

About Measure O

On The November 8, 2022 Ballot

FACT SHEET



Background: The City of Emeryville provides public services and operates facilities that are vital to community safety and the quality of life of all our residents. Despite the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, the City is focused on protecting the local quality of life by maintaining a safe and vibrant community, prioritizing safe neighborhoods, repairing and renovating streets and roads, providing meals to seniors and those most vulnerable, and supporting local businesses. The City is committed to providing city services in a fiscally responsible manner.

The City makes every effort to use resources wisely. We focus City resources on providing direct services to Emeryville. During the worst time of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020-21, the City did not reduce service levels. Instead, we redirected capital funds (normally allocated to street repairs, playgrounds, and parks maintenance) to meet direct community service and programmatic needs. Despite our best efforts through the pandemic, the City has identified a gap between revenues and expenditures going forward. To help close the gap, the City has: 1) applied funds generated in prior years to current needs; 2) deferred some maintenance and capital costs to subsequent fiscal years; and 3) held the line on starting new capital projects. Even so, if no additional revenue is generated, the City will be forced to lower service levels to residents. Further economic impacts would likely follow in future years.

Measure O Defined: To close the City's projected funding gap, the Emeryville City Council voted on July 5, 2022 to place a measure on the November 8th ballot seeking voter authorization to modify Emeryville's existing Real Property Transfer Tax (RPTT). If approved by city voters, this measure will modify Emeryville's RPTT from \$12 to \$15 per \$1,000 for property sales between \$1,000,000 and \$2,000,000 and \$25 per \$1,000 for property sales above \$2,000,000. **Under this proposal, the RPTT for properties valued at less than \$1,000,000 would remain unchanged.** If voters approve the ballot measure on November 8th, Emeryville's RPTT will more closely match RPTT rates in nearby communities. Adjusting the RPTT requires local voter support (a simple majority or 50% plus one vote) to pass and go into effect. A "YES vote" approves the proposal to adjust the City's RPTT structure; a "NO vote" rejects the proposal. All Emeryville residents who are registered to vote by established deadlines for the November 2022 election will be eligible to vote on this measure.

RPTT funds go to the City's General Fund for use on vital Emeryville city services, including:

- **PUBLIC SAFETY:** Maintaining police patrols, 911 emergency response, disaster preparedness, improving code enforcement, and increasing pedestrian safety. (Fire services are provided by Alameda County Fire).
- **ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS:** Providing solutions to address homelessness in Emeryville.
- **COVID-19 RESPONSE/ECONOMIC RECOVERY:** Supporting small businesses and attracting new businesses, jobs, and economic activity.
- **PUBLIC WORKS:** Improving transportation offerings for all modes of transit, including walking, biking, and rolling; and maintaining and enhancing urban forests, parks, and playgrounds.
- **CLEAN WATER/ENVIRONMENTAL:** Providing funding for storm drain repairs and maintenance to prevent flooding, protect against sea level rise, and keeping creeks, streams, and neighborhoods clean and pollution free.

Taxpayer protections are included in Measure O. All funds must remain **LOCALLY CONTROLLED**, dedicated to City of Emeryville services only. Funds from this Measure **CANNOT** be taken by the State or used for other purposes. Mandatory audits ensure proper spending.

For more information: Please visit the Emeryville city website at www.emeryville.org or contact City Clerk Sheri Hartz at shartz@emeryville.org, or call (510) 596-4300.