

Rebuttal to the Argument In Favor of Measure T

This 100% city sales tax increase is wrong. The economy continues to decline and a third of households suffer job losses. This tax increase worsens the situation for all, especially seniors and small businesses. Many families are struggling

City department spending this year is up **\$4,248,187, 6.5% higher** than (2018-19) , just two years ago when the economy was healthy. Fire, alone, costs **\$16,708,317 in salaries and benefits**, an average of **\$264,489** for each of its **62 personnel**.

Although dire warnings are made about losses in safety services, no currently filled sworn positions have been cut in our police and fire. Our town is as **safe as it's ever been**.

Ignoring the will of the people as expressed in the **defeat of Measure G**, the council continues with its plans to **pack thousands in high-rise apartments downtown**. The net effect is to worsen even further the inequality in the property tax burden for the homeowner.

While seeking ever more from the taxpayer the council sacrificed valuable commercial land vital to our future to a housing tract.

The City has **\$ 18.2 million in reserves**. A fraction of those funds added to conservatively estimated revenues can carry us through this time of crisis.

We face increases in property taxes, in water and **\$40 million** for a mandated wastewater plant upgrade.

Our **schools** face millions in cuts.

Our treasured **library** has been sacrificed to continuing **non-essential council priorities**.

The city must share the burden with **all of us**.

Vote NO on T

William E. Cunningham, Treasurer, Redlanders for Responsible Growth Management
William Chavez
Karen Bergman, Citizen of Redlands
Kat Cavarro, Citizen of Redlands
Tom Atchley