

# **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**JUNE 18, 2024**

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AGENDA**

**Item #24**

**LB 24-016**

**Sales Tax**

City Council Meeting  
June 18, 2024  
Item 24: LB 24-016 sales tax

I am speaking in favor of placing the extension of the ½ cent sales tax (without an increase) for 20 more years on the November 2024 ballot. This measure provides critical funding for Hayward to expand and upgrade public facilities and city services to a growing population. This measure will save money by allowing the city to start contracting for projects at today's costs instead of waiting another 10 years. It will also help keep Hayward economically competitive, and encourage a safer, more service oriented local government.

I support the projects listed in Table 1, especially the HEART Program. This is a fiscally prudent initiative which reduces the number of 911 calls that require full-on response from police and fire personnel, thus saving police time. By forming smaller teams which also include medical personnel, residents can receive on-site services and direct referrals to appropriate resources on the first emergency call. If extending Measure C allocates sufficient funding to provide HEART what it needs to be successful, it can effectively address and even reduce mental health and homelessness incidents in Hayward.

Safe Parking is another priority from Table 1 which would make it easier and cost effective for wrap-around services to access those who need help by offering an alternative to parking RVs and cars on residential streets and other public and private properties.

I know passing this measure will be hard work and I will be encouraging residents to vote yes. I commend the Council and City staff for moving this measure forward.

Word of Caution: Capital funds are easier to leverage than operations funding.

Ro Aguilar  
Hayward resident  
[REDACTED] message

Sales tax renewal