

Information about Measure E

Q: What is Measure E?

A: On July 21, 2021, the Indio City Council unanimously placed Measure E – **City of Indio No Tax Increase Safety/ Essential City Services Protection Measure** — on the November 2, 2021, Special Election ballot.

Q: Does Measure E increase my taxes?

A: NO. If approved by Indio voters, Measure E simply extends the current, voter approved 1-cent (1 percent) sales tax until ended by voters, allowing the city to address critical safety infrastructure needs including public safety, water, and bridges and overpasses, without increasing the tax rate that Indio residents and out-of-town shoppers currently pay.

Q: Why was Measure E placed on the ballot?

A: Indio is committed to maintaining the essential public safety and other services needed to keep our schools, parks, and neighborhoods safe and healthy.

The fiscal emergency created by state takeaways of local funds and the financial impacts of COVID means it is more important than ever that our taxpayer dollars stay local to address our local priorities and needs for the foreseeable future.

Q: What safety needs does Measure E address?

A: Indio's 911 dispatch center, police station, neighborhood fire stations and the emergency operations center are all outdated and deteriorating, do not comply with today's state earthquake safety standards and do not meet the local first-responders' needs. The stability of existing funding that Measure E would provide will ensure funding for critical upgrades to provide police officers, firefighters and paramedics with the resources and bases of operation to keep Indio residents safe by providing fast and effective 911 emergency response services.

Q: What about other health/safety needs?

A: As California's drought continues to show, conserving water and maintaining proper delivery systems are vital. Measure E can ensure funding remains available to continue upgrading pipes and other critical infrastructure to continue effectively deliver safe, clean drinking water to residents and protect our local groundwater resources from being contaminated.

Q: What community service priorities would Measure E help maintain?

A: Measure E would help maintain the public safety, water, and road service priorities our residents have identified as important, including:

- Maintaining City of Indio firefighter, paramedic, and police officer staffing levels
- Providing police officers up-to-date essential resources and equipment, including bullet proof vests and vehicles
- Upgrading essential equipment for Indio's firefighters and paramedics, including life-saving equipment, protective clothing, and a new fire engine
- Upgrading radios and emergency communications systems used by 911 dispatch operators, police, firefighters, and paramedics

- Upgrading storm drains and pipe systems to protect local water resources
- Retrofitting older bridges and overpasses to meet current earthquake safety standards

Q. Will Measure E funds be spent responsibly?

A. Yes. Measure E continues the strict accountability provisions on locally controlled funding, including annual independent audits and online expenditure reports available for public review and citizens' oversight. Further, all funds raised must be used for Indio city services and by law cannot be taken by state politicians.

Q: How can I get more information about Measure E and the Municipal Election?

A: Please visit www.indio.org/MeasureE.