## **ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE B2022**

Goleta voters are asked to approve an increase of one penny on the dollar to its sales tax. Without it, the City is unable to fully maintain its infrastructure investments and accomplish other recognized priorities that our residents deserve. Over time, road quality has deteriorated, and without additional revenues, it will continue to worsen, with the costs of restoring the roads increasingly more expensive. Critical projects like western Goleta's Fire Station 10 have been delayed because of lack of funding.

Goleta's limited revenue has delayed other priorities, including renovating Lake Los Carneros, restoring creeks, repairing the Community Center, and establishing safe routes to schools for bicycles and pedestrians. Furthermore, public safety costs are rising.

Why are we in this situation? Unlike other cities, Goleta does not receive its full share of the taxes that it's due. Because of the Revenue Neutrality Agreement, a condition of Goleta cityhood, every year the County takes almost \$7 million, and rising, of Goleta's taxes. The City has persistently worked to end this arrangement and will continue to do so. Additionally, Goleta has the lowest sales tax rate of cities in the County.

Unlike current sales taxes, Goleta would retain 100% of this new tax. Goleta's tax rate would still be at or below neighboring cities. Exempt are essential items including groceries, prescription medicine, and gasoline. An estimated 44% of the sales tax increase would be paid by visitors and other non-residents.

The tax will not take effect until 2024, when economic conditions are predicted to have improved.

To ensure the funds are well-spent, the Council has developed a plan to focus the new revenue on the backlog of high priority projects.

With this tax, we can close Goleta's revenue gap and address deferred critical needs, including safe roads, sidewalks, and tree maintenance.

The undersigned proponent(s) or author(s) of the primary argument in favor of Ballot Measure B2022 at the Statewide General Election for Santa Barbara County to be held on November 8, 2022, hereby state that such argument is true and correct to the best of his knowledge and

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8/1/2022

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## CITY OF GOLETA CALIFORNIA

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## **ARGUMENTS**

## FORM OF STATEMENT TO BE FILED BY AUTHORS OR ARGUMENTS

The undersigned proponent(s) or author(s) of the (circle one: primary / rebuttal) argument (circle one: in favor or / against) ballot Measure \_\_\_\_\_ at the General Municipal Election for the City of Goleta to be held on November 8, 2022, hereby state that the argument is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Print Name Swart KASdin  Title MATUR PRO TEMPOSE If applicable, argument submitted on behalf of:  City Ound Goleth (Name of Organization	Signature Date 811/2022
Print Name EYLE RICHARDS  Title CITY GUNCILMEMBER  If applicable, argument submitted on behalf of:  CITY of GOLETA  (Name of Organization	Signature Date 8 1 3000
Print Name James Kyriaco  Title City Council Member If applicable, argument submitted on behalf of:  (Name of Organization	Signature Date 8/2/22
Print Name Paula Perutte  Title Mauce If applicable, argument submitted on behalf of:  (Name of Organization	Signature Date 8-2-22
Print Name  Title If applicable, argument submitted on behalf of:  (Name of Organization	Signature  Date

All arguments concerning measures filed pursuant to Division 9, Chapter 3 (beginning with Section 9200) of the Elections Code (EC) shall be accompanied by the foregoing form statement to be signed by each proponent, and by each author, if different, of the argument.

Attach this form to the signed and properly titled argument. See following page for additional notes.

CITY OF GOLETA CALIFORNIA

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