ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE D-20

The City of Atascadero seeks to maintain essential services for residents. After years of deferring big expenses, the City has reached a crossroads: the money it expects to receive isn't enough to keep paying for the services residents need and expect. Atascadero gets less tax revenue than any other City in the County -- about half as much as Paso Robles. The City of Atascadero has insufficient funds for fire protection, paramedics, 911 responses, police and crime prevention. It has deteriorating infrastructure including parks, a 70-year old fire station, and aging facilities and roads. People expect services that Atascadero doesn't and can't provide. New businesses and hotels will help, but economic growth alone can't generate enough in taxes to fill the gap.

To address this need, your City Council voted unanimously to put Measure D-20 on the ballot to add a one-cent local sales tax. Atascadero receives only 1.5% of the current 7.75% sales tax. Sales taxes are paid by visitors and workers as well as residents. They are based on consumption -- those who spend more will pay more. The extra tax won't apply on necessities such as rent, groceries, medicine and services.

Additionally:

- The funds cannot be seized by the state. They must be spent locally in our community.
- Nearby Cities are voting on similar measures, so businesses here won't be at a competitive disadvantage.
- Many Atascadero residents already pay higher sales taxes when they buy things elsewhere -- and none of that money comes to Atascadero.
- An independent audit will be performed every year providing accountability and transparency.

A Yes vote would mean more locally controlled revenue for essential City services and would be crucial in preserving and enhancing our community's quality of life.

Please join us in voting Yes on Measure D-20.

Signed,
Susan Funk, Council Member
Heather Newsom, Council Member
Geoff Auslen
Robert M. "Grigger" Jones
Gere Sibbach, Treasurer
ARGUMENTS

FORM OF STATEMENT TO BE FILED BY AUTHORS OF ARGUMENTS

All arguments concerning measures filed pursuant to Division 9, Chapter 3 (beginning with § 9200) of the Elections Code shall be accompanied by the following form statement to be signed by each proponent, and by each author, if different, of the argument:

The undersigned proponent(s) or author(s) of the primary argument in favor of ballot proposition Measure D-20 at the General Municipal Election for the City of Atascadero to be held on November 3, 2020 hereby state that the argument is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Print Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Susan Funk</td>
<td>Council Member</td>
<td></td>
<td>7/23/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heather Newsom</td>
<td>Council Member</td>
<td></td>
<td>7/23/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geoff Auslen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7/23/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert M. &quot;Grigger&quot; Jones</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7/23/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gere Sibbach</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td></td>
<td>7/23/20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>