



Measure F November 2016 Frequently Asked Questions



What is Measure F?

Measure F, appearing on the November ballot, asks City of Woodland voters to extend an existing ½-cent sales tax for an additional 12 years. The tax currently generates \$4.5 million per year. If re-authorized by Woodland voters, Measure F will continue to fund street maintenance and park improvement projects and will allow the city to increase funding for police and fire services. The ½-cent sales tax was first approved in 2000 (Measure H) and re-authorized in 2006 (Measure E).

Is Measure F a sales tax increase?

No. Measure F will not increase the sales tax rate nor generate increased tax revenues. Measure F continues the ½-cent sales tax first approved by the voters in 2000 (Measure H) and re-authorized by voters in 2006 (Measure E).

How will the sales tax revenue be used?

The revenues from the sales tax will be used for several priority funding needs, chief among these is ongoing support for street and road maintenance, park facility capital improvements and public safety.

- The current ½-cent sales tax is the only discretionary city funding that supports the city's street maintenance program, providing between \$1.0 and \$1.5 million per year. The tax is also used for local matching funds for state and federal funds secured for larger street reconstruction projects.
- The current ½-cent sales tax also provides for park facility capital improvement needs, including securing the ongoing debt service on the Community and Senior Center and Sports Park. Measure F would provide continued funding for other needed park improvement projects across the entire city, including restroom renovations, upgrade and replacement of play structures and other amenities.
- Measure F would also help support increased police and fire staffing including providing local matching funds for state and federal public safety grants.

In the absence of advisory measures, how will the public know if the City is spending the sales tax in a responsible manner?

In presenting Measure F to the voters, the City Council decided not to place additional non-binding advisory measures on an already crowded November ballot. However, if Measure F is approved, the City Council will continue to receive annual revenue and expenditure reports detailing the collection and expenditure of the ½-cent sales tax. Additionally, the City will continue to present an annual Spending Plan for Measure F tax revenues in advance of the adoption of the City's annual budget.

How does Woodland's sales tax rate compare to those of other communities in Yolo County?

The current sales tax rate in Woodland is 8.25%. The sales tax rate in Davis is 8.5%. A measure appearing on the November ballot in West Sacramento will ask its voters to increase that city's sales tax rate from 8.0% to 8.25%. The sales tax rate in the City of Winters and unincorporated Yolo County is 7.5%.

Will this sales tax have a sunset date or will it be permanent?

If approved, the tax would be extended for a twelve-year period (October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2030).

Why has the City Council placed Measure F on this ballot?

The City Council placed Measure F on the November 2016 ballot because the existing ½-cent sales tax, Measure E, will expire on September 30, 2018. Because the tax measure must appear on the same ballot where City Council members are elected, Measure F must be on the November 2016 ballot in order for it to be considered by voters prior to the expiration of Measure E. If the City waits until November 2018 to place the sales tax extension on the ballot, the existing ½-cent sales tax will have expired.

What happens if Measure F is not approved by voters?

If Measure F is not approved, the City of Woodland would have to make millions of dollars of reductions to general fund programs in order to cover bond payments owed on the Community and Senior Center. Road maintenance would be limited to pot-hole repair, crack sealing and emergency street repairs as funding allows. There would be no flexibility to augment public safety staffing or programs, and the city would not be able to apply for state and federal grants requiring local matching funds.

How is this different than Measure J that was approved by the voters in 2014?

Measure J is a ¼-cent sales tax that was approved in 2014, for eight years, with priorities for funding youth recreation programs, Woodland Public Library programming and expanded hours, programs supporting youth-at-risk, and contributing toward the city's utility rate-payer assistance program. Measure J was a renewal of an existing ¼-cent sales tax, first approved in 2010 as Measure V.

Measure F would continue the existing ½-cent sales tax. What are some examples of projects completed with Measure E?

Since 2006, the existing ½-cent sales tax has generated over \$40 million for needed capital improvement projects. Examples of funded projects include:

- Approximately \$21 million in annual maintenance of neighborhood streets
- Lincoln Avenue reconstruction (Sixth Street to California Street), and Kentucky Avenue reconstruction and right-of-way acquisition (East to West Streets)
- Downtown streetscape improvements
- Phase II of the Community & Senior Center
- Community Sports Park
- Renovation of the Historic Opera House restroom facilities
- Completion of the Opera House Theater and Dance Annex
- Library Facility Improvements including the Community Learning Lab Project
- Charles Brooks Pool Improvements
- Clark Field Improvements
- Park irrigation upgrades at various parks including Southland, Ferns, Freeman, Harris and City Park.

For more information on Measure F and the November 2016 municipal election, please visit the City's website:

<http://www.cityofwoodland.org/gov/cityhall/clerk/elections/default.asp>