

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE ____, NAMED

LAGUNA BEACH UTILITY UNDERGROUNDING AND FIRE SAFETY MEASURE

STOP the second tax increase in two years. **NO new taxes. NO free rides.**

A broad spectrum of local community groups oppose this tax.

This tax measure increases local sales tax by a whopping 12.9%! Get ready **to pay more taxes** on everything: cars, appliances, home remodeling items, local restaurants, gasoline and more. **Residents** will bear the **greater tax burden**, not tourists. This tax will hurt local businesses.

We **don't need** more money. Laguna has budget surpluses year after year. We need better management of City's **hundred million dollar** budget, and can use CalTrans resources, credits and grants. Laguna should plan, and "pay as it goes" to underground, not raise our taxes.

Historically individual neighborhoods have paid for their own undergrounding, paying tens of thousands of dollars per homeowner. Why should other neighborhoods get a free ride on the arbitrary so called "evacuation routes?"

The City wants to fool voters into believing that undergrounding utilities will keep us safe from fires. Untrue! Laguna's **never** had a major fire caused by utilities. Don't be fooled by the City's "fire and fear" campaign.

The City already plans to use the tax money to float a **multi-hundred million dollar bond**, its **greatest debt ever**, and nearly **tapping out** the City's borrowing ability. This exposes us to great risk of not being able to raise money when a real emergency occurs. Hundreds of millions of our taxpayer dollars will be spent over the next 25 years if this tax measure passes. And that might not be enough because the City has **no real cost estimate** on the undergrounding.

Our City will be in big debt, and residents will **not be safer**, after this wasteful and unnecessary spending.

DON'T BE FOOLED. Pay as we go. **NO new taxes. NO free rides.**

NO on Measure XX