

MEASURE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS

MUNICIPAL

**CITY OF BELVEDERE
SPECIAL TAX AND
APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT INCREASE
MEASURE B**

B Shall an ordinance entitled 'An Ordinance Amending And Readopting Chapter 3.28 Of The Belvedere Municipal Code Regarding A Special Tax And Appropriations Limit Increase To Finance Fire Protection Services And Emergency Medical Services,' which ordinance would increase the special tax for fire and emergency services first adopted by the City of Belvedere in 1980, be adopted?

**IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY CITY ATTORNEY
MEASURE B**

**City of Belvedere
Increase in Fire and Emergency Medical Services Levy**

This ballot measure authorizes the Belvedere City Council to adopt an ordinance amending and readopting existing Chapter 3.28 of the Belvedere Municipal Code, effectively increasing the City's existing tax that funds fire protection and emergency medical services for the City. The amended ordinance would be effective starting with the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2000.

If the measure is adopted, the City Council would be authorized, for any fiscal year where it is determined that the cost of providing safe, adequate and proper fire protection and emergency medical services for the City will exceed \$400,000, to impose a tax to fund such services on each parcel of real property within the City. The maximum tax allowed to be collected for the fiscal year 2000/2001 would be \$450,000. The levy would result in the following rate structure for the fiscal year 2000/2001: \$395.00 per residential dwelling unit; \$450.00 per commercial occupancy; and \$80.00 per vacant parcel of land. After fiscal year 2000/2001, the maximum tax may be adjusted as if it were an appropriation subject to the limitation of the provisions of California Constitution Article XIII B.

This measure would also increase the City's appropriations limit to the extent of the proceeds derived from the increased tax, for the four fiscal years beginning July 1, 2000 and ending June 30, 2004.

Article XIII A of the California Constitution requires that this measure must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the electors voting on the measure on April 11, 2000.

If approved, this measure would supersede the City of Belvedere's existing tax for fire protection and emergency medical services.

A "Yes" vote on this measure authorizes the City to increase its existing levy for fire protection and emergency medical services beginning with the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2000.

A "No" vote on this measure prohibits the City from increasing its existing levy for fire protection and emergency medical services beginning with the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2000.

GARY T. RAGGHIANTI
City Attorney

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURES A & B

Your YES vote on Measures A and B is essential to continue professional fire protection and emergency medical services in Belvedere.

Since 1980, Belvedere has contracted with the Tiburon Fire District for fire and emergency medical services. Consequently, every four years for the past twenty years, Belvedere voters have overwhelmingly approved special assessments to cover these essential costs that are over and above the City's Proposition 13 General Fund budget allocation limits for basic fire protection and paramedic services. Measure A allows for the continuation of the assessment to raise a portion of the funds required.

If approved, Measure B will increase the amount of the assessment to the level needed to pay the Tiburon Fire District for the current level of services specified in the newly revised contract, and will supersede Measure A. The amount paid by Belvedere has risen substantially in the four years since voters approved the previous assessment in 1996. Measure B will help fund this increase by assessing \$395 per residence, \$450 per commercial occupancy, and \$80 per vacant lot.

Vote YES on Measures A and B in order to maintain the essential fire and emergency medical services that protect Belvedere's residents and their properties.

- s/ Justin Faggioli
City Councilmember and Former Mayor
- s/ Kenneth G. Johnson
Former Mayor and Citizen of the Year
- s/ Ann Otter
Former Mayor and Citizen of the Year
- s/ Dr. Paul Ogden, MD
Belvedere Representative to the
Southern Marin Paramedic System
- s/ Dr. Thomas Cromwell, MD
City of Belvedere Fire Commissioner

**NO ARGUMENT AGAINST THIS MEASURE
WAS SUBMITTED**

End of Measure B

