

May 3, 2021

Honorable Mayor Kate Colin and City Council members
City of San Rafael
1400 Fifth Ave. Room 203
San Rafael, CA 94901

CITYCOUNCIL Meeting for Monday, May 3, 2021

Agenda item 8.a. Measure A Work Plan and Preliminary Capital Improvement Program

I oppose the provision of Measure A that funnels sales tax revenue to a non-profit organization, in this case, MALT, the Marin Agricultural Land Trust. I believe this is an inappropriate use of sales tax revenue and that non-profit organizations are capable and responsible for their own fund raising.

If we choose, as a community, to provide various non-profits with funding from the City's collection of sales tax revenue, why wouldn't we also support the Red Cross or the San Francisco/Marin Food Bank?

It is simply not appropriate for the City to act as a fund raising arm for ANY non-profit organization by providing a guaranteed revenue stream!

I encourage you to withdraw support of any proposed renewal of Measure A that includes MALT as a beneficiary. MALT has been accused of conflicts-of-interest with sitting board members who financially benefited from overvalued easements and Measure A funds. According to an article in the Marin IJ, from September 7, 2020, MALT returned over \$800,000 in Measure A funds to the County.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Victoria DeWitt
West End Neighborhood resident