Just one dollar per month will maintain our vital library services for all city residents.

Vote yes to maintain the library's after-school homework and reading programs for our school children and story time for preschoolers. Vote yes to protect library operating hours and 24/7 online access to library resources. Vote yes to preserve library services for seniors and families who are trying to improve their lives. Vote yes to give people who don't have computers at home access to the internet. Vote yes to continue to make quality library materials, programs, and services available at all libraries.

City of Sacramento residents have always cared about their libraries. Our 12 city libraries improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. They offer a safe place for children to learn and study, and they provide information and enrichment to people of all ages. To maintain our hours of operation, on-line access, quality books and library materials, children's programs and more, vote yes on Measure B. For more information visit www.bethereforlibraries.org.

- s/Angelique Ashby, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Sacramento
- s/Dan O'Donnell, PTA President, Genevive Didion K-8, SCUSD
- s/Brian Rice, President, Firefighters Local 522
- s/Maureen Price, CEO, Boys & Girls Club of Greater Sacramento
- s/Jeffrey L. Rubin, President, Friends of the Sacramento Public Library

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE B WAS FILED