Impartial Analysis of Measure M

State law authorizes the Board of Directors of the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County ("C/CAG"), as the designated Congestion Management Agency ("CMA") for San Mateo County, to impose an annual fee of up to $10 on each motor vehicle registered within the county. Pursuant to statute, the fees collected may be used only to pay for programs and projects bearing a relationship or benefit to the owners of motor vehicles paying the fee and which are consistent with a regional transportation plan. State law requires that this fee be approved by a majority of the voters voting on the measure.

By this measure, the Board of Directors of C/CAG propose to levy on each motor vehicle registered in San Mateo County, an annual fee of $10 for a period of 25 years. The stated purposes of the fees are to fund congestion and pollution mitigation programs and projects set out in an Expenditure Plan. The Expenditure Plan allocates fifty percent (50%) of the net revenue to the 20 cities in the county and the County of San Mateo for Local Streets and Roads Program consisting of roadway maintenance, pothole repairs, and traffic congestion management and water pollution prevention. The other fifty percent (50%) is allocated to the Countywide Transportation Programs, consisting of transit operations including senior and disabled services, safe routes to school, regional traffic congestion management and a water pollution prevention program.

The proceeds of the $10 fee can only be used for the programs and purposes set forth in the Expenditure Plan described above and for the administration thereof, as well as the cost of the election and the cost to develop the plan. None of the fees shall be available to or taken by the State of California. An Implementation Plan describing the detailed programs and projects will be adopted by the CMA and updated every five years. The CMA will have an annual audit performed on the expenditures.

A “yes” vote on this measure would allow a $10 annual fee on each motor vehicle registered in San Mateo County, for a period of 25 years, to be spent throughout San Mateo County on roadway maintenance, pothole repairs, traffic congestion management, senior and disabled services, safe routes to school, regional traffic congestion management and a water pollution prevention program, with annual audits of the funds being spent.
A “no” vote on this measure would not allow the levy of the $10 annual fee on each motor vehicle registered in San Mateo County.

This measure passes if a majority of those voting on the measure vote “yes”.

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