

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE M

In 2009, for the first time since WWII, Californians' income fell compared to the previous year*. Citizens are hurting. We are making do with less. We are cutting back spending.

The response of the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County?

A “Fee” increase!

They have a laundry list of wonderful benefits for this new “fee” – see the measure summary. All they left out was “For the children”, a sure winning line - as anyone who has seen the Michael Caine movie “Dirty Rotten Scoundrels”, knows.

Voters of San Mateo County, listen: we can't *grow* government services and benefits while the people who would pay for these increases, you and I, have *less* income than before.

The City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County should never have proposed *any* fee increase while citizens are suffering in this economy. Perhaps it should instead cut back on the consulting, professional and administration services, which consumed almost \$5.3 million of its \$11.3 million 2008-9 budget. That same budget's total for Professional Dues and Memberships, and Conferences and meetings, was \$178,237.

Nice work if you can get it.

One day, and soon we hope, our county and our state will return to prosperity. Family incomes will increase. And we will have the resources to support the increases in public services we all desire.

But those times are not yet here. Until then, public agencies must tighten their belts just the same as we. *There has to be a temporary moratorium on fee and tax increases until the economy improves.*

Vote NO on Measure M !

- <http://www.sacbee.com/2010/08/11/2950736/californians-lost-out-on-40-billion.html>

Signed By:
Douglas A. McNea
President, Silicon Valley Taxpayers' Association

Don Pettengill
San Mateo Resident

Kevin Peterson
Software Engineer