

Ballot Argument Against Measure G

Santa Barbarans who believe that new technologies should not be taxed should vote No on Measure G.

Measure G is an attempt to tax cell phones and other new technologies by the City of Santa Barbara.

The City of Santa Barbara has presented no compelling argument that the funds that would be obtained by Measure G are vital to city services. Indeed, in recent years, the amount of revenue the city taxes and otherwise receives has increased significantly, with little to show for it.

For too long, the City of Santa Barbara has increased taxes and fees for frivolous projects and unnecessary expenditures. The funds from Measure G would not be used for important city services. They would be used for unnecessary city spending.

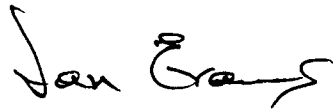
New technologies such as cell phones should be encouraged, not taxed. Much of the economic effectiveness of the internet is that it is currently untaxed.

Measure G would create many problems in implementation. Once local cell phone providers were taxed, would this lead local residents to seek providers for new communicative technologies from outside of the area? How would, for example, out-of-state communicative technology providers be taxed by the City of Santa Barbara? If individuals were passing through Santa Barbara, would their cell phone calls be taxed while they were in the city?

Measure G would be a 5.75% tax on utilities in the City of Santa Barbara. Many cities do not have a utility users tax. Especially at a time when the price of energy has skyrocketed, it is not the time for the City of Santa Barbara to implement a new utility users tax.

Vote No on Measure G. Vote against unnecessary taxes.

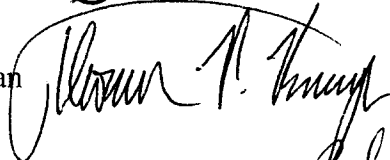
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