



Legislation Text

File #: 22-051, **Version:** 1

FROM:

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SUBJECT:

Funding Priorities for Measure D Renewal

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Council consider funding priorities to be used in public opinion polling regarding the renewal of the Measure D Transaction and Use Tax and provide direction to staff.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting on January 11, 2022, the Town Council received a report regarding options for the renewal of the Measure D Transaction and Use Tax. The Council authorized the Town Manager to enlist the services of public opinion research and tax measure consultants. The professional services agreements for those consultants are on tonight's consent calendar for approval. The Council also directed staff to return to the next Town Council meeting to finalize the list of potential funding priorities to be used in polling of the community.

DISCUSSION

Staff has identified specific funding needs should the Town Council decide to explore expanding the tax rate by an additional 0.5%. Below are options that staff recommends be included in the forthcoming public opinion poll:

- **Roads, Drainage and Infrastructure** - additional funds for road improvements
- **Fire Protection** - increasing incident response capacity
- **Town Facility Improvements** - funding for needed repairs at Town Hall, Robson Harrington House and the Isabel Cook Community Center
- **Park Repair and Improvements** - funding for repairs and improvements to Town parks
- **Climate Action Projects** - funding for installation of solar on Town buildings and water resiliency projects
- **Affordable Housing Funding** - establishing and funding an Affordable Housing Fund to help the Town meet the need of increased housing units
- **Town Beautification** - funding for streetscape improvements including medians

Staff is asking that Council review these options, discuss any potential edits, and finalize the list. The final list

will be used in the public opinion research to be conducted this spring. Staff will work with the consultants using the finalized list and will return to the Council with a draft poll for approval.

CEQA AND CLIMATE ACTION PLAN CONSISTENCY

Discussing the funding priorities for a potential tax measure is not considered a “project” under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), because it does not involve an activity which has the potential to cause a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. (Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 21065).