



2024 GENERAL ELECTION VOTER GUIDE

VENTURA COUNTY

The Ventura County Taxpayers' Association (VCTA) is a non-partisan 501(c)(4) organization emphasizing issues that affect Ventura County.

www.vcta.org

STATEWIDE PROPOSITIONS

PROP 2

Proposition 2 is \$10 billion of bonds, new state debt, to pay for school facilities. This will result in higher property tax bills because school districts must provide a "local match" of funds to receive money from the Prop. 2 state bonds. That will lead to districts issuing new local school bonds, which are paid for by adding new charges to property tax bills. Enrollment is declining in K-12 district schools and community colleges; experts project that they will continue. However, Proposition 2 commits California to pay an estimated \$18 billion, including interest, for school buildings that may not even be necessary. **VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 2** ❌

PROP 3

Proposition 3 removes language from the state Constitution that defines marriage as between a man and a woman. It adds that the "right to marry is a fundamental right." This measure does not effect the current law because the U.S. Supreme Court held that the federal Constitution protects the right to marry. **VCTA TAKES NO POSITION ON THIS PROPOSITION**

PROP 4

Proposition 4 is a \$10 billion "climate bond" that would add to California's already significant bond debt of over \$78 billion as of January 1. With interest, taxpayers are looking at \$20 billion! Using borrowed money, especially for programs that include salaries, is reckless and only increases the state's financial burden, particularly when the governor has already declared a budget emergency due to overspending. **VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 4** ❌

PROP 5

Proposition 5 is ACA 1, a direct attack on Proposition 13. It makes it easier to raise taxes by eliminating the longstanding two-thirds vote of the electorate required to pass local bonds (borrowed money that borrowers must repay with interest). All new bond measures for "infrastructure" (nearly everything is "infrastructure") and for public housing projects would pass with just 55% approval instead of the current 66.7%. Local bonds add extra charges to property taxes, increasing costs for homeowners, businesses, tenants, and consumers. If Proposition 5 passes, property taxes could rise after every election, increasing California's cost of living. **VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 5** ❌

PROP 6

Proposition 6 bans mandatory work requirements for state prison inmates. It doesn't seem fair to further increase the burden on taxpayers by creating the conditions to negotiate higher wages for inmates who are paying off their debt to society by serving their sentences in state prison. **VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 6** ❌

PROP 32

Proposition 32 proposes increasing California's hourly minimum wage from \$16 to \$18 with annual adjustments for inflation. However, raising the minimum wage can lead to reduced weekly wages due to cuts in hours and layoffs, and it also raises government labor costs, potentially driving job-creating businesses out of the state. **VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 32** ❌

PROP 33

Proposition 33 seeks to repeal the 1995 Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act, allowing cities to impose strict rent control on single-family homes and condos. This could discourage new apartment construction and worsen California's housing shortage, and voters rejected it in 2018 and 2020. **VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 33** ❌

PROP 34

Some nonprofit healthcare organizations that receive federal funds to provide healthcare services have abused the system by spending large amounts on political causes. Proposition 34 would end this practice and require that healthcare providers spend most of the money they receive from a federal prescription drug discount program on direct patient care. **VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION 34** ✅

PROP 35

Proposition 35 aims to make the MCO tax on Managed Care Organizations like Anthem Blue Cross permanent and ensure dedicated revenue to fund Medi-Cal, California's health insurance program for low-income residents. This would redirect funds to directly support the healthcare of about 14 million Californians instead of being used to fill gaps in the state budget. California uses Medi-Cal to give 1.5 to 2 million illegal aliens free health care. **VOTE NO ON PROP 35** ❌

PROP 36

Proposition 36, the "Homelessness, Drug Addiction and Theft Reduction Act," backed by law enforcement and retailers, aims to toughen third offenses and offer treatment alternatives to incarceration. It addresses the surge in retail theft, vehicle break-ins, and open drug use, easing the burden on first responders and taxpayers while reducing insurance costs. **VOTE YES ON PROP 36** ✅

LOCAL MEASURES

MEASURE I

CITY-SPONSORED COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO.5 (RIVERPARK, OXNARD) NO TAX INCREASE, PUBLIC SAFETY, NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES MEASURE.

RiverPark residents currently pay double taxes for standard services. Voters are urged to reject Measure I, which could impose new taxes, and instead support Measures J, K, and L to protect their rights and secure fair tax treatment.

VOTE NO ON MEASURE I ❌

MEASURE J

REPEAL OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES NO. 5 (RIVERPARK, OXNARD) SPECIAL TAXES

Measure J seeks to repeal the unfair Mello-Roos tax that forces RiverPark residents to pay extra for services all Oxnard residents enjoy, effectively double-charging them. Reject the deceptive Measure I, which would impose a new tax, and instead support Measure J to ensure RiverPark residents receive the same standard municipal services without the additional financial burden. **VOTE YES ON MEASURE J** ✅

MEASURE K

REDUCTION OF THE MAXIMUM SPECIAL TAXES THAT OXNARD CAN IMPOSE WITHIN COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 5 (RIVERPARK, OXNARD)

Measure K aims to cap RiverPark's Mello-Roos tax at last year's rate and limit future increases to inflation, preventing Oxnard City Council from doubling the tax without voter approval. **VOTE YES ON MEASURE K** ✅

MEASURE L

LIMITATIONS ON USES OF SPECIAL TAXES FOR COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 5 (RIVERPARK, OXNARD)

RiverPark residents currently pay double taxes for standard services. Measure L ensures they are only charged for enhanced services, potentially generating \$2.2 million in tax relief annually. **VOTE YES ON MEASURE L** ✅

MEASURE O, P, & Q - VCTA TAKES NO POSITION ON THESE MEASURES

MEASURE R

Measure R allocates funds to the City of Santa Paula's general fund without specifying how the city will spend the money, similar to 2016's Measure T, leading to concerns about transparency and accountability. The city asks taxpayers to approve the tax without detailed spending plans. At the same time, the proponents shift blame to Sacramento instead of addressing local fiscal responsibility. **VOTE NO ON MEASURE R** ❌

SCHOOL BONDS

MEASURE E

\$285 MILLION SCHOOL BOND FOR OXNARD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Proponents of Measure E claim it won't increase the tax rate for property owners in the City of Oxnard but need to disclose who will pay for this \$570 million bond (including interest), half of which will go to Wall Street financiers. They also need more transparency on how the district will spend the funds, leaving taxpayers in the dark about the specifics and accountability of the expenditures. **VOTE NO ON MEASURE E** ❌

MEASURE G

\$4.9 MILLION SCHOOL BOND FOR BRIGGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT, SANTA PAULA. Briggs proposes \$4.9 million for schools, but the same amount goes to bond financiers, effectively doubling the cost to taxpayers. Instead of raising taxes through bonds that benefit Wall Street, the community should focus on timely problem-solving and public/private partnerships to support schools and local workers. **VOTE NO ON MEASURE G** ❌

MEASURE H

VENTURA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT RENEWAL OF A PARCEL TAX

Measure H is framed as a continuation of a tax, but it raises taxes after a previous bond expires, misleading Ventura taxpayers. The measure lacks transparency, as it doesn't guarantee local spending or disclose that funds will be used for salaries and benefits rather than educational programs and equipment, leaving taxpayers uninformed about the actual allocation of their money. We need to face the reality of declining enrolment by consolidating classrooms and closing schools, not giving them more money. **VOTE NO ON MEASURE H** ❌

MEASURE M

\$28.4 MILLION SCHOOL BOND FOR SANTA PAULA DISTRICT 1

Although Santa Paula's Measure M claims to benefit students, it fails to allocate funds for technology. It lacks transparency about how the money will be spent, possibly directing funds to salaries and special interests instead of educational needs. A \$28.4 million bond is \$56.8 million in spending primarily supporting Wall Street. Demand detailed spending plans before the election, as post-election audits are insufficient for ensuring accountability. **VOTE NO ON MEASURE M** ❌

MEASURE N

\$36 MILLION SCHOOL BOND FOR SANTA PAULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure N allocates funds for education and broader community purposes in Santa Paula but needs more transparency about how the district will spend money and to prioritize using local workers and vendors. A \$36 million bond is \$72 million in spending primarily supporting Wall Street. Demand precise, specific details on expenditures before approving another tax increase rather than relying on audits conducted after the fact. **VOTE NO ON MEASURE N** ❌