

Impartial Analysis by the Sonoma City Attorney Measure T

Measure T would impose a one-half of one percent (0.5%) transactions and use tax in the City of Sonoma and update the City's sales tax ordinance to reflect state-mandated changes. This kind of tax is often called a "sales" tax. It applies only to purchases of things subject to existing sales taxes. For example, purchases of prescription drugs and most food would not be taxed.

The money from this tax would go into the City's general fund and could be used for any City purpose such as public safety services, improving traffic and pedestrian safety, street and sidewalk repairs, funding recreation and park services, assisting affordable housing programs, and other City services as determined by the City Council.

The tax would be in addition to existing state and local sales taxes. It would add one-half of one cent (\$0.005) to each dollar (\$1.00) of taxable sales. The tax would be administered by the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration under contract with the City of Sonoma. The revenues from Measure T would go only to the City and not to the State or any other governmental entity.

The Sonoma City Council placed Measure T on the ballot. A simple majority of voters (50% plus 1) must approve the measure before it can take effect. If approved, the tax will remain in effect until amended or repealed by the voters.

A "yes" vote supports the tax. It is a vote in favor of authorizing the one-half of one percent transactions and use tax.

A "no" vote opposes the tax. It is a vote against authorizing the transactions and use tax.

Date: JULY 30, 2024

By: 

David J. Ruderman
Sonoma City Attorney

TO COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICIALS:

If the entire text of the measure is not printed in the ballot, nor in the voter information portion of the sample ballot, please print the following language immediately below my impartial analysis and before my signature block. Thank you.

The above is an impartial analysis of Measure T. A complete copy of the tax ordinance appears on the City's website at <https://www.sonomacity.org/ballot-measure-t>. If you would like a copy of the ordinance, please call (707) 933-2216 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.