On June 26, the Mountain View City Council unanimously placed two revenue measures on the November 6 ballot. This one would increase the business license fee and establish a low per-employee tax of (up to) $150 per year. The other measure proposes a tax on retail marijuana sales of (up to) 9%.

These revenue measures will not yield enough money to help much. The new business/employee tax might net $5-10 million per year; the marijuana tax would raise $90,000 per year on $1 million in sales.

While $5-10 million per year could buy some community shuttles, the shuttles could not keep up with the city’s allowing more office space. Many believe additional office space should be limited to parts of the county that have space for nearby housing. That would be south county.

Neither city measure on the November ballot was written as a “special tax.” A special tax would require two-thirds voter approval and limit use of the proceeds to listed purposes.

Instead, the City Council went along with city staff and is proposing two general tax measures that only need a simple majority of those voting to pass and permit the money raised to be spent on most anything the city government wishes.
Arguments in support or opposition of the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors.
(EC 9282(d))

Argument In Favor of Measure □
[or]
Argument Against Measure ☒

[Pursuant to §9282: Maximum 300 words]

[Pursuant to §9600: Form of Statement to accompany arguments]

The undersigned proponent(s) or author(s) of the (primary/rebuttal) argument (in favor of / against) Ballot Measure ___ at the General Municipal Election for the City of Mountain View to be held on November 6, 2018 hereby state that this argument is true and correct to the best of (his/her/their) knowledge and belief.

Signed: _________________ Date: _________________

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Date: ___________________________

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Date: ___________________________

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Date: ___________________________