



## Frequently Asked Questions about Measure A

### **Q: What is Measure A?**

**A:** On July 6, 2020, the Turlock City Council placed Measure A on the November Ballot for voter consideration. If approved by Turlock voters, Measure A, the City of Turlock, 911 Safety/Emergency Medical Response, Community Services Measure, would enact a  $\frac{3}{4}$  cent local sales tax, providing the necessary funding to maintain and restore safety services and rapid 911 emergency response, fix streets and potholes, and address City challenges with homelessness and vagrancy, among other items.

### **Q: Why place Measure A on the ballot now?**

**A.** Turlock is committed to doing a better job to help the City remain a good place to live, work and raise a family. But, years of state takeaways of local funds, rising costs, and the financial impact of the coronavirus pandemic have put Turlock in the position of making significant budget cuts or freezes that impact basic services citywide.

After outreach to and feedback from Turlock residents, businesses, and community stakeholders citywide, including a Community Priorities Advisory Committee (CPAC), Turlock placed Measure A on the ballot.

### **Q: What priorities does Measure A address?**

**A:** If approved by Turlock voters, Measure A would provide additional locally-controlled funds to reverse deep cuts impacting the services and priorities residents have told us they value, including:

- Maintaining 911 emergency medical response/services/fire protection
- Retaining local businesses and jobs
- Protecting Turlock's ability to respond to emergencies and natural disasters
- Keeping public areas safe and clean
- Protecting Turlock's long-term financial stability
- Addressing homelessness and vagrancy

### **Q: How is the City faring with Fire, Emergency Medical Response, and Public Safety needs?**

**A:** In 2019, Turlock Firefighters responded to more than 7,000 calls for service, an all-time high for the City. However, as emergency calls increased, Fire Department staffing actually decreased. Because of budget cuts, the City will soon need to cut additional firefighting positions which will increase fire and emergency medical response times in the City. In some instances, these times could double.

Additionally, crime was up four percent last year and gang-related crimes have expanded into our City, including violent crimes, weapons, drug sales and human trafficking, but we are 34



police officers below accepted standards for a city our size. Turlock does not have the resources to fully fund crime prevention and community policing programs.

Measure A funding would allow the City to address these emergency response priorities and backfill cuts, provide proactive crime prevention services, help maintain effective Fire and emergency medical response services, and improve the 911 emergency response center so our emergency responders can respond quickly to our community during times of crisis.

**Q: Would Measure A help our streets?**

**A:** We agree that our streets need help! Independent engineers gave the condition of Turlock's streets and roads a rating of 57 out of 100, which is nearly 10 points worse than five years ago. If we do not address this infrastructure need now, it will worsen and cost all of us more in the long run.

Measure A can provide the funding needed to properly maintain our streets, which will make them safer for drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists, and will help reduce the need for drivers to make costly pothole-related car repairs.

**Q: Will Measure A funds be accountable to the Turlock taxpayer?**

**A:** Yes. Measure A includes strict accountability provisions, requiring annual independent financial audits, citizen oversight, and public disclosure of all spending. By law, all Measure A funds must remain in Turlock and cannot be taken by the County or State government.

**Q: How can I get more information about Measure A, candidates, and how to participate in the all-mail ballot election?**

**A:** For more information on Measure A, visit [www.cityofturlock.org/MeasureA](http://www.cityofturlock.org/MeasureA) . For information on candidates and voting, visit [www.cityofturlock.org/Elections](http://www.cityofturlock.org/Elections).

For more information regarding the vote-by-mail ballot process, including satellite locations and hours of operations, please check your voter guide or visit [www.stanvote.com](http://www.stanvote.com).



## Frequently Asked Questions About the Election and New Voting Procedures

**Q: What's different about this upcoming Municipal Election?**

**A:** The State recently passed a bill mandating that Counties mail ballots to all active registered voters this year, while providing options for in-person voting. For more information, visit: [www.stanvote.com](http://www.stanvote.com) or [www.sos.ca.gov/elections](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections).

**Q: What is on my local ballot?**

**A:** Turlock voters will consider City Council candidates for Districts 2 and 4, candidates for City Treasurer, and local ballot Measure A.

**Q: Who gets to vote on the City Council candidates for Districts 2 and 4?**

**A:** You have to be a registered voter and live within the District boundaries to vote for the candidate in the District. The City of Turlock Districting Plan can be found on the City's website at [www.cityofturlock.org/government/turlockcitycouncil/districtboundarymap.asp](http://www.cityofturlock.org/government/turlockcitycouncil/districtboundarymap.asp).

**Q: Who gets to vote for the City Treasurer and what does the City Treasurer do?**

**A:** The City Treasurer is elected by all voters in the City. The City Treasurer is primarily responsible for managing the investment of municipal funds and other duties as defined in California Government Code section 41001-41007. The City Treasurer is a non-voting elected position.

**Q. What is a vote-by-mail ballot?**

**A:** All registered voters will be sent a vote-by-mail ballot for the November 3, 2020 election. Instead of going to the polls, registered voters may vote using the vote-by-mail ballot sent to them.

**Q. Where does my completed ballot go when I mail it?**

**A:** Your ballot is sent to the Stanislaus County Elections office in Modesto to be counted.

**Q: How do I return my vote-by-mail ballot?**

**A:** Voters may return vote-by-mail ballots one of the following ways:

- 1) Mailing it to the County Elections Official (pre-paid envelope included).
- 2) Dropping it off at one of the County's authorized secure ballot drop boxes, satellite offices, or the County's Elections office. A drop box will be available at Turlock City Hall in early October.
- 3) Visiting a satellite office for assistance with accessibility and language needs, or to obtain a replacement vote-by-mail ballot. Satellite offices will open October 31, 2020, through Election day.

For more information regarding the vote-by-mail ballot process, including satellite locations and hours of operations, please check your voter guide or visit [www.stanvote.com](http://www.stanvote.com).