



City of Morro Bay

Morro Bay, CA 93442

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CERTIFICATION

I, Dana Swanson, City Clerk for the City of Morro Bay, hereby certify the documents listed below are true and correct copies of the original documents related to City of Morro Bay Measure B-22.

- Rebuttal Argument In Favor of Measure B-22 (signed PDF & Word)
- Rebuttal Argument Against Measure B-22 (signed PDF & Word)

DATED: August 3, 2022

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of Dana Swanson.

Dana Swanson, City Clerk

Rebuttal Argument in Favor of Measure B-22

This rebuttal addresses the arguments against in order presented:

“through preventative maintenance and capital improvements”—The City Attorney's Impartial Analysis and the Ballot Text itself stipulate the parcel tax revenue can ONLY be used for projects to maintain City infrastructure for the existing harbor and waterfront. It cannot be used for Harbor day-to-day operations, or the City's general fund operating budget.

Capital Improvements—Except where infrastructure is so deteriorated it must be replaced (e.g., Dune/Beach Street slips), the \$10 million investment needed is for maintaining existing structures. While the possibility of \$1.5M T-Pier grant is good news, we cannot rely on grant funding for our harbor. The last significant grant the Harbor received was for the Ice Machine 20 years ago. We need a reliable funding source.


“adjusted for inflation”—Annual inflation adjustment would be based on the “Consumer Price Increase of all Urban California Consumers” which in the past 5 years has averaged 3.9%. The Argument Against questions whether the tax will drop if inflation drops. This is nonsense: if inflation is zero, the increase is zero.

“until ended by the voters”—True. An initiative to rescind the tax can be placed on the ballot by the City Council or by petition with sufficient citizens' signatures. The argument against fails to note that citizens, including at least two of the opponents, recently collected enough signatures to generate a ballot item denying the Harbor Department \$175,000 in annual operating revenue. Their argument that this can't happen again is hypocritical.


Cherise Hansson
Chair, MB Harbor Advisory Board


Martin Lomell
Interim MB City Manager (Ret)


Jan Goldman
Member, MB Public Works Advisory Board


Glenn Silloway
Former, Citizen of the Year

Rebuttal Argument Against Measure B-22

Why should 5,600 property owners bear a tax burden for 800,000 people who annually use the Harbor and Embarcadero?

“Almost no maintenance has occurred since 1989”? Why? What happened to leaseholders being responsible for their lease site revetments, inspected every 5 years?

Where is the Facility Master Plan that says what is needed, when it's needed, and what it will cost?

This tax is not for city salaries. What if the City outsources maintenance and/or other services, won't those salaries be paid?

There are other ways to address harbor infrastructure not mentioned or evaluated. The cause is good--harbor infrastructure--the method is wrong--a special parcel tax. Voters need to know that ALL possibilities have been exhausted before justifying that residents are to be burdened with yet another tax.

What other tax increases? The November 1% sales tax increase, the June 15% garbage rate increase, the July 6% sewer/water rate increase, plus this proposed \$120 parcel tax that increases every year exponentially, but can never catch up.

Are you altering your budget to stay afloat in this pandemic, along with a slowing economy? This tax is an addition to skyrocketing costs of food, gasoline, and housing, at 9% and climbing.

Do you *believe* in more taxes? Do you *want* to pay more taxes? Do you *trust* the City to spend your tax dollars in the most frugal and prudent way? If you answer NO to any of these questions, **vote NO on Measure B-22.**

[REDACTED]
Dan Sedley

[REDACTED]
Lorie Noble

[REDACTED]
Douglas Ford

[REDACTED]
Nancy Bast