

2016 AUG 16 PM 3:28:04

Argument in Favor of Measure Q

Vote yes on Measure Q to keep our city safe. Measure Q will ensure our children, families and businesses have a safe place to live and work by providing much needed funds for our Police Department.

Parlier is a wonderful community of hard-working people and families who deserve to be safe in their homes and property. Unfortunately, since the economic downturn of 2008, the city's revenues have decreased significantly while its costs have increased. This has resulted in a reduction in the number of police officers serving our community. On average, Parlier's police force has approximately one officer per 2000 citizens, while the U.S. average is approximately five officers per 2000 citizens.

Although property crimes are low in Parlier, the violent crime rate—which includes murders, rapes, robberies, and assaults is almost triple the national average. Recent data from 2014 shows that 70 percent of American cities are safer than Parlier. This is unacceptable to our community, 81 percent of the community has expressed their belief that it is very important for Parlier to have its own police force.

The current level of funding available for our police department threatens the city's ability to keep our children away from crime, gangs and drugs. Without this measure, it is likely that we will not have the funds to sustain the department at a safe level.

Vote Yes on Measure Q to:

- Maintain police staffing levels and keep emergency response times low
- Ensure that every penny raised by the measure will stay in Parlier
- Establish responsible citizen oversight to ensure funds are spent as promised
- Provide a safe living environment for our children, families and businesses

VERIFICATION

The undersigned author of the primary argument in favor of the ballot measure CITY OF PARLIER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE APPROVING A SPECIAL PARCEL TAX FOR POLICE PROTECTION SERVICES, as directed by the Parlier City Council, to be voted on at the general election for the City of Parlier to be held on November 8, 2016, hereby states that this analysis is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date: 8-16-2016

Signed: Israel Lara
City Manager

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AUG 16 2016

COUNTY CLERK
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
ADMINISTRATION