

Investment Matters

PARCEL TAX > MEASURES H & I

Newsletter No. 1
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Supporting educational programs in the Santa Barbara Elementary and Secondary School Districts.



Why were Measures H and I placed on the ballot?

Each school day, the Santa Barbara Elementary and Secondary School Districts offer a high-quality educational program to almost 16,000 students in grades K-12. Due to substantial state budget cuts our school districts' revenues are declining and affecting our ability to continue to fund and enhance enrichment programs in our schools.

Our Districts' Budget Cuts	
2010-11	Projected = \$5 million
2009-10	\$7.7 million
June 2008	\$4.1 million
April 2007	\$2.5 million
2003-04	\$1.4 million (elementary) \$2.4 million (secondary)
2002-03	\$900,000 (elementary)
2001-02	\$500,000 (elementary)
2000-01	\$350,000 (elementary)

The Santa Barbara School Districts Board of Education voted to place two parcel tax measures (Measure H and Measure I) on the November 4, 2008 ballot because our schools need reliable, supplemental local tax dollars in order to fund valued programs that provide our students with the highest quality education.

Measures H and I

Measure H covers the entire area served by the Santa Barbara Secondary School District, from Montecito to Goleta. The amount per parcel per year that schools will receive is \$23. This special four-year tax began in the fiscal year starting July 1, 2009 and ends in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012.

Measure I covers only the Santa Barbara Elementary School District area, in the city of Santa Barbara. The amount per parcel per year that schools will receive is \$27 for four years. This special four-year tax began in the fiscal year starting July 1, 2009 and ends in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012.

These modest investments provides a stable, consistent, and locally controlled funding source that benefits all students; **100 percent of all parcel tax revenues directly support classroom instruction.**

Programs made possible because of the parcel tax

Measure H supports education in grades 7-12. The funds are being used to supplement math, science, and technology education; music, arts and theater programs at the junior high school level; foreign language at the secondary level; and restores ninth-grade math class sizes.

Each day, your investment is making a difference in the instruction of 10,000 students attending Goleta Valley Junior High, La Colina Junior High, La Cumbre Junior High, Santa Barbara Junior High, Dos Pueblos High, San Marcos High, Santa Barbara High, La Cuesta

Continuation, and Alta Vista Alternative High schools.

Measure I supports education in grades K-6. The funds are being used to supplement math, science, and technology education as well as offer classroom music programs to almost 5,000 elementary school students at Adams, Cesar Chavez, Cleveland, Franklin, Harding, McKinley, Monroe, Open Alternative, Peabody Charter, Roosevelt, Santa Barbara Community Academy, Santa Barbara Charter, and Washington elementary schools.

How does this benefit me?

There are several really important reasons why strong public schools with diverse programs benefit all of us in the community whether or not we currently have children in school.

First, we need well educated and well rounded students who will be our future workforce, providing the services we depend on.

Second, strong schools enhance property values for everyone.

Lastly, our local culture is greatly enhanced by the skills and talents of students enrolled in the performing arts, music and technology programs; their projects and performances provide entertainment and new ideas that benefit us all.

It's a fact >

The state cannot touch one dollar of parcel tax funds; every dollar is used to educate our community's children.