

## San Leandro Public Safety, Infrastructure and Community Investment

### Parcel Tax Citizen-Led Voter Initiative

This proposed citizen-led voter initiative ordinance (“ordinance”) states that its purpose is “to provide locally controlled funding to be exclusively used to repair streets, upgrade fire stations(s) for earthquake safety and improve parks and community facilities with citizen oversight, annual public reporting, financial audits, and exemptions for low-income senior homeowners.” It would be a special tax, and all revenues generated by the tax would be deposited into a special fund. Revenues from the special tax could not be used for general government purposes.

The ordinance would levy an annual parcel tax on all properties in San Leandro, unless an exemption applies. The proposed tax rates would be \$0.018 per square foot for each residential parcel, \$0.036 per square foot for multifamily parcels (defined as improved parcels containing five or more residential units), and \$0.054 for commercial, industrial and all other non-residential parcels. The ordinance would authorize the City Council to adjust the tax rates annually based upon indices reflecting changes in the cost of living.

Revenue from the tax could only be used for purposes listed in the full text of the ordinance, including those stated in the first paragraph of this summary, to pay the principal and interest on bonds or other indebtedness, borrowing costs, and administrative and oversight costs. Under the ordinance, the City would be required to retain a qualified project management firm engaged in construction management that is independent of the City to assist in the planning, coordination, and timely delivery of projects funded by the special tax. Within twelve (12) months of the Effective Date, and annually thereafter, the City must adopt and publish a rolling five-year capital improvement plan for projects funded by the special tax.

Qualifying low-income seniors who own their parcel, and live at the parcel, and utilize the parcel as their permanent residence shall be provided a low-income senior exemption from the special tax.

Annually, an independent financial auditor retained by the City would complete a report reviewing the collection and expenditure of revenues from the special tax. The report would be reviewed by a new citizen oversight committee appointed by the City Council.

Collection of the tax would commence on January 1, 2027 and continue for twenty-five (25) years after the Effective Date, which is defined as January 1, 2027.