Every local government entity probably would like to have the authority to borrow money (by selling bonds) for any number of current and future projects.

Keep in mind, however, that any borrowed money must be repaid - with interest. California “general obligation” bonds are guaranteed for repayment by the accompanying authority to raise property taxes.

Under the language of this measure, there is no telling how the $300 million will be used (except generally to purchase and maintain open space areas as provided in its Section 3). The section refers to an “Expenditure Plan” containing “priority actions” with lots of possible projects; however, no project is assured.

Another concern is that this measure contains no limitation on when the bonds may be sold. This is important because the projected tax rate is based on current interest rates. Years from now, if interest rates go up, the bonds authorized by this measure could be sold and pay interest as high as state law allows (currently 12% per year). The total cost of the borrowing could soar.

Proponents should address the above-stated concerns and explain to voters:

(1) just how the Open Space District has been spending its current budget of more than $30 million per year,

(2) how much money each of the many possible projects listed in the current “Expenditure Plan” would cost, and

(3) how many of those projects could be completed for the $300 million sought in the current bond measure.

Vote NO on Measure AA.

For more information, visit www.SVTaxpayers.org/2014-06-midpeninsula-regional-open-space-bond
ARGUMENT
DECLARATION BY AUTHOR(S) OR PROPOSER(S)
(Elections Code § 9161, 9164, 9501, 9501.5, 9600)

The undersigned author(s) of the argument in favor of ballot measure A against at the
Primary election for the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
(title of election) (name of jurisdiction)
to be held on 6/3/14 hereby state that such argument is true and correct to the best
(date of election)
of Their knowledge and belief.
(his / her / their)

1. President: Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association
   Signature Date 3/11/14
   Type Title to Appear on Argument
   Author meets criteria of: ___ Gov. Bd. Member ___ Principal Officer of Bona Fide Assoc. ___ Reg. Voter in Dist.

2. Chair, Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County
   Signature Date 3/11/2014
   Type Title to Appear on Argument
   Author meets criteria of: ___ Gov. Bd. Member A Principal Officer of Bona Fide Assoc. ___ Reg. Voter in Dist.

3. __________________________________________
   Signature Date
   Type Title to Appear on Argument
   Author meets criteria of: ___ Gov. Bd. Member ___ Principal Officer of Bona Fide Assoc. ___ Reg. Voter in Dist.

4. __________________________________________
   Signature Date
   Type Title to Appear on Argument
   Author meets criteria of: ___ Gov. Bd. Member ___ Principal Officer of Bona Fide Assoc. ___ Reg. Voter in Dist.

5. __________________________________________
   Signature Date
   Type Title to Appear on Argument
   Author meets criteria of: ___ Gov. Bd. Member ___ Principal Officer of Bona Fide Assoc. ___ Reg. Voter in Dist.

Contact Person: Mark Hinkle
Telephone # Fax #