



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

August 7, 2019

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Garrett Toy, Town Manager *GT*

SUBJECT: Approve formation of reconstituted oversight committee for Measure J (special municipal tax)

RECOMMENDATION

Approve formation of reconstituted oversight committee for Measure J (special municipal tax)

DISCUSSION

Measure J passed in 2014, similar to its predecessor Measures F and I, continued the requirement for maintaining a citizens' oversight committee to monitor use of the special tax revenues. Measure J is a Special Municipal Tax of \$195 per residential and commercial unit. The current committee comprises of nine members: 7 appointed citizens and 2 Councilmembers.

When we last tried to call a meeting prior to the 2014 renewal of the special municipal tax (Measure J), no members attended except for the 2 Councilmember representatives. The members indicated they were either no longer interested in the committee or had moved out of town. Staff surmises that because the adopted annual budget shows the allocation of the special municipal tax funds as well as the historical use of the funds, the members were not concerned about the uses and did not see a need to meet.

In June 2019, the Council passed a resolution to place the renewal of Measure J on the November 5, 2019 ballot. The proposed Measure continues to maintain an oversight committee. As a result, Mayor Coler has suggested it would be prudent to reconstitute the oversight committee. Staff believes it would be more efficient to use existing Town committee members instead of trying to recruit, interview and appoint 7 new members. The proposed new composition of the oversight committee is recommended as follows:

- Two Councilmembers (currently Mayor Coler and Councilmember Lacques)
- Elected Town Treasurer
- Past Treasurer
- Member of PARC (to be appointed by PARC)
- Member of Volunteer Board (to be appointed by the Volunteer Board)

A portion of the special municipal tax is used to fund programs (e.g., seniors) and projects (e.g., trail repair) of significant interest to PARC and the Volunteer Board. The 6-member oversight committee would meet on an ad-hoc basis as determined by the Councilmembers on the committee.

FISCAL IMPACT

n/a