

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE H

Davis does not have a revenue problem in maintaining our beloved Parks. Davis has an employee spending problem! For far too long Davis voters have approved tax increases, ostensibly for maintaining critical City functions, only to see the new revenues instead go to increased employee compensation.

- In 2004, the voters approved a half cent sales tax increase after being told it was necessary to keep from laying off police and firefighters. Yet the very next year, all of that money and more was used to give employees the biggest pay increases in City history. Firefighters received a 36% increase over 4 years and our average firefighter total compensation is now over \$206,000 annually!
- In 2012, voters approved a \$49 parcel tax for Parks and then another half cent sales tax increase in 2016. Where did all that money go? Well, from 2012 to 2016 the average total salary and benefits for all full-time City employees increased over 25% from \$99,849 to \$124,954 (Source: www.TransparentCalifornia.org). Current average municipal employee salaries are now more than twice that of the private sector in Davis.

But the City government has done virtually nothing to control employee compensation which now totals almost \$38 million annually for just over 300 employees. The Finance and Budget Commission, our watchdog citizen commission, recommended over 2 years ago that before any new tax measures are put on the ballot the City should,

“Work to accelerate the completion of a full staffing analysis to determine match between service delivery needs and staffing....This should save \$1 million per year in employee costs”.

Yet this simple study was never even done! We clearly cannot trust our City government to otherwise spend our hard-earned money wisely for the 20-year duration of this tax.

Please vote “NO” on Measure H.

www.DavisTaxProtestVote.com

/S/

Michael Nolan, Acting President of Yolo County Taxpayers Association

John Munn, Former President of the Board of Education of the Davis Joint Unified School District

Don Price, Emeritus Professor of History, University of California Davis

Pam Nieberg, Former Co-Chair, Yes on Measure O (City of Davis Open Space Ordinance)