

## Rebuttal to Argument Against Measure J

The **FEW** opponents of Measure J frequently write similar arguments against measures to support schools, police, firefighters, and other important local services. Their opposition is ideological and **not based on the needs of our schools or our community.**

Their comparison of urgent school safety and educational issues to a home needing new carpets and a flat screen TV is an offensive slap in the face to our students, teachers, and families. They misunderstand Measure J and trivialize serious health, safety, and instructional issues.

### **FACTS:**

- Most schools are over **35 years old** and some are almost **70 years old**
- Leaky roofs disrupt instruction
- Schools need earthquake and fire safety improvements
- Deteriorating plumbing/sewer systems long ago exceeded their lifespan
- **Fifty year old** electrical systems fail because they were not designed for modern instructional technology
- Some classrooms aren't accessible for students with disabilities
- Science labs and job training classrooms **built in the 1960s** cannot prepare students for college and 21<sup>st</sup>-century careers

Measure J is the result of an extensive, yearlong facilities assessment and addresses the most urgent priorities.

The District has a proven track record of spending taxpayers' dollars carefully and responsibly. **Mandatory** citizens' oversight and annual audits will ensure Measure J funds are spent on top priorities.

Protecting quality education and ensuring that students continue to learn in safe, modern schools **IS** a wise investment.

Let's send Fairfield-Suisun students a message that **we value** their education and future success: **vote Yes on J!**