

## **City of Palm Springs Measure D Frequently Asked Questions**

### **When it comes to public services, what are the City of Palm Springs' priorities?**

Palm Springs is an inclusive, world-class city dedicated to providing excellent and responsive public services. Public safety, in particular, is a top priority for the City of Palm Springs. We have our own full-service Police and Fire Departments.

We strive to support these departments to our fullest capacity, so they have the appropriate resources to ensure the safety of our residents.

We also prioritize the importance of maintaining city streets and parks, repairing potholes and preventing crime.

### **How is the City of Palm Springs performing in delivering city services and protecting our quality of life?**

We are committed to ensuring our city has a strong economy, great parks, beautiful neighborhoods and excellent cultural amenities. A recent community survey shows that the majority of residents have a positive view of how the City of Palm Springs is performing in delivering city services. Palm Springs is dedicated to enhancing and protecting the quality of life for current and future generations.

More information about the City's budget and spending can be found at [www.tinyurl.com/PalmSpringsFinance](http://www.tinyurl.com/PalmSpringsFinance)

### **How have state budget cuts impacted essential city services?**

The State has taken \$30 million from Palm Springs over the last five years, and in upcoming years the City will be required to fund another \$30-40 million burden. There has not been enough reliable revenue to adequately provide essential city services. The City is at risk of making significant cuts.

### **What is Measure D?**

The City Council placed Measure D before voters in the November 7, 2017 Municipal Election to provide locally-controlled funding for essential services and programs in Palm Springs and help the City avoid cuts to City services, maintaining and improving public safety. Measure D replaces an expired State sales tax with local revenue, 100% of which will stay in Palm Springs.

### **What specifically would Measure D do?**

Measure D would provide locally-controlled funding for essential City services, including:

- Maintain and improve Police and Fire/Paramedics 911 response times
- Increase neighborhood police patrols
- Keep fire stations fully staffed
- Add paramedic services
- Address homelessness by increasing access to job training, mental health and substance abuse services, helping individuals and families transition off the street

- Provide lifesaving equipment to first responders in medical emergencies
- Keep increased gang presence in neighboring cities away from Palm Springs
- Increase water conservation and repair streets and potholes

**Could the State take any revenue from Measure D?**

No. By law, no Measure D funds could be taken by the State. All funds must stay local to benefit Palm Springs.

**How can I be certain that all Measure D funds would be spent as promised?**

Measure D includes fiscal accountability provisions to ensure all funds would be spent as stated. Funds from Measure D would be locally controlled and subject to public oversight and annual audits.

**How much would Measure D cost residents?**

If approved by voters, Measure D would authorize a half-cent increase in sales tax to fund essential City services. For a \$100 purchase, Measure D would add 50 cents. All revenue would be used locally, only for essential City services in Palm Springs. Measure D would generate an estimated \$6 million to \$7 million in revenue annually. Groceries, prescription medicine, gas, utilities and other essential items are exempt from sales tax.

**How much would tourists and visitors pay of Measure D?**

Up to 2/3 of Measure D revenue would be paid by tourists who benefit from public safety and other services when they visit.

**Have Palm Springs voters approved local tax measures before?**

On November 8, 2011, 57.5% of Palm Springs voters approved Measure J, a dedicated local revenue measure to maintain local community services and revitalize downtown. Measure J became effective April 1, 2012, and increased the local sales and use tax by 1%.

Measure J projects include, 41 miles of road repairs, fire station improvements, upgrades to the police training center, Welwood Murray Library, parks and downtown. A full accounting of Measure J expenditures is available on the City's website at: <https://tinyurl.com/ydzd2ekv>.

**Have Measure J funds been spent as promised?**

Measure J revenue is audited annually by the Measure J Oversight Commission, an independent advisory commission who review, recommend, oversee and monitor the expenditures of Measure J funds. These audits have ensured Measure J funds have been spent as promised and are publicly available at [www.tinyurl.com/MeasureJCommission](http://www.tinyurl.com/MeasureJCommission).

**When will Measure D appear on the ballot? Who can vote on this measure?**

Measure D will appear on the November 7, 2017 Municipal Election ballot in Palm Springs. This election will be conducted both by mail and at polling locations. All registered voters in the City of Palm Springs are eligible to vote on this measure.

**When is the deadline to register to vote?**

The last day to register to vote in this election is October 23. To register to vote please contact the Riverside County Registrar of Voters at (951) 486-7200.

**When is the deadline to request to vote by mail?**

The deadline to request a vote-by-mail ballot is October 31.

**How many votes does Measure D need to pass?**

In order to pass, Measure D needs the support of over 50% of those who vote on it.

**Where can I learn more about voting?**

For information about voting or finding your polling place, contact the Riverside County Registrar of Voters at (951) 486-7200 or visit [www.voteinfo.net](http://www.voteinfo.net).

**Where can I learn more information about Measure D?**

For more information about Measure D on the November 7, 2017 ballot, please visit [www.palmspringsca.gov/government/city-clerk/election-information](http://www.palmspringsca.gov/government/city-clerk/election-information).