

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE A

May 2, 2017

Saddle Creek Community Services District (CSD) is responsible for our community road and storm drain maintenance, entrance gate, street lighting, mosquito and weed control, trail/fire fuel break maintenance, monitoring and management of open space, wildlife and wetlands easements, and common area landscape maintenance. These services are funded by a special tax approved in 2000, which was set in expectation that the Saddle Creek community would include over 1100 lots by 2008; generating the \$1.2 million necessary to fully fund the CSD provided services. Now in 2017, with only 560 lots created and paying the tax, the CSD is left \$600,000 short of being able to fund expensive services including road maintenance, landscape improvements and reserves. Measure A was developed to fund this shortfall.

Our once excellent Saddle Creek roads are deteriorating rapidly and within five years (2021), the cost to repair them from a poor condition will be 500% more expensive than if we start improvements in 2017. Measure A provides funding to achieve immediate road improvements and allow for long term maintenance in a predictable condition of good-to-excellent. Drought and state water restrictions are inevitable; eliminating and reestablishing our road median irrigation and turf with every cycle is unsightly and expensive. Measure A provides funding for a well-planned, drought tolerant and beautiful landscape; unaffected by water restrictions and with lower maintenance costs. It also provides a critical source of funding for reserve accounts, restricted for equipment and infrastructure replacement.

Measure A will replace the existing \$1,063 special tax with a \$1,703 special tax; an increase of \$53.33 per month (\$640/year). The Measure A tax will also assign the tax to the golf course, fitness center, and large undeveloped lots owned by Castle & Cooke, who do not currently pay the existing tax for CSD services, maintenance, or improvements.

Filed under signature of the Saddle Creek CSD Board of Directors

February 3, 2017