

# COMMITTEE FOR BALLOT ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED CITY OF CALABASAS SALES TAX INCREASE (CALABASAS MEASURE K)

## The City asserts that:

- All funds would remain under local control. The County or the State can't take those funds away from us.
- An independent Citizens' Oversight Committee would track spending and publicly report how funds are spent. The funds are subject to public reporting and annual independent audits
- Measure K funds would be used to:
  - Maintain 911 and Sheriff response,
  - Help prevent property crimes and home break-ins
  - Prepare for and respond to wildfires,
  - Reduce fire risk by managing brush, other fuels and natural areas
  - Keep public areas and parks safe and clean
  - Repair street and potholes.
- The City Council has undertaken cost-saving efforts to:
  - Reduce the city's workforce. Employee costs have gone up only 13% over the last ten years; an average increase of 1.3% per year.
  - Renegotiated and/or eliminated contracts with outside agencies
  - Increased fees for the Tennis & Swim Center so that they generate enough funds for its maintenance costs
  - Eliminated programs and events
  - Used one-time funds and reserves to bridge operating gaps.
- Fifty-seven percent of sales tax revenue comes from visitors, not Calabasas residents. Sales tax does not apply to groceries, prescriptions, housing, labor and education.
- The City receives 4.7% of the 1% paid as property taxes in Calabasas. The total revenue generated doesn't cover the Sheriff services contract. The percentage is not negotiable. The County sets the fees for LASD Sheriff services. Both are not within the City's control.
- In the ten years ending with fiscal year 2024-25, costs for Sheriff services have increased by 32.2%, Electricity by 211% and Insurance by 147%.
- City of Calabasas Information page: [Measure K: Calabasas Public Safety / City Services Measure](#)