

City of Brisbane

Agenda Report

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Caroline Cheung via Clay Holstine, City Manager

DATE: Meeting of April 1, 2013

SUBJECT: Letter to the County Board of Supervisors Re: Measure A Spending Proposal

PURPOSE:

To put in writing Mayor Pro Tem Conway's recommendation to the San Mateo County of Supervisors as they consider how to invest the estimated \$60 million in Measure A funds within the county.

RECOMMENDATION:

For the following letter to be signed by the Mayor so it can be sent to the County Board of Supervisors as they review proposals for Measure A funds in the coming months.

BACKGROUND:

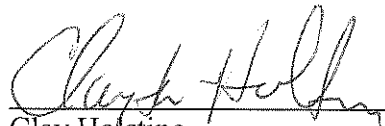
Mayor Pro Tem attended the first of two Measure A Board Workshops on January 15, 2013. He emphasized the need for Measure A funds to be allocated towards Affordable Housing, as the need for such has become great with the official dissolution of redevelopment agencies on February 1, 2012.

MEASURE OF SUCCESS:

The Board of Supervisors decides to allocate funds for housing affordability when this priority category comes before them at their May 7, 2013 meeting.



Caroline Cheung,
Administrative Management Analyst



Clay Holstine,
City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1 – Draft letter to the County Board of Supervisors



CITY OF BRISBANE

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April 1, 2013

San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
Hall of Justice and Records
400 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063

Re: Spending Proposal for Measure A Sales Tax

Dear Board President Don Horsley and Members of the Board,

In late February, we received an e-mail from County Manager John Maltbie to sign up for www.SMCSPEAKOUT.com, a virtual town hall where participants could voice their priorities for how voter-approved Measure A funds could be invested in their communities come April 1st when the sales tax in most of the county's cities will rise to 9 cents. We immediately signed up to participate in this online forum, contributing Brisbane Mayor Pro Tem Clarke Conway's concern over Affordable Housing as our "big idea" for spending the Measure A sales tax. Similar to the county's 20 separate cities, no longer having a regular and ongoing source of funds for affordable housing has become of paramount concern as we look towards the future.

We are not alone in this battle. As of Tuesday, March 26th, "Affordable Housing" was the most active idea on www.SPEAKOUT.com, and second when the topic page was sorted by "Popular". It is clear that the other contributing citizens see affordable housing as a public asset; it is an investment in a community and, as such, all the residents in that community are the investors.

We ask that as you carefully consider how best to spend the \$60 million that Measure A funds are expected to raise each year, and especially when Housing Affordability is brought before you for your consideration at your May 7th meeting, that you remember the voters who confidently passed this measure and how they most want to see these funds invested in their communities, the effort the county underwent to hear from its residents, and how you now have the opportunity to restore some basic services such as affordable housing, as you look out for the interests of the entire county.

Sincerely,

Raymond C. Miller, Mayor

