



Measure N: Town of Portola Valley - Town Charter and Property Transfer Tax Measure

Support (Vote Yes)

The proposed measure would allow voters to decide whether Portola Valley should become a Charter Town and establish a locally controlled Real Property Transfer Tax. Becoming a Charter Town is required under state law before the Town can adopt this type of local funding measure. Both proposals would require majority voter approval to take effect. If approved by voters, the measure would establish a Real Property Transfer Tax of \$10 per \$1,000 of a property's sale price, paid by buyers or sellers at the time of sale, to provide locally controlled funding for essential Town services and long-term financial stability.

The League of Women Voters of South San Mateo County SUPPORTS the proposed measure that would allow Portola Valley to become a Charter Town and establish a Real Property Transfer Tax. The League supports measures that emphasize equity and fair sharing of the tax burden, as well as adequate long-range financial support. The League also supports assessment practices and policies that are equitable, accurate, easy to understand, and well publicized, with like properties treated uniformly.

League of Women Voters Position on State and Local Finances in Brief:

Support measures to ensure revenues both sufficient and flexible enough to meet changing needs for state and local government services; that contribute to a system of public finance that emphasizes equity and fair sharing of the tax burden as well as adequacy; that include long-range finance methods that meet current and future needs while taking into account the cumulative impact of public debt.

Support a process that maintains statutory authority over tax sources, rates, and tax expenditures; that makes limited use of direct voting by the public on revenue measures; and that allows adoption of revenue and finance measures by a simple majority vote.

Support the distribution of revenue sources between state and local governments in a manner to ensure adequate, equitable, and flexible funding of public programs based on the responsibilities and requirements of each and that encourages accountability.

Support an equitable, broad-based local property tax, easy and economical to administer, producing adequate revenue, with limitations on the types of services it funds. Support assessment practices and policies that are equitable, accurate, easy to understand, and well publicized, with like properties treated uniformly.

[League of Women Voters Position on State and Local Finances](#)