

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE K

The notion that the city will collapse without new taxes is absurd.

Almost every city in California manages to survive and thrive while spending *far less per capita* than Palo Alto.

A *temporary* shortfall from the pandemic is **not** a good reason to start a *permanent new tax*.

A temporary shortfall **should** be the time to **take a hard look at city spending**, to sort out what's truly essential, which expenses can be deferred, and whether we really need to pay so many employees such high salaries to get the job done.

Don't be fooled by the claim that this tax is "modest" and "reasonable". Taxes usually start out small. *That's how politicians sell them to us*. But once a new type of tax exists, it becomes relatively easy to raise it. They will always cite some "critical service" as an excuse—over and over again!

How is this tax "fair"? All taxes are inherently unfair, because they take money by force from people who had better uses for it. But in addition to that, this tax is plainly an attempt to tax *only certain businesses*.

Larger businesses are already paying lots of taxes. Imagine what Palo Alto would be like *without* those businesses and the taxes they pay now!

More and more businesses are moving from California to lower-tax states. No single tax is the cause, but they all add up. Let's not make the problem worse.

No new taxes!

Vote **NO** on Measure K.

<https://scclp.org/just-vote-no>

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