



**6/16/2020**  
**City Council Meeting**

**Handouts received after  
agenda posted**



# Fiscal Year 2020 - 2021 Proposed Budget

JUNE 16, 2020

MICHELLE SPEER, ACM/ASD



# FY 2020 Revenue Projections General Fund

- ▶ FY20 Adopted budget included general fund revenues of \$11,336,606
- ▶ Sales tax revenues are projected to be \$1,800,000. A decrease of \$200,000 from the adopted budget
- ▶ Revenues related to property tax have been strong in FY20
- ▶ Revenues have been strong in categories related to development; development impact fees and permit fees
  - ▶ Fees collected in these categories have restricted uses
- ▶ Overall revenue projection in FY 20 is \$11,231,000



# FY 2020 Projected Expenses General Fund

- ▶ Projected Expenses for FY 2020 are \$13,374,000
  - ▶ CIP expenses of \$10,000.
    - ▶ Most General Fund CIPs were placed on hold in FY20.
    - ▶ \$10K is for the City's sidewalk repair program
  - ▶ Personnel and Operating Expenses of \$13,364,000



# FY 2021 General Fund Reserve Balance

- ▶ The FY 2019 audited general fund reserve ending fund balance was \$7,356,524
- ▶ FY 20 Revenues of \$11,231,000 - FY 20 Expenditures of \$13,374,000 = \$(2,143,000)
  - ▶ Values are an approximation
  - ▶ The FY20 Adopted Budget anticipated a \$3.4 million deficit
- ▶ The FY 2020 projected general fund reserve contribution is \$2,143,000
- ▶ The FY 2021 projected general fund reserve beginning fund balance is approximately \$5,214,000
  - ▶ The cash balance for the general fund on July 1, 2020 is expected to be approximately \$4,616,500



# FY 2021 General Fund Reserve Balance

- ▶ The \$5,214,000 General Fund Reserve balance includes funds from the payroll fund (082), debt owed to the general fund from the golf course and fleet, as well as funds from the dental fund (042).
- ▶ Not all funds reported on the financial statement in the General Fund are available for immediate use.
- ▶ When determining how much money the general fund has for immediate use, cash balances are a more accurate report.
  - ▶ The beginning cash balance of the general fund as of 7/1/2020 is expected to be \$4,616,500
    - ▶ Of which \$1,400,000 is on loan to other funds; golf course and fleet
    - ▶ The value reflects the total amount the general fund has subsidized other funds

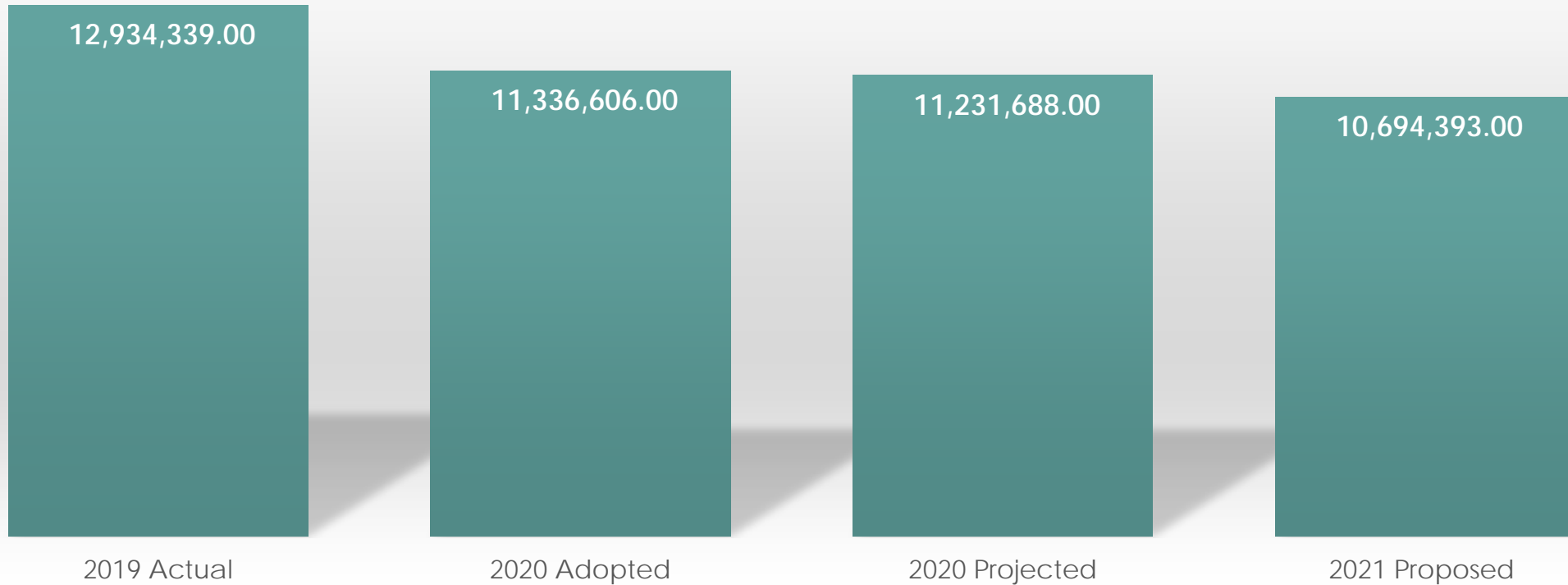


# FY 2021 Proposed General Fund

- ▶ Proposed revenues of \$10,694,393
  - ▶ Anticipated reduction in property tax revenue (COVID)
  - ▶ Sales tax is projected to be similar to FY20, any increases previously anticipated were eliminated due to COVID.
  - ▶ Slight reduction in revenues to Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) due to COVID projected.
  
- ▶ \$13,117,574 in annual operating expenses
  - ▶ \$8,428,450 in personnel salary and benefits
  - ▶ \$4,649,124 in services and supplies
  - ▶ \$40,000 in asset replacement
- ▶ \$389,300 in Capital Projects
- ▶ Proposed expenditures of \$13,506,874

# Historical General Fund Revenues

Historical  
General Fund Revenues



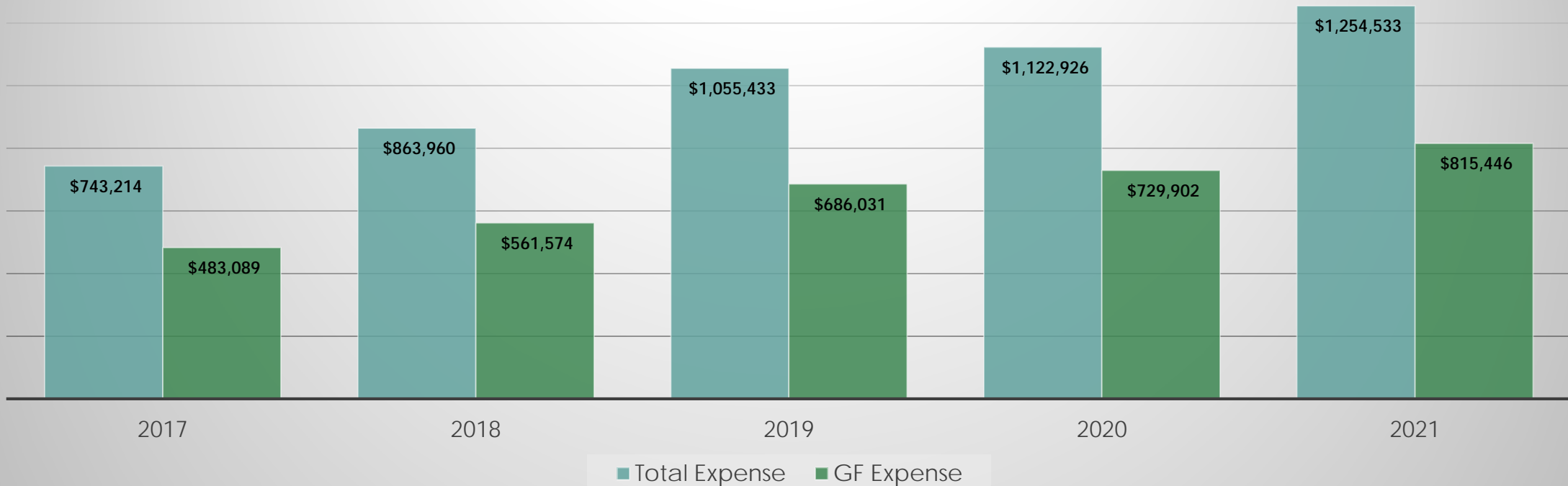


## Schedule 2 – Summary of Expenditures, General Fund

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			2019-2020 Amended	2019-2020 Projected	2020-2021 Proposed
001	4211	CITY COUNCIL	151,210	137,072	164,553
001	4213	CITY MANAGER	531,300	500,927	456,295
001	4214	CITY CLERK	60,010	61,160	120,019
001	4215	FINANCE	713,066	753,934	637,276
001	4216	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	390,722	369,680	389,715
001	4220	MAINTENANCE	805,940	767,093	788,831
001	4221	POLICE	7,368,749	7,055,971	7,094,627
001	4222	FIRE	577,094	590,778	598,407
001	4224	BUILDING INSPECTION	361,057	350,740	589,768
001	4230	PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION	617,568	492,930	595,260
001	4231	STREETS	570,087	485,469	541,827
001	4241	PARKS	628,705	580,634	485,274
001	4242	RECREATION	790,170	732,638	240,041
001	4296	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	197,621	173,900	254,626
001	4297	HUMAN RESOURCES	423,991	311,090	161,055
TOTAL GENERAL FUND			14,187,290	13,364,016	13,117,574

# Risk Management

## Total Expenditures vs. General Fund Expenditures

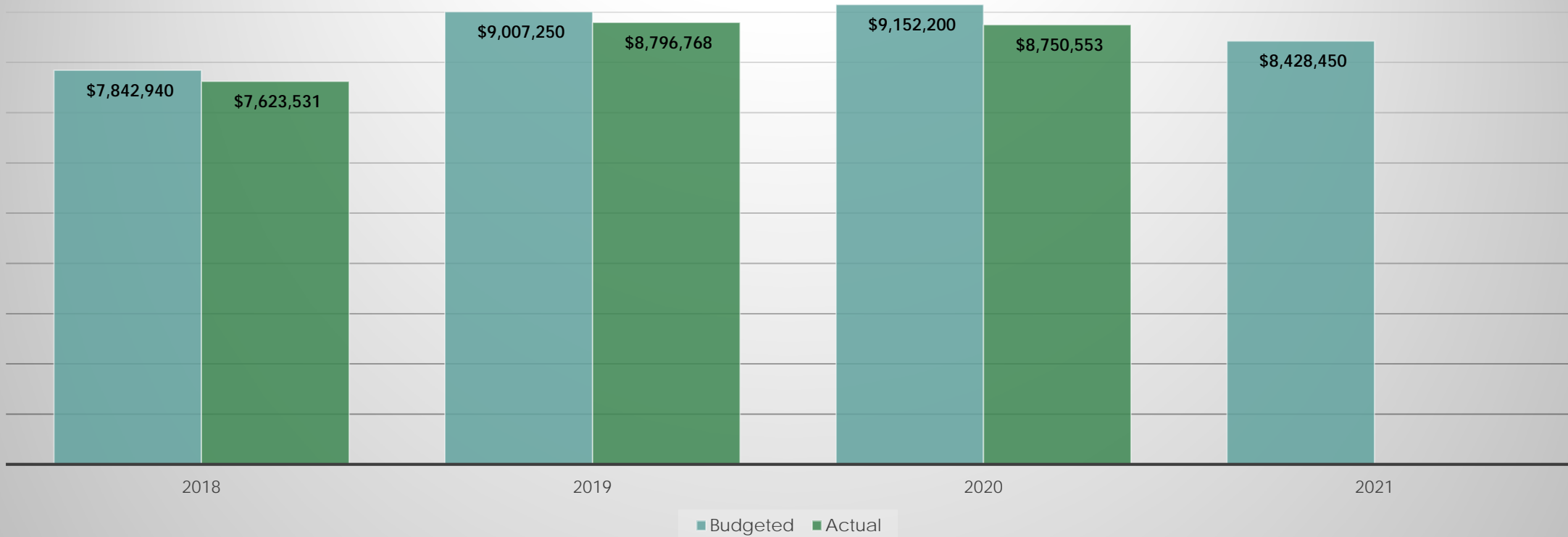


On average the general fund is charged 65% of the total cost of risk management expenditures



# General Fund Salary & Benefits

Salary & Benefits



NOTE: FY21 Salary and Benefits includes a freeze on all merit increases.

# Unfunded Liability

Category	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
Misc. Classic	403,729.00	496,385.00	566,488.00	651,000.00
Misc. PEPRA	2,251.00	16,335.00	17,871.00	20,000.00
Safety Classic	267,206.00	334,179.00	386,208.00	447,000.00
Safety PEPRA	2,452.00	5,942.00	6,987.00	8,100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>675,638.00</b>	<b>852,841.00</b>	<b>977,554.00</b>	<b>1,126,100.00</b>

All unfunded liability reported for Safety contracts are charged directly to the Police Department. All others are allocated based on the department to which the employees are assigned.

As an example, the general fund will see an increase of \$62,000 in FY22 for Safety contract alone.



# General Fund Year over Year Budget Analysis

Category	FY19	FY20	FY21
Personnel	8,929,500	9,152,200	8,428,450
Operations	3,917,280	3,866,307	3,850,785
Risk Management	686,031	781,700	798,339
Asset Replacement	291,890	487,303	40,000
Capital Improvement Projects	1,110,000	447,055	389,300
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14,934,701</b>	<b>14,734,565</b>	<b>13,506,874</b>

In spite of the fact that costs for personnel, risk management, and unfunded liability have increased year over year, the budget requests have reduced annually since FY19.

We have accomplished this by reducing asset replacements, capital improvements and operating expenditures.

# FY 2021

## General Fund Reserve Balance

- ▶ FY 2021 projected GF reserve beginning fund balance of \$5,214,197
  - ▶ FY2021 projected GF reserve cash balance of \$4,616,497
- ▶ FY 2021 GF annual operating deficit of (\$2,812,481)
- ▶ FY 2021 projected GF reserve ending fund balance of \$2,401,716
  - ▶ FY 2021 project GF reserve cash balance of \$1,804,016



# General Fund Outlook

- ▶ The City cannot afford another year (FY22) of deficit spending. Cash balances of \$1.8M will not sustain the current spending trend.
- ▶ There are only two factors utilized to balance a budget; increasing revenues and decreasing expenses
- ▶ Operating expenses continue to rise, Revenues have decreased over the past two fiscal years.
- ▶ The City has reduced expenditures through reduction in operating budgets, reduction in salary & benefits (layoffs, hiring freezes, merit freezes), and reduction in capital project expenditures
- ▶ After all the changes noted above, the City anticipates a \$2.8M deficit in FY21.



# General Fund Outlook

- ▶ In order for the City to adopt a balanced budget in FY21, with the assumption that revenue projections are accurate, the City would need to do one of the following:
- ▶ Lay off 19-38 general fund employees
  - ▶ 71 General Fund employees as of 6/16/2020
  - ▶ 40 are employed by the Police Department
- ▶ Or...Every General Fund employee would need to take a 36% cut in pay
  - ▶ Employees cannot afford a 1/3 cut in pay
  - ▶ Employees will leave the agency and services to the community will suffer

Neither of those two options is realistic or obtainable. Therefore, the only true solution is a combination of increased revenues and decreased expenditures.

At this time, expenditures have been reduced as much as possible without affecting services to the community.



## Schedule 4 – General Fund Position Allocation

		2020-2021 Proposed
<u>DEPARTMENT - DIVISIONS</u>		
4213	CITY MANAGER	2.00
4214	CITY CLERK	0.50
4215	FINANCE	3.50
4216	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	2.00
4220	MAINTENANCE	3.50
4221	POLICE	40.00
4222	FIRE	2.00
4224	BUILDING INSPECTION	3.00
4230	PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION	4.00
4231	STREETS	4.00
4241	PARKS	4.50
4242	RECREATION	1.00
4296	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	1.00
4297	HUMAN RESOURCES	-
GRAND TOTAL:		<b>71.00</b>

The City only employs 71 general fund employees. 40 of which are employed in the Police Department

If the City must lay off 19-38 employees from the general fund to balance the budget, that would mean the possibility of complete dissolution of nearly every department if the PD is to remain in tact.

Utilizing this method would cause serious detriment to the services provided to the public and to effectiveness of City operations.



# General Fund Outlook

- ▶ Revenues are not expected to increase dramatically, for several factors, including COVID
  - ▶ Sales Tax Deferrals, closed businesses
  - ▶ Property Tax expected to decrease due to unemployment
  - ▶ TOT expected to decrease due infrequent travel; stay at home orders
  
- ▶ City must find ways to increase revenues:
  - ▶ Sales Tax Ballot Measure
  - ▶ Increase TOT tax
  - ▶ Continue to market Lemoore for sales tax generating businesses



## Enterprise & Special Funds – Fund Balances

FUND	Estimated Fund Balance 7/1/20	Receipts/ Transfers	Available Balance	Personnel Expense	Operating Exp.	Asset Replacement	Capital Projects	Debt Service	Total Expenditures	Project Fund Balance 6/30/21
040 FLEET MAINTENANCE	(1,132,577)	1,243,181	110,604	154,870	1,035,801	52,510	-	-	1,243,181	(1,132,577)
045 GOLF COURSE FUND	(998,829)	1,165,000	166,171	-	1,516,894	-	-	-	1,516,894	(1,350,723)
050 WATER FUND	6,152,943	9,432,403	15,585,346	1,381,550	5,631,280	-	7,944,213	-	14,957,043	628,303
056 REFUSE FUND	862,199	3,898,700	4,760,899	1,158,490	3,097,050	400,000	30,000	-	4,685,540	75,359
WASTEWATER/STORM 060 DRAIN FUND	8,454,864	3,350,000	11,804,864	967,770	2,372,463	-	4,340,000	-	7,680,233	4,124,631

## Landscape & Lighting Maintenance Districts (LLMD) Fund Balances

FUND		Estimated Fund Balance 7/1/20	Receipts/ Transfers	Available Balance	Personnel Expense	Operating Exp.	Asset Replacement	Capital Projects	Debt Service	Total Expenditures	Project Fund Balance 6/30/21
201	LLMD ZONE 1	(165,222)	98,312	(66,910)	36,240	57,158	-	-	-	93,398	(160,308)
203	LLMD ZONE 3	28,553	18,212	46,765	5,055	13,087	-	-	-	18,142	28,623
205	LLMD ZONE 5	(31,769)	1,917	(29,852)	896	939	-	-	-	1,835	(31,687)
206	LLMD ZONE 6	(17,498)	2,046	(15,452)	621	1,417	-	-	-	2,038	(17,490)
207	LLMD ZONE 7	(52,382)	4,293	(48,089)	2,744	1,351	-	-	-	4,095	(52,184)
208A	LLMD ZONE 8A	24,535	8,597	33,132	6,257	3,305	-	-		9,562	23,570
208B	LLMD ZONE 8B	40,573	18,005	58,578	9,081	8,858	-	-		17,939	40,639
209	LLMD ZONE 9	3,087	6,525	9,612	3,495	2,757	-	-	-	6,252	3,360
210	LLMD ZONE 10	(37,485)	19,935	(17,550)	9,885	9,025	-	-	-	18,910	(36,460)
211	LLMD ZONE 11	(42,015)	2,056	(39,959)	626	1,403	-	-	-	2,029	(41,988)
212	LLMD ZONE 12	317,495	21,577	339,072	31,290	31,591	-	-	-	62,881	276,191
213	LLMD ZONE 13	(127,254)	6,874	(120,380)	3,719	3,155	-	-	-	6,874	(127,254)



## Public Facilities Maintenance District (PFMD) – Fund Balance

FUND	Estimated Fund Balance 7/1/20	Receipts/ Transfers	Available Balance	Personnel Expense	Operating Exp.	Asset Replacement	Capital Projects	Debt Service	Total Expenditures	Project Fund Balance 6/30/21
251 PFMD ZONE 1	455,590	69,243	524,833	-	69,243	-	-	-	69,243	455,590
252 PFMD ZONE 2	1,506,208	127,584	1,633,792	-	127,584	-	-	-	127,584	1,506,208
253 PFMD ZONE 3	411,971	55,732	467,703	-	55,732	-	-	-	55,732	411,971
254 PFMD ZONE 4	94,763	55,965	150,728	-	55,965	-	-	-	55,965	94,763
255 PFMD ZONE 5	377,390	82,544	459,934	-	82,544	-	-	-	82,544	377,390
256 PFMD ZONE 6	191,940	55,240	247,180	-	55,280	-	-	-	55,280	191,900
257 PFMD ZONE 7	10,981	6,958	17,939	-	6,672	-	-	-	6,672	11,268
258 PFMD ZONE 8	43,280	35,160	78,440	-	25,256	-	-	-	25,256	53,184
259 PFMD ZONE 9	38,410	39,244	77,654	-	37,485	-	-	-	37,485	40,169
260 PFMD ZONE 10	282	18,126	18,408	-	15,976	-	-	-	15,976	2,432

## Schedule 4 – Position Allocation

		2017-18 Actual	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Adopted	2019-20 Amended	2020-2021 Proposed
<u>DEPARTMENT - DIVISIONS</u>						
4211	CITY COUNCIL	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
4213	CITY MANAGER	3.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
4214	CITY CLERK	2.00	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
4215	FINANCE	5.00	4.50	4.50	4.50	3.50
4216	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
4220	MAINTENANCE	4.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
4221	POLICE	40.00	42.00	41.00	41.00	40.00
4222	FIRE	2.00	3.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
4224	BUILDING INSPECTION	4.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
4230	PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION	3.00	3.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
4231	STREETS	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.00
4241	PARKS	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50
4242	RECREATION	5.00	5.00	4.00	1.00	1.00
4265	FLEET MAINTENANCE	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
4250	WATER	12.50	12.50	13.00	13.00	13.00
4251	UTILITY BILLING	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
4256	REFUSE	11.00	12.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
4260	WASTEWATER	11.50	11.50	12.00	12.00	12.00
4296	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	-	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
4297	HUMAN RESOURCES	-	1.00	1.00	-	-
GRAND TOTAL:		<b>120.00</b>	<b>121.00</b>	<b>122.00</b>	<b>118.00</b>	<b>115.00</b>



# Summary of Changes in Position Allocation

- ▶ Reduction of one Payroll Technician in Finance (4215)
- ▶ Reduction of one Police Officer is PD (4221)
  - ▶ Vacant through attrition
- ▶ Reduction of one Maintenance Worker I/II in Street (4231)
- ▶ Reduction of three positions in Recreation (4224)
  - ▶ Director
  - ▶ Recreation Coordinator
  - ▶ Recreation Specialist
    - ▶ Recreation was essentially eliminated based on decreased revenues due to COVID and historical operational deficits
- ▶ Reduction of one HR/Risk Manager in HR (4297)
- ▶ No new requests for FY21. All reductions were to staff allocated in general fund departments.



# Options for Reducing the FY 2021 General Fund Deficit

- ▶ Increase revenues
  - ▶ Sales Tax Measure
  - ▶ Increase TOT tax
  
- ▶ Decrease Expenditures
  - ▶ Eliminate General Fund positions
  - ▶ Reduce salaries and benefits
  - ▶ Reduce operational expenditures
    - ▶ Address the continuing golf course deficit funded by the general fund
  - ▶ Outsource city services



Questions?



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
COMMANDING OFFICER  
NAVAL AIR STATION  
700 AVENGER AVENUE  
LEMOORE, CALIFORNIA 93246-5001

**Item 3-4**

3000 IN REPLY REFER TO:  
Ser N00/414  
June 16, 2020

City Council  
City of Lemoore  
711 W. Cinnamon Dr.  
Lemoore, CA 93245

Dear City Council:

On June 2, 2020, the Lemoore City Council unanimously passed Ordinance 2020-05, Ordinance 2020-06, Resolution 2020-19 and Resolution No. 2020-20. Once fully implemented the actions will allow for the construction of 362 single family homes underneath a pre-existing low-level flight corridor.

Naval Air Station (NAS) Lemoore is concerned that the actions will lead to; "encroachment to mission," "incompatible development," "subject individuals to high aircraft noise" and expose our aircrew and future Lemoore residents to unnecessary "health and safety" risks. I highlighted these concerns in my May 20, 2020 letter to the Lemoore City Council and in my testimony before the City Council on June 2, 2020. Additionally, the enclosure to this letter identifies inconsistencies between the Lemoore city ordinances, building codes and Lennar Tract 848 CEQA documents. If not corrected, these inconsistencies will initiate a domino effect that will ultimately result in encroachment in a manner that will catastrophically undermine NAS Lemoore's critical mission and the viability of this important installation.

I will address the concerns listed in the enclosure in my public testimony to the City Council on June 16, 2020, and will submit this letter with its enclosure as part of my testimony for public record.

The purpose of this letter is to share with the City Council the following three factors of why NAS Lemoore and the community are successful. They include location, mission and community relations.

**Location:** Upon determination that NAS Alameda could no longer feasibly conduct flight operations, the Navy selected and commissioned NAS Lemoore in 1961. The Navy determined that sea level elevation, remoteness and perfect flying weather made Lemoore the ideal location to construct the Navy's largest and newest west coast master jet base.

As a Naval aviator, the perfect flying weather and encroachment free training environment drew me back to NAS Lemoore. The same is true for several other aviators who I have served



with over the years. I will have served over 12 years at NAS Lemoore upon completion of my fourth tour here. The perfect flying weather allows new pilots in the Navy to complete their advance training and then join a squadron. Seasoned pilots also have the opportunity to complete refresher training at NAS Lemoore before returning to a deploying squadron.

**Mission:** NAS Lemoore's mission statement reads as follows:

*"As the Navy's premier Strike Fighter Master Jet Base, Naval Air Station Lemoore provides the infrastructure, products, and services that enable Commander, Strike Fighter Wing Pacific and Commander, Joint Strike Fighter Wing squadrons to conduct operations in support of National Tasking; enables readiness through quality of life services; fosters and strengthens collaborative community relationships; and achieves installation efficiencies through innovation."*

While all mission mandates are equally important, I will focus first on the *"strategic importance"* of NAS Lemoore, and then on NAS Lemoore's mission-mandate to *"foster and strengthen collaborative community relationships."*

NAS Lemoore is the west coast's newest and largest master jet base, *strategically* positioned to respond and support our national interests worldwide. Over the last ten years, the Department of the Navy conducted a pivot to the Pacific theater. This resulted in NAS Lemoore supporting three major strategic lay down initiatives. They include Strike Fighter Realignment, the west coast basing of the F-35C Joint Strike Fighter (JSF), and activation of the Naval Aviation Maintenance Center for Excellence (NAMCE).

- **Strike Fighter Realignment:** Allowed for 60% of the Navy's strike fighter aircraft to be stationed at NAS Lemoore. Once completed, NAS Lemoore will host three additional F/A-18 squadrons and the re-activation of Carrier Air Group-14.
- **F-35C West Coast Basing:** In October 2014, the Department of the Navy issued a Record of Decision (ROD) allowing for the basing of the F-35C at NAS Lemoore. Once the infrastructure is completed, NAS Lemoore will support 100 F-35C aircraft in seven squadrons (10 aircraft per squadron) and one Fleet Replacement Squadron with 30 aircraft.
- **NAMCE:** Two years ago, the Department of the Navy activated NAMCE at NAS Lemoore. The mission of NAMCE is to provide the fleet with mission capable F/A-18 aircraft. NAMCE is comprised of approximately 30 military personnel and employs over 200 contractors who together ensure the Navy has a reliable supply of F/A-18 aircraft to support our deploying squadrons.

To support the above three initiatives, NAS Lemoore completed an Airfield Master Plan. The plan allowed for programing and budgeting over \$800 million in new construction and \$193 million in infrastructure and utilities as Capital Improvements Projects.

- **New Construction:** Most of the new construction is planned for the airfield, including an end-state that will result in construction of two new hangars, several aircraft simulator facilities, communications facilities, an avionics repair facility, a fuel distribution system, expansion of utilities networks, and construction of various other smaller projects.
- **Capital Improvements Projects:** Our infrastructure and utilities capital improvement plan will upgrade existing utilities networks, renovate several hangar spaces, repair several taxiways, resurface several runway areas, and upgrade the airfield lighting and several other structures on the installation.

The success of NAS Lemoore's strategic mission also depends on the personnel that support 54 tenant commands. The two largest tenants are Commander Strike Fighter Wing Pacific and Commander Joint Strike Fighter Wing. These two wings support 16 deployable squadrons and two fleet replacement squadrons consisting of approximately 300 aircraft.

NAS Lemoore is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest city in Kings County with a population of approximately 14,000 military and civilian personnel working or living onboard the installation. Additionally, NAS Lemoore's medical clinic, commissary, schools and other support facilities provide services to over 8,000 military retirees and their families living in our tri-county area.

The second mandate in our mission statement is to, *foster and strengthen collaborative community relationships.*

More than 59 years have passed since the Navy established NAS Lemoore in 1961. During the past 59 years, NAS Lemoore developed a professional and amicable relationship with the City of Lemoore – a relationship forged through mutual support, transparency, respect and trust. On several occasions, citizens of Lemoore united with NAS Lemoore to oppose threats to our installation.

For example, during the 1990 BRAC discussion, the citizens of Lemoore united to protect NAS Lemoore from closing. Thanks to your efforts, NAS Lemoore is still here. The same happened in the 2010 timeframe when the Department of Navy was exploring locations to base the F-35C. Again, citizens of Lemoore came together and advocated on behalf of NAS Lemoore. In my opinion, the primary reason why we are successful is that the community has argued for and supported an “**encroachment free**” operating environment for NAS Lemoore.



When Sailors or Marines deploy, they are under severe stress to perform. They understand that lives and expensive equipment are in jeopardy if they make mistakes. The same is true for our dedicated work force that keep NAS Lemoore operational. The last thing they need to worry about is the safety and well-being of their families.

Fortunately, the City of Lemoore has done a great job in providing a safe place for people to live and raise a family, resulting in thousands of Navy military, civilian employees, veterans, retirees and family members living in Lemoore and the surrounding community. Some perhaps came to Lemoore unwillingly, but fell in love with the uniqueness and charm of Lemoore and stayed.

Previous NAS Lemoore Commanding Officers and I understand that the City of Lemoore is critical to supporting NAS Lemoore's mission. Thus, we have strived at every level to be good neighbors and to support Lemoore's smart growth initiative through economic contributions and strategic partnerships.

NAS Lemoore is an economic driver for Lemoore and the local communities. Per the 2008, Economic Impact Assessment, NAS Lemoore contributes over \$1 billion to the local economy.

We also provide input in support of community partners who petition the federal government for grants in support of their programs. For example, several years ago, we provided information and support when the Central Union School District petitioned the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) for a grant to renovate the Akers School. Similar efforts are underway to petition OEA for a similar grant to renovate Neutra School – an effort we also support.

The 2020 National Defense Federal Appropriations Act (NDAA) set aside \$50 million to fund the Defense Capital Improvement Program (DCIP). This pilot program allows the local community, in partnership with the local military installation, to petition the OEA for grants to apply for shovel ready capital improvement projects. Over the last several months, members of my team and members of your staff identified several projects to nominate for this program. The Navy and I stand ready to continue to foster and strengthen community partnerships that support both the community and NAS Lemoore's mission.

Before I close, please indulge me as I re-emphasize a point I made earlier in my letter. The actions that the City Council takes tonight will initiate a domino effect that ultimately will lead to two distinct conclusions.

The first is encroachment to mission. This will have catastrophic impact to NAS Lemoore's mission and the viability of the installation. The second is supporting the status quo. This allows NAS Lemoore to continue operating encroachment free and supports the City's smart growth initiatives.

- **Encroachment to Mission:** This happens gradually and culminates over several years with the closing of the installation because it is no longer able to perform its mission. Examples include Marine Corps Air Stations El Toro and Tustin, NAS Alameda, and Castle Air Force Base.

On countless occasions, you and members of our community have expressed the pride and unyielding support for NAS Lemoore. You made comments on your love of jet noise and attribute it to the, "sound of freedom!" Or "the louder the better!"

I truly believe in your sincerity and greatly appreciate your support. However, I am worried that future Lemoore residents will not share in your zeal and enthusiasm over jet noise. Let me point out that at 61 years, we are the Navy's newest naval air station. Encroachment happens gradually and over time, and its true impact is forthcoming. Some of our older sister air stations are just now succumbing to the pressures brought on by encroachment. These installations are under pressure from the community to change various aspects of their operations. I predict that 50 plus years ago those installation shared the same patriotic support from their community that NAS Lemoore enjoys now.

- **Status Quo:** The adoption of Ordinance 2020-05, Ordinance 2020-06, Resolution 2020-19 and Resolution No. 2020-20 is *a clear violation* of the status quo. Once fully implemented, the actions will allow for the construction of 362 single-family homes underneath a pre-existing low-level flight corridor. This will expose our aircrew to unnecessary health and safety risks, and future Lemoore residents to high jet noise.

This is the domino that when tipped will set in motion events that will ultimately lead to conflict between NAS Lemoore and the City of Lemoore.

Historical examples indicated that encroachment gradually escalates over time and culminates with open hostilities between the military installation and the community. In the worst of cases scenario, the installation is no longer viable and forced to shut down. This leads to an economic void in the community, from which, in many cases, the community never recovers.

An example are the communities of Atwater and Merced, California, located about 100 miles north of Lemoore. Per the Mercedsunstar.com (May 22, 2015), **"When Castle Air Force base closed in 1995, there was a huge economic impact to the area because Air Force Personnel spent a lot of money in."** It further states, **"Castle was really an integral part of the community from an economic and cultural standpoint."** Castle Air Force Base now serves as the Atwater airport and industrial park.



3000  
Ser N00/414  
June 16, 2020

The local communities are burdened with what used to be a proud strategic U.S. Air Force base that like NAS Lemoore injected millions of dollars into their economy. Now they are saddled with a base that is deteriorating caused by lack of maintenance and use. Worse, the communities lack the resources to redevelop the air base into a productive income generating enterprise.

*When future NAS Lemoore leadership, the City of Lemoore leadership and residents try to determine the genesis of the existing conflict, they will be able to look back to this point in time and determine that your actions led to their conflict.*

Ultimately, NAS Lemoore will respect the City Council's decision. However, I recommend that in partnership, the Navy and the City petition the Office of Economic Adjustment for a planning grant. The grant will allow us to develop compatible land uses underneath the GCA box.

My staff and I appreciate your consideration. I am confident that together, we will find alternatives which will allow our community to grow, provide for the health and safety of our citizens, and allow our installation to continue operating in a safe and hazard free operating environment.

My point of contact for this matter is Mr. Roman V. Benitez, who can be reached at roman.benitez@navy.mil or (559) 998-4093.



CHRIST T. FISHER, CDR  
Executive Officer  
On behalf of the Commanding Officer,  
DOUGLAS M. PETERSON, CAPT

Enclosures: (1) NAS Lemoore Observations

## NAS Lemoore Observations

### RESOLUTION# 2011-39

#### A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEMOORE SUPPORTING PORTIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN SECTION 3 OF THE NAVAL AIR STATION LEMOORE JOINT LAND USE STUDY (JLUS) REPORT FOR THEIR IMPLEMENTATION

#	Item:	Observations:
1	WHEREAS, NAS Lemoore provides \$1 billion in economic benefits to Kings, Fresno, Merced and Tulare Counties associated with direct expenditures from operations at NAS Lemoore as well as civilian employment opportunities, retiree benefits and tax revenue.	The adoption of Ordinance 2020-05, Ordinance 2020-06, Resolution 2020-19, and Resolution No. 2020-20 will lead to encroachment and will jeopardize the viability of NAS Lemoore.
2	WHEREAS, the training activities at NASL are affected by growth and development around the perimeter of the installation, and ensuring compatible land use is critical to the long-term viability of the training being conducted.	The adoption of Ordinance 2020-05, Ordinance 2020-06, Resolution 2020-19, and Resolution No. 2020-20 will lead to encroachment underneath the GCA Box. The actions will expose aircrew and future Lemoore residents to unnecessary health and safety risks and high jet noise.

#### Resolution #2011-39 Attachment 1- Lemoore Strategies for Supporting the Preservation of Naval Air Station Lemoore

#	Item:	Observations:
1	LEMOORE 2: Implement Public Awareness Measures Such as Public Signage, Website Links, Educational Handouts, etc. Within NAS Lemoore Overlays I, II, and III (see Lemoore 13) and other Public Information Locations.	Ordinance 2020-05, Ordinance 2020-06, Resolution 2020-19, Resolution No. 2020-20, and City of Lemoore Codes do not indicate how they will implement public awareness measures, "Within NAS Lemoore Overlays I, II and III and other Public Information Locations."
Ia.	Public Signage.	<b>Article F. Signage Sections (9-5F-1 through 9-5F-8).</b> Public Signage for supporting these Standards and the preservation of NAS Lemoore is not defined.



1b.	Website Links.	For our records, NAS Lemoore requests the City provide us with the "Website links" where the information is provided.
1c.	Educational Handouts.	For our records, NAS Lemoore requests the City provide us with copies of the "educational handouts."
1d.	Within NAS Lemoore Overlays I, II, and III (see Lemoore 13) and other Public Information Locations.	For our records, NAS Lemoore requests the City provide us with the "other public locations" where the information is provided.
I	LEMOORE 3: Implement Effective Disclosure Measures Notifying Buyers and Lessees that Property is Near a Military Installation Subject to High Aircraft Noise, Low Level Aircraft, Aircraft Tests, and/or Other Military-Related Issues Within NAS Lemoore Overlays I, II, and III (see Lemoore 13).	Ordinance 2020-05, Ordinance 2020-06, Resolution 2020-19, Resolution No. 2020-20 and City of Lemoore Codes did not specify how this strategy would be implemented to preserve NAS Lemoore.
I	LEMOORE 6: Develop Policies to Protect Critical Areas Supporting Military Readiness, Agricultural Uses in Compatible Areas, and/or Environmental Conservation Including Partnering Opportunities with US Navy, Department of Defense, The Nature Conservancy, Regional Lands Trust, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), State of California (Williamson Act legislation), and Others.	Ordinance 2020-05, Ordinance 2020-06, Resolution 2020-19, Resolution No. 2020-20 and City of Lemoore Codes did not specify how this strategy would be implemented to preserve NAS Lemoore.
	LEMOORE 15: Continue the Requirement for Noise Attenuation Design and Construction Standards for New Construction in the High Aircraft Noise (>65 dB CNEL) Area (Overlay Zones I and II).	Ordinance 2020-05, Ordinance 2020-06, Resolution 2020-19, Resolution No. 2020-20 and City of Lemoore Codes did not specify the locations of the high aircraft noise contours.

Chp 9, Overlay Zone, Article C. Naval Air Station Lemoore (NASL) Overlay Zone		
#	Item:	Observations:
1	9-9C-1: PURPOSE: This article establishes the Naval Air Station (NAS) Lemoore overlay-zoning district for the purpose of recognizing the potential adverse impacts on the population from Naval Air Station Lemoore and establishing special development regulations to ensure public health, safety, and welfare. (Ord. 2013-05, 2-6-2014).	Does not specify the locations of the high aircraft noise contours.
2	9-9C-3: DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS: a- Overlay Areas: Lands within the NAS Lemoore overlay zoning district are broken down into overlay areas I, II, and III, as described in the joint land use study.	Does not specify which properties are located within overlay II and overlay III, as well as GCA Pattern.
3	FIGURE 9-9C-3-A NAS Lemoore Overlay Area Map.	The information is presented in various shades of gray thus not very intuitive. The legend does not depict the project's proximity to a military installation, the noise contours and the location of GCA pattern relative to the proposed project.



# INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

## CITY OF LEMOORE

### LENNAR HOMES TENTATIVE TRACT MAP 848

April 2020

#	Item:	Observations:
1	<b>Evaluation of Environmental Impacts 3.4.13 - NOISE</b>	
1a	Impact #3.4.13c – For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels.	The adopted city of Lemoore 2008 EIR projects that up to 23 percent of 7,000 new residents exposed to elevated noise will be “highly annoyed.” The EIR characterizes future impacts as <b>“significant and unavoidable”</b> despite proposed mitigations.
1b	The project is within the Overlay III area, which experiences aircraft noise less than 65 decibels (<65 dB CNEL). Development located within Overlay III of the NAS Lemoore overlay zone are required to be constructed to attain an indoor noise level of 45 decibels (45 dB CNEL).	The West Coast Basing of the F-35C EIS projects that future residents living underneath the GCA pattern 2RG1/4LG1 will be <b>subjected to Sound Exposure Levels (SEL) ranging from 89 to 101 decibels.</b>
1c	New residences shall be constructed in accordance with noise attenuation standards of the City adopted building code AICUZ.	For our records, please provide a link denoting the location of the "City adopted building code AICUZ."
1d	<b>MITIGATION MEASURES -- No mitigation is required. LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE -- Impacts would be less than significant.</b>	Contradicts the 2008 EIR. The adopted city of Lemoore 2008 EIR characterizes future impacts as <b>“significant and unavoidable”</b> despite proposed mitigations.
2	SN-I-35. Require that all new residential development achieve noise level reductions to meet the land use compatibility standards through acoustical design and construction of the building elements.	The West Coast Basing of the F-35C EIS projects that future residents living underneath the GCA pattern 2RG1/4LG1 will be subjected to <b>Sound Exposure Levels (SEL) ranging from 89 to 101 decibels.</b>

2a	Residential building designs must be based upon a minimum interior design noise level reduction of 40 dB in all habitable areas (i.e., garages, storage areas, etc. are excepted). <b>The 40 dB criteria must provide a minimum constructed noise level reduction of 35 dB;</b>	Does not indicate the unit of measurement ( <b>DNL or CNEL</b> ). Also, contradicts the requirements noted in the Ordinance 2020-05, Ordinance 2020-06, Resolution 2020-19, Resolution No. 2020-20 and City of Lemoore Codes. Existing city codes and proposed ordinances required, "Development located within Overlay III of the NAS Lemoore overlay zone are required to be constructed so as to attain an indoor noise level of <b>45 decibels (45 dB CNEL).</b> "
2b	Residential building designs must also be based upon a minimum design noise level reduction of 45 dB in all bedrooms. <b>The 45 dB criteria must provide a minimum constructed noise level reduction of 40 dB.</b>	Does not indicate the unit of measurement ( <b>DNL or CNEL</b> ). Also, contradicts the requirements noted in the Ordinance 2020-05, Ordinance 2020-06, Resolution 2020-19, Resolution No. 2020-20 and City of Lemoore Codes. Existing city codes and proposed ordinances required, "Development located within Overlay III of the NAS Lemoore overlay zone are required to be constructed so as to attain an indoor noise level of <b>45 decibels (45 dB CNEL).</b> "
1	<b>SN-I-36.</b> Establish standards for the basic elements of noise reduction design for new dwellings exposed to <b>DNL above 65 dB</b> (anticipated for areas west of SR-41).	<b>DNL vice CNEL</b> sound attenuation measurements are used. <b>CNEL</b> is the unit of measurement used, thus contradicts existing city codes and NAS Lemoore Overlay zone noise reduction attenuation requirements.
1	<b>SN-I-38.</b> Require that all residential building designs, for sites where the CNEL will exceed 65dBA, include supporting information for City review and approval.	The West Coast Basing of the F-35C EIS projects that future residents living underneath the GCA pattern 2RG1/4LG1 will be subjected to <b>Sound Exposure Levels (SEL) ranging from 89 to 101 decibels.</b>



**NAS Lemoore Testimony to the Lemoore City Council**  
**On behalf of CAPT Douglas M. Peterson, Commanding Officer, NAS Lemoore, 06162020**

**Good evening Mayor Neal and Lemoore City Council. I am CDR Chris T. Fisher, Executive Officer Naval Air Station Lemoore, 700 Avenger Avenue, Lemoore CA 93246.**

On June 2, 2020, the Lemoore City Council unanimously passed Ordinance 2020-05, Ordinance 2020-06, Resolution 2020-19 and Resolution No. 2020-20. Once fully implemented the actions will allow for the construction of 362 single family homes underneath a pre-existing low-level flight corridor.

Naval Air Station (NAS) Lemoore is concerned that the actions will lead to; *“encroachment to mission,” “incompatible development,” “subject individuals to high aircraft noise”* and expose our aircrew and future Lemoore residents to unnecessary *“health and safety”* risks.

Earlier today, my team submitted a six-page letter to your city staff thoroughly outlining our concerns. As part of the second reading of the proposed ordinances and resolutions, I encourage you to read our letter and address our concerns.

During the June 2, 2020 public comments period, I was surprise to hear that this project was under consideration for over a year. Additionally, that the Navy concurred with the annexation of West Lemoore, *“Because the navy needed housing for its personnel.”* Also, that the navy can, *“simply move the GCA Box pattern.”* You made comments on your love of jet noise and attribute it to the, *“sound of freedom!”* Or *“the louder the better!”* I am concerned that based on these assumptions; the city council is convinced that residential development in West Lemoore is compatible with the NAS Lemoore’s mission.

**“NAS Lemoore contends that residential development underneath a pre-existing flight corridor is incompatible with our mission.”**

Upon return to the office, I asked my staff to conduct a deep dive and provide me with a brief synopsis on how we got here and to address the assumptions made during the meeting.

- A. **Planning:** I was surprise to hear that the developer, the Planning Commission, The City Council and its Staff were planning this project for over a year. I ask the city council, *“Why was NAS Lemoore not invited to participate in the initial planning process?”* We first heard of this project in April 2020 when the city released a 900 page planning document, which began the 30-day public review period. The project was fast tracked and approved by the Planning Commission. Less than a month later the city released a 1,000 page agenda package in preparation for the June 2, 2020 City Council meeting. I will point out that your staff provided you, the public and my team about 72 hours to review the documentation, in preparation for the first reading of the noted ordinances and resolution. Historically, projects of this magnitude that can negatively affect the community allow for vast public participation through a series of workshops and public meetings. A second question to the City Council is *“Why did you find it necessary to brake protocol, in order to fast track and approve this project?”*
- B. **West Lemoore Annexations:** The second item of discussion is NAS Lemoore’s involvement in the Annexation of West Lemoore. Specifically, *“that NAS Lemoore leadership agreed with the annexation because the installation needed housing for its personnel.”*
  1. **Annexation:** None of my staff or I were here in June 1997 when West Lemoore was annexed. However, during our records search we found, 28 separate occasions when NAS Lemoore and City of Lemoore engaged in formal discussion over West Lemoore. During

**NAS Lemoore Testimony to the Lemoore City Council**  
**On behalf of CAPT Douglas M. Peterson, Commanding Officer, NAS Lemoore, 06162020**

- those discussion, NAS Lemoore consistently discouraged the construction of residential development underneath the GCA Box pattern.
2. **Housing:** *"NAS Lemoore does not have a shortage of on base housing."* If a shortage occurs, the installation has plenty of land that it can develop to meet the needs. About 8 years ago, the Navy in partnership with Lincoln Military housing completed the last phase of a 30 single-family home project. Currently, NAS Lemoore has 1,630 single and multi-family homes to support its population. NAS Lemoore Bachelor Enlisted Quarters can surge to support the housing needs of another 2,000 personnel.
- C. **Moving the GCA Box Pattern:** Moving or altering the GCA Box is the definition of encroachment. The Ground Control Approach (GCA) 2RG1/4LG1 patterns were established circa 1961. The pattern is used to vector aircraft into the airfield during inclement weather or when conducting instrument training for our aircrew. NAS Lemoore averages 210,000 flight operations per year of which 9,178 are flown using the GCA patterns.
- D. **Sound of Freedom:** I truly believe in your sincerity and greatly appreciate your support. However, I am worried that future Lemoore residents will not share in your zeal and enthusiasm over jet noise. Let me point out that at 61 years, we are the Navy's newest naval air station. Encroachment happens gradually and over time, and its true impact is forthcoming. Some of our older sister air stations are just now succumbing to the pressures brought on by encroachment. These installations are under pressure from the community to change various aspects of their operations. *I predict that 50 plus years ago those installation shared the same patriotic support from their community that NAS Lemoore enjoys now, but lost the installations because of BRAC.* Examples include Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, Tustin, NAS Alameda and Castle Air Force Base.
1. **Castle Air Force Base:** The communities of Atwater and Merced CA. located about 100 miles north of Lemoore have not fully recovered from the closure of Castle Air Force Base. Per the Mercedsunstar.com (May 22, 2015), **"When Castle Air Force base closed in 1995, there was a huge economic impact to the area because Air Force Personnel spent a lot of money in it."** It further states, **"Castle was really an integral part of the community from an economic and cultural standpoint."** Castle Air Force Base now serves as the Atwater airport and industrial park and due to lack of maintenance and use; most of the infrastructure is deteriorating.

Encroachment occurs over time and ultimately ends with open hostilities between the military installations and the community. I predict that by allowing for incompatible development, the City Council tipped the domino that will set in motion events that will ultimately lead to conflict between NAS Lemoore and the City of Lemoore.

*When future NAS Lemoore leadership, the City of Lemoore leadership and residents try to determine the genesis of the existing conflict, they will be able to look back to this point in time and determine that your actions led to their conflict.*

Previous NAS Lemoore Commanding Officers and I understand that the City of Lemoore is critical to supporting NAS Lemoore's mission. Thus, we have strived at every level to be good neighbors and to support Lemoore's smart growth initiative through economic contributions and strategic partnerships.



**NAS Lemoore Testimony to the Lemoore City Council**  
**On behalf of CAPT Douglas M. Peterson, Commanding Officer, NAS Lemoore, 06162020**

- A. Economic Contributions:** Per our 2008 Economic impact analysis, the installation contributes over **one billion dollars** to the local economy. Additionally, it supports a population of over 14,000 military and civilian personnel that live or work onboard the installation. It also provides services to over 8,000 military retirees and their families that use the installation's commissary, exchange, clinic and other quality of life facilities. Many of these personnel are citizens of Lemoore.
- B. Partnerships:**
1. **Central Union Scholl District (CUSD):** In partnership with CUSD, NAS Lemoore successfully petitioned the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) for a construction grant to upgrade Akers School Campus. Similar efforts are underway to secure a second grant to upgrade Neutra school campus.
  2. **City of Lemoore:** The 2020 National Defense Federal Appropriations Act set aside **\$50 million** to fund the Defense Capital Improvement Program. This pilot program allows the local community, in partnership with the local military installation, to petition the OEA for grants to apply to shovel ready capital improvement projects. *Over the last several months, members of my team and members of your staff identified several projects to nominate for this program.*
  3. **Joint Land Use Study (JLUS):** NAS Lemoore and the City of Lemoore successfully completed the JLUS. We appreciate the City's adoption of, **Article C. Naval Air Station Lemoore Overlay Zone (NASL OZD)**. However, working together, we can improve the ordinance to support the mission of NAS Lemoore and protect the health and safety of our aircrews and future Lemoore residents.

The Navy and I stand ready to continue to foster and strengthen community partnerships that support both the community and NAS Lemoore's mission.

Ultimately, NAS Lemoore will respect the City Council's decision. However, I recommend that in partnership, the Navy and the City petition the Office of Economic Adjustment for a planning grant. The grant will allow us to develop compatible land uses underneath the GCA box.

My staff and I appreciate your consideration. I am confident that together, we will find alternatives which will allow our community to grow, provide for the health and safety of our citizens, and allow our installation to continue operating in a safe and hazard free operating environment.

My point of contact for this matter is Mr. Roman V. Benitez, who can be reached at roman.benitez@navy.mil or (559) 998-4093.

**Marisa Avalos**

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**From:** Clark, Kristin <kristinclark@whccd.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 2:07 PM  
**To:** Edward Neal; John Plourde; Stuart Lyons; Christopher Schalde  
**Cc:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Support for 3-4 Approval - Second Readings – Ordinance 2020-05 – Approving Zoning Map Amendment No. 2020-02 and Ordinance 2020-06 – Approving Planned Unit Development No. 2020- 01

Hello Lemoore City Council,

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the City Council Meeting this evening, but I would like to reiterate West Hills Community College District's support for planned housing developments such as the one on your agenda this evening (Item 3-4 - Second Readings – Ordinance 2020-05 – Approving Zoning Map Amendment No. 2020-02 and Ordinance 2020-06 – Approving Planned Unit Development No. 2020- 01). We ask that the City stick with its 2030 General Plan ([https://lemoore.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/lemoore\\_gp\\_lu\\_diagram\\_8\\_14\\_08.pdf](https://lemoore.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/lemoore_gp_lu_diagram_8_14_08.pdf)), which specifically designates residential housing around the College. Developing west of the 41 will establish a more noticeable footprint from both the 41 and 198, giving more prominence to the City of Lemoore and it will increase local tax revenues.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your consideration,

**KRISTIN CLARK, ED.D.**

PRESIDENT

555 COLLEGE AVE.

LEMOORE, CA 93245

559-925-3200 | [kristinclark@whccd.edu](mailto:kristinclark@whccd.edu)

[@drkristinclark](#)

#WHCLStrong



**WEST HILLS COLLEGE**  
**LEMOORE**



I don't believe this sales tax decision is either or

There are things outside our control, but if our answer is  
"we're doing the best we can, but now we're limited"  
We need to have this alert us, to find solutions

Blaming the economy is the obvious choice  
But if this were true, all who experience the same economy would fail.  
Some do fail, others adapt and overcome  
I encourage you to read the book the Oz Principle.

I would also like to see comparative statistics for police and crime.  
My search showed our crime is up, compared to years past, and compared to the US average.  
Officers per 1,000 residents in Lemoore is 1.24  
The California average is 1.99

I fear raising our sales tax encourages people to shop elsewhere  
Hanford's is 7.25, Fresno 7.98  
I know online sales has lowered income, and we are searching for answers  
The City could do social media live videos of what each business offers

Have a business consultant dive into every department to be more efficient, to cut costs.  
I've been there.  
People counted on me to keep their jobs. I looked at how employees spent their time, what  
supplies we used, I compared printed vs. digital  
I gleaned from others doing it well  
I cut costs and even added jobs

Can covid-19 provide us with a map of areas we can do this?  
Our City survived with less staff and limited options.  
For example, do we need to go back to residents bringing water payments to the office.

Or some think the answers are found in Inhibiting Pressures (like code enforcement fees)  
Rule followers respond to this, but we are a small percentage of the population

Most respond to Promoting pressures (to incentives or easier solutions)  
Incent city employees to act like business owners, to cut costs  
Incent Residents to spend their dollars here  
To work here (currently it's 30% of residents)  
This means they're also shopping and eating elsewhere.

How do we maintain and improve what we already have?

Lights have been out for over a year. Could we string the lights less around the trees downtown?

Researchers who measure crime found lights provided reassurance to some people who were fearful using public space, particularly women (Lemoore is 50.2% female). Lighting increases a sense of community, and community pride, and attracts us to these areas.

I've been part of a community effort to clean up parks and alleyways, but the City couldn't maintain it.

We've invested in some areas, but sidewalks need repairs in front of our businesses. I don't want to get everyone started on Fox St, but I do want to learn from it. We approved a \$285,000 solution, but ultimately killed the reason it was needed, by not planting new trees.

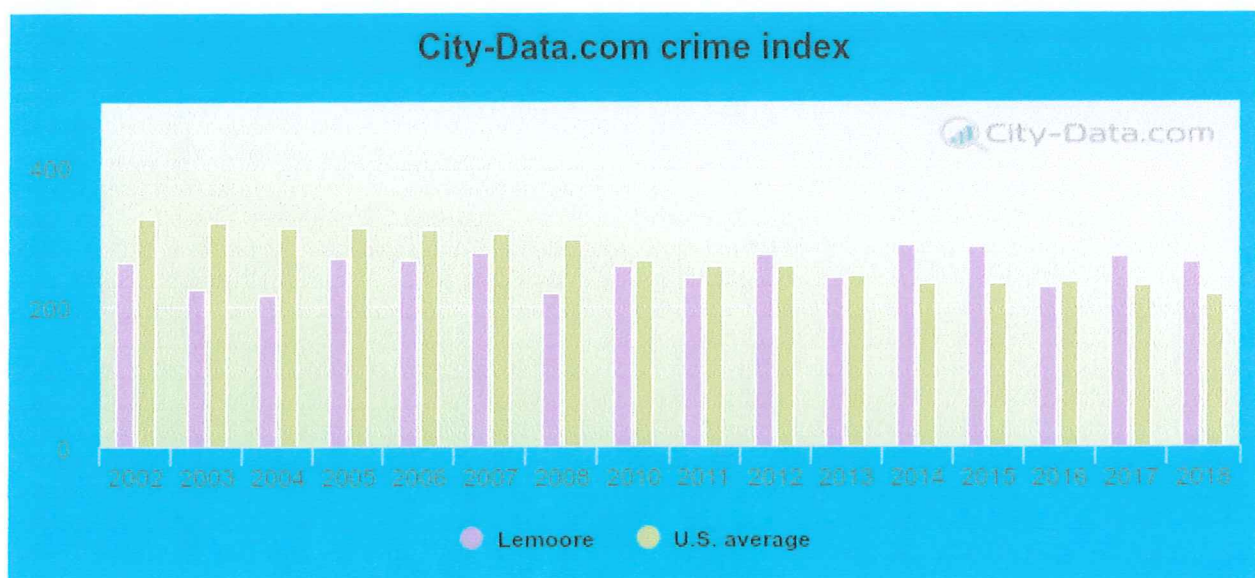
Instead of raising refuse prices, could we incent residents to follow the city recycling plan? I did, and our trash only needed to be picked up 3 times this year. And with more online orders during Covid-19, I created a partnership with residents to donate their shipping material to participating businesses, to keep it out of trash cans

We utilize lots of paper and ink to send out mailers. Could this be more effective by offering refuse Ebills, and by adding a sticker to trash cans of what goes inside?

Going forward, can you ensure city decisions reflect our mission and general plan vs. to whoever speaks the loudest, our limited view, or a small percentage of the population.

Thanks for serving our and for your time.

## Jennifer Solis





**Marisa Avalos**

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**From:** Philip Wren <phil@birdstreetbrewing.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 15, 2020 2:25 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Fw: Regarding the Proposed 1% Sales Tax Increase

This is the email I recently sent to Council Members. There was a typo in the City Clerk's email address.

Thank you

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**From:** Philip Wren  
**Sent:** Monday, June 15, 2020 2:23 PM  
**To:** eneal@lemoore.com <eneal@lemoore.com>; cityclerk@leoore.com <cityclerk@leoore.com>;  
jplourde@lemoore.com <jplourde@lemoore.com>; slyons@lemoore.com <slyons@lemoore.com>;  
cschalde@lemoore.com <cschalde@lemoore.com>  
**Subject:** Regarding the Proposed 1% Sales Tax Increase

Good Afternoon Council Members & City Clerk,

At the recommendation of Amy Ward of the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce, I write today regarding my opinion & concerns involving the proposal of a 1% sales tax increase.

I fully understand the city's proposal to raise sales tax. Numerous cities have been feeling the economic impact of COVID-19's shelter in place and seeing a sales tax proposal does not surprise me.

I do, however have a few concerns.

I have not seen a tangible effort in the city to provide proactive city services.

The sales tax claims to go towards the city provided services, but the city as of now has not been able to prove it will actually improve or do anything to the benefit of its residents. I could list out my issues as a resident but truly cannot trust the city's response as so far my experience with the city has been met with nothing but deaf ears.

As a business owner, I cannot support a 1% sales tax increase in addition to the increased costs that my business has had to endure. I am not alone in feeling the increased costs as many places have had to raise prices due to increase food and raw material costs.

My brewery has seen an increased cost in packaging, raw material, and shipping/freight and so far we have been able to eat many of these increased costs. It has impacted our bottom line, but we want to provide reasonable and competitive pricing for our customers. A 1% sales tax increase would not allow us to continue with our current pricing and would also require us to reconsider our discount rates of Military/Veteran and Public Safety customers.

My experience with the City as a business owner have not always been pleasant or desirable, either.

On numerous occasions I have attempted to contact the city with concerns and been met with city representatives who communicate in a combative, argumentative, and dismissive attitude. It gives me the impression that I am bothering or otherwise inconveniencing them.

Past communications with city representatives have also been ignored. After failed attempts at communicating with City Council, I noticed that council members had been posting petty drama on Facebook and decided to reach out that way. I was met with accusations of attempting to damage someone's personal image or otherwise falsifying my proof of attempted prior communication.

Throughout the struggle the residents and businesses of Lemoore have endured throughout the past few months of shelter in place, I have not seen any attempts from the City to communicate any show of support or assistance. The only times I have ever seen the City actually do anything is when they have to react to being called out publicly. The frustrating part is, I know many of us that have to resort to public call-outs are attempting to resolve issues without having to resort to this, but the City does not seem to care enough about the people to actually do anything.

How can the residents and business owners of the City of Lemoore expect to have the City actually use these increased tax revenues responsibly and in our best interest if the City has so far been unable to prove they actually care about us in the first place?

Thank you for reading.

Sincerely,

Philip Wren



June 15, 2020

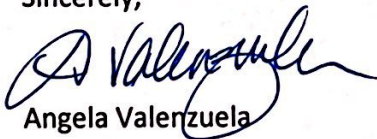
Nathan Olsen, City Manager and  
City Council Members for the City of Lemoore  
429 C St. Lemoore, CA 93230

Dear Mr. Olsen and Distinguished Council Members,

I have been a resident of Lemoore for the majority of my life and currently live at 1280 Golf Avenue. I am writing to adamantly oppose item 5-1 Potential Sales Tax Measure under new business on the agenda for June 16th. Residents have incurred an increase from the City regarding refuse, water and sewer. There is also an increase to utilize the payment system online that wasn't there before. Some residents have lost their employment and there are regular food distributions at the park now. This discussion should not be happening during a pandemic when people are worried about feeding their families and paying their bills. I would also like to add that we have trouble getting people to shop local. Adding a sales tax is not going to lure any new customers, in fact it may detour them to other big bargain stores out of town with lesser quality.

Furthermore, we just opened up the marijuana one stop shop where people will flock to and another one on the way. This is your saving grace remember? This is where your money will be to balance the budget or any shortfall. The City's sky is falling mentality should not be falling on the backs of our residents. I implore you to vote NO to any consideration of a new sales tax in the City. If you look at the top of your agenda, you will see potential litigation after litigation. This is where our tax money is going year after year after year! Now let's add additional funds to put it on the ballot because that is not free. Why bother? Your residents will vote it down anyways. We have enough with the school bonds to pay. Do not get me wrong, I am a huge supporter of law enforcement and public safety. I have the utmost respect for them. Please get your money from the marijuana shops, enough is enough! I still believe there is potentially more in Lemoore but we have failed miserably in recent years. I hope a new sales tax is NOT something that we can use that slogan to. NO NEW SALES TAX! Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Angela Valenzuela  
Resident

cc: City Clerk with a request to be read at meeting

**Marisa Avalos**

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**From:** Anne Hodgson <annetp@live.co.uk>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 15, 2020 4:51 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; Edward Neal; John Plourde; Stuart Lyons; Christopher Schalde  
**Subject:** Proposed request to raise Sales Tax to be discussed by City Manager at City meeting

Hi

As a resident of Lemoore it has come to my attention that there is up for discussion the raising of sales tax by 1% in order to raise revenue.

This city, its residents and its businesses have just gone through a very difficult few months, which are not yet over, due to Covid-19. The idea of raising sales tax at this time is abhorrent.

This City instead needs to concentrate on bringing in new businesses that Lemoore residents need – this would lead to a rise in income for Lemoore, as the people of Lemoore would not be giving their tax monies to Hanford or further afield. In the last 4 years, this City appears to have done very little to bring in new businesses, done very little to help the businesses we have and very little to help try to keep the businesses we have lost.

I realize some of the Businesses moving out of Lemoore were not the City's fault, but when the Bank of America closed its doors the City did not even appear to fight to keep a central ATM for Lemoore people to use. Travelling to Hanford for banking (or banking on line) is not always convenient but if I have to go to bank I might as well go to shop also.

During this period of Lock down I have particularly tried to shop local even more often than I had in the past as I need to make sure that my local small grocery store, and my favorite eating and drinking establishments are still around. My husband has used the hardware stores more often than usual again to ensure that convenience is still here for us post Covid.

There is currently very little in Lemoore, compared to other towns and the move to raise the sales tax will probably mean that most establishments will have to pass that increase onto their customers, as their business has suffered a slump in sales plus an increase in expenses during lockdown and so they will be unable to cover it.

This rise in sales tax does not automatically mean an increase in income for the City but more likely a decrease as people will not be able to afford to shop in town and then we will start losing even more businesses. If we continue we might as well be a suburb of Hanford, as they can meet every need with the Businesses they have.

Please, please put more effort into bringing in more businesses, especially some of the shops we have to go to Hanford or Visalia for.

Please put effort into getting the rates for leasing in the center of town more reasonable and build from the center out. Make the center of Lemoore look like a place Businesses want to come to.

For example the corner opposite the Coop – the old flower shop is terrible and dangerous. This is only going to get worse and continue to bring the look and feel of the town down further. By attracting more business, we can attract more shoppers which in turn leads to more income.

I do not agree with paying an extra 1% sales tax at this moment in time. Not until the City have stringently tried to do more for the City of Lemoore than they currently appear to be doing.

Mrs Hodgson  
Byron Drive, Lemoore.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**Marisa Avalos**

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**From:** HERITAGE APARTMENTS <heritageapts@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 15, 2020 6:44 PM  
**To:** Edward Neal  
**Cc:** City Clerk; Stuart Lyons; Christopher Schalde  
**Subject:** Possible Tax Increase

Good Evening,

To whom this may concern:

My name is Olga Juarez, I am the Resident Manager for Heritage Apartments here in Lemoore. I am emailing you today in hopes that you would reconsider the possible tax increase. Working in the Rental Office gave me an opportunity to order supplies, process both invoices and payroll - so throughout the years I have seen how everything has gone up in price. How much our bosses have to pay on a daily, weekly or biweekly. They not only pay us employees but also all other services, materials, supplies and labor for Vendors. Then there is the water, sewer, trash - our mileage or meals if traveling and so much more... There is so much going on behind the scenes of a unit turn over and I would like to ask if you could keep in mind all that before mentioned. But most of all, keep in mind that with tax increases so too come rent increase which most of us struggle and live check to check already. Not to mention that Covid-19 is already hurting our pockets as groceries are a little more expensive now a days but everyone feels pressured to have most items in stock in case of an emergency...

This is just my humble opinion. I thank you all and appreciate your time and consideration.

Thank You  
Olga Juarez  
Resident Manager  
[heritageapts@Comcast.net](mailto:heritageapts@Comcast.net)  
(559) 924-4204



**Marisa Avalos**

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**From:** Dawn Costa <tripchic@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 15, 2020 7:03 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Fix our cul-de-sac

If you are going to keep raising taxes, charge us to pay our bill the least you can do is fix our road we have been asking for 2 years to be fixed. We get the run-around, ignored or told to call back next year. And why tax businesses?? We don't have any!! Downtown is a ghost town. You guys might start doing tours.

**Marisa Avalos**

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**From:** Jeffrey Garcia <jeff@eyecaredoctor.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 1:40 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; Edward Neal; John Plourde; Stuart Lyons; cschlade@lemoore.com  
**Subject:** Oppose 1% Sales Tax Increase Ballot Proposal

City Council Members,

I understand you are all in quite the predicament as sitting Council Members. The decision you are all are facing regarding the proposed 1% Sales Tax increase is not easy ones to make. There are negative consequences either way....

Running the City is like running a large business. The CEO (City Manager) works for you as Board Members, much like most of our larger corporations. As such, the decisions you all make must be made with based on solid business principles and to ensure the leadership in place at the CEO position understands fully how to create and adhere to a solid and sound budget.

I don't feel that the dire financial position the City is facing now is a surprise. It seems the City has not been planning for days like these, when they should have all along. All businesses, including small businesses like mine have to plan for down economies and emergencies in order to remain viable long term and to be able to ride out these storms. The fact that the City does not have sufficient reserves in place is apparent and the responsibility falls squarely on the shoulders of the City Leadership and City Council. Yes, previous City Councils as well.

That is why I don't feel it makes sense to increase our local Sales Tax to supplement our poorly managed City Government. That is throwing good money after bad. We need to have in place a City Manager and Team that understands how to properly and effectively manage our City's finances. Until this happens I can't see the citizens of Lemoore passing this measure at the ballot box.

It is tragic, that the City has found it necessary to gut our incredibly successful Recreation Department and let go other well trained, dedicated staffers with incredible amounts of corporate knowledge. With talks of releasing even more Key City Staff members and Lemoore Police Department Officers saddens me greatly.

The 1% tax increase will have a significant negative impact for our local businesses that are trying to survive 3 months of COVID 19! This includes all of our restaurants, retailers and home builders!! More importantly, it will have a huge impact on our Citizens, many of whom are already struggling to make ends meet.

The City Council needs to correct the course the City of Lemoore is on before it is too late.

**The 1% sales tax increase will not save us!** This is a short term fix for a long term problem. Big changes at the top need to happen.

Respectfully,

Dr. Jeffrey Garcia, O.D.  
Family Eye Care Optometry  
162 West D Street

1701 N. 11<sup>th</sup> Ave.

1046 Whitley Ave

Lemoore, CA 93245

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**Marisa Avalos**

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**From:** Aaron Pearson <aaronmp80@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 11:47 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Budget/proposed tax increase

To Lemoore City Council,

I have recently become aware that there is a proposed tax increase for the City of Lemoore. I oppose this at this time for several reasons.

- 1) Due to the Covid-19 unemployment has increased, thus increasing the tax would hurt an already hurting population and the effective revenue would be minimal.
- 2) Recently the Council approved the selling of drugs downtown. I opposed this as well due to the fact that it would destroy a skatepark that was paid with taxpayer funds as well as increase crime in our city. We understood and were told that the passing of said dispensary would fix all of Lemoore's financial issues. A tax increase now merely a year later has shown us that you the Council lied.
- 3) it appears that there is mismanagement of funds. If an average citizen in Lemoore lives outside of their means the problem resides with the individual. Government on the other hand can continue raising the taxes of its people.

Notice at the beginning I said, "at this time". Allow our population to recover from the effects of Covid and the economic downturn that it has caused. Instead, I offer an alternative thought and solution in the immediacy. In two years I would be happy to support the raising of taxes on our population if the council and city administrators would put in some skin in the game and show us how dire the financial situation is. My proposal:

- 1) Place a hiring freeze on all city positions
- 2) No cost of living increases for the next 18 months for any current city employee. (Ending Dec. 2021)
- 3) Mayor Neal, City Managers Olson and Speer forgo their salary until January 2021

Instead of passing a tax, be a leader and show us the people of Lemoore that this is meaningful enough that you are willing to take the hit as well.

Sincerely,  
Aaron M. Pearson

City Council Members,

First let me begin by apologizing for not appearing in person tonight. One of the hats that I wear in the community is that of a Trustee for the Elementary School Board and we are currently having our meeting as well.

In the last meeting, I listened as Nathan discussed the need for the City to move forward with placing a sales tax on the ballot in November. I spoke in support of this on behalf of the Lemoore Police Officers Association and its members. We as an association understand that these are tough economic times for the community and the citizens we serve. We have seen it first hand, daily, in the calls for service we handle and the contacts we have with the people.

The harsh reality is that choices of the past have presently come back to place us in a bad economic position. Previous councils decision to not move a tax forward several years ago coupled with retail business leaving the city or effected by the recent pandemic, have placed us in the precarious position we are in now. I have been asked recently what will happen if the tax is not passed. My answer to them is simple. The City will lay off five cops.

Five cops who have dedicated their time and their heart to this community. Cops who call Lemoore home and that spend just as much time protecting this community as being home with their loved ones. That will be just the start however. Five cops leaving will increase the workload on other officers. It will tax those that remain. It will effect morale. It will directly impact the level of service provided to our citizens. Not out of spite but simply because there will not be enough resources to handle some of the non-emergent issues that the citizens are accustomed to calling us for.

The reality is that we need this tax on the ballot so that the voters can decide what they want. The citizens of this city should have the opportunity to get all of the information presented to them to make an informed decision. They should know what the money collected will be used for. There should be clear direction from council as to where the monies should be allocated and perhaps there should be a sunset set on this tax should it pass.

I have spoken to many people about this issue in the recent weeks. Everyone I have spoken to have been staunch supporters of the Police Department and the men and women who serve in this community. They have spoken highly of the level of service provided by the department. They understand what is at stake and why we are asking for this tax.

With that, I ask council to consider all options presented to them by city staff for this tax proposal and then choose the option that provides the clearest explanation of how the money will be used. Let the people see the transparency of the information from the beginning of the process and allow the voters to make the final decision in November at the ballots.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Mark Pescatore- President, Lemoore Police Officers Association