

Arguments in support or opposition of the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors.

#### Argument Against Measure D

NO on Measure D!

Under our state constitution, “protection of public safety is the first responsibility of local government.” When budgeting, “local officials have an obligation to give priority to the provision of adequate public safety services.”

Dixon has its priorities backwards by threatening to cut police, fire, 911, and emergency services unless voters agree to another sales tax increase.

It’s blackmail to threaten public safety services when Dixon’s budget contains plenty of unnecessary fat that could be cut instead.

It’s dishonest to say this tax will protect public safety when the measure leaves out any guarantee that the funds will go to public safety.

Why is there no guarantee? Because the funds will probably go elsewhere!

The biggest unnecessary drain on the City’s budget is overly generous pensions and retiree health benefits the City continues to promise to city employees.

While taxpayers witness their own retirement investments destroyed by stock market losses and runaway inflation, Dixon would make matters worse by raising taxes to fund guaranteed retirement benefits for public employees.

And talk about confusing! Instead of saying it adds another one cent to our sales tax, Measure D says it will “establish a one cent sales tax.” That sounds like the tax will be reduced to one cent, potentially misleading hundreds of voters and prompting litigation.

Of greatest concern, however, is how higher sales taxes will hurt local businesses. Local businesses already struggle as shoppers increasingly opt for the convenience of Amazon and other online retailers. Many struggling businesses may not survive a sales tax hike that drives even more shoppers away from buying local.

The measure boasts “independent citizen oversight,” but the measure contains no spending guarantees that an oversight committee could enforce. Dixonites don’t need another committee. Your oversight will be voting NO on Measure D!

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