REBUTTAL to ARGUMENT in favor of MEASURE V

The statement in favor of Measure V says it will fund necessary city services – this is a promise with no guarantees.

California’s Proposition 13 overwhelmingly passed in 1978. Previously, many local governments raised property taxes and abused taxing power. In 2003, El Cerrito repealed its Real Property Transfer Tax (RPTT) to comply with California law.

Three key points about Measure V:

1. The Statement in Favor of Measure V indicates these monies will maintain fire/police and other services. BUT, the City is NOT required to use these funds as it says in its fancy brochures. In fact, during the Council’s November 2017 meeting, the City Manager and a Council member indicated these tax revenues could be used for:
   - pension liability
   - funding operations
   - increasing city reserves
   - paying debt
   - capital projects

2. El Cerrito’s critical problem is failure to grow a business tax base through a viable and attractive business environment, a major funding source loss. We have also seen too many businesses leave or close.

3. The City tells us that we could generate $2.7 million from an RPTT and cites approximately $500,000 would come from commercial property. Thus, 80% of that tax burden falls on the shoulders of residential property owners.

Becoming a Charter City does not solve anything, nor does an RPTT. DON’T BE FooLED. Measure V does NOT control where the city will spend the money and neither will an oversight committee.

VOTE NO ON MEASURE V.
Visit [www.cocotax.org](http://www.cocotax.org)

The undersigned hereby state that such argument is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Contra Costa Taxpayers Association
Jack Weir, President

Contra Costa Taxpayers Assn, West County branch
Susan L Pricco, Chair & EC resident

Davis Todhunter
Longtime El Cerrito resident

Denise Sangster
El Cerrito homeowner