ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE Q

Vote Yes on Measure Q!

In 2006, voters overwhelmingly passed a general obligation bond to improve what are among our communities’ most important assets - our local community colleges. Since then, tremendous improvements have been made in repairing, rehabilitating and upgrading Yuba Community College District campuses serving Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lake, Placer, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba Counties.

But much remains to be done.

Measure Q will let us continue the job of improving our community colleges by reauthorizing $33.6 million of previously approved bonds, while saving taxpayers millions of dollars and without increasing the District’s total authorized debt.

Measure Q will improve our community college campuses by:
- Repairing leaky roofs and deteriorating plumbing
- Upgrading science, math, engineering, technology and vocational education classrooms
- Improving and expanding facilities for nursing and health care training
- Expanding classrooms for good paying careers in construction, agriculture, police science and firefighting that will contribute to our local economy

Measure Q will protect taxpayers by:
- Making our local college projects eligible for State matching funds
- Requiring annual audits and independent citizen oversight of the funds
- Allowing the district to complete projects sooner and at today’s low interest rates
- Prohibiting funds from going to administrators’ salaries, pensions or benefits
- Imposing tough legal safeguards requiring all monies to be spent on our local colleges
- Prohibiting the State from taking the funds and spending them elsewhere

Today’s community colleges are more important than ever in providing citizens a path to compete in today’s new economy.

Vote Yes to stimulate our local economies.
Vote Yes to improve programs to keep pace with today’s rapidly changing workplace.
Vote Yes for increased property values and home prices.
Vote Yes to help produce a prepared and well-educated workforce of tomorrow.

Please Vote Yes on Measure Q to continue repairing and upgrading our local community college campuses.

/s/ Hardial Dulay, Retired Educator and Grand Jury member
/s/ Steven Durfor, Sheriff-Coroner
/s/ Jesse Ortiz, Yolo County Superintendent of Schools

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE Q

Make no mistake -- Measure Q is a NEW bond.

The nation-wide economic downturn started in 2007 continues to this day. Now is not the time to put more tax burden on you. A new Series D assessment under Measure J for $26,500,000 issued last spring will show up on your 2016 tax bill for the first time this fall. Now the District wants to add $33,565,000 more with Measure Q which will cost a total of $42,823,000 when interest and administrative costs are added.

Proposition 39 passed in 2000 requires a “list of the specific school facilities projects to be funded” when asking voters to pass school bonds. The laundry list of projects proposed for Measure Q is lengthy and extremely general under the heading “renovation, modernization, repair and construction of school facilities.” The list does not include specifics as to buildings or campus locations as required. Routine maintenance items such as replacing roofs, flooring, ceilings, electrical, plumbing, and paving should be handled through annual maintenance.

The District has not been good stewards of our tax dollars. Remember the capital appreciation bonds issued under Measure J wherein a $4.6 million bond would cost $54 million in interest?

Finally, how will having you pay larger Yuba College assessments increase property values and home prices as claimed in this argument? Not even realtors claim buyers pay more for homes in college districts. Like the rest of it, the District is just making it up."

Vote No on Measure Q  http://bit.ly/NoYubaBond

/s/ James Seif, Retired Military
/s/ Kim Ross, Retired Public School Teacher, LEO
/s/ Keith Gravel, Tax Payer
/s/ Patricia A. Miller, President, Sutter County Taxpayers Association
ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE Q

Don't be deceived. Plain and simple -- there is no provision in state law for "reauthorizing" bonds. This is a NEW bond.

State law, Proposition 39, passed by the voters in 2000, prohibits community colleges from issuing bonds where the cost would exceed a property owner's payment of more than $25 per $100,000 of assessed value.

Measure J for $190 million was passed by the voters in 2006. So far, there have been four bond issuances for a total of $157,432,120.

Series A - $29,504,047 - Issued May 22, 2007
Series B - $65,492,278 - Issued May 22, 2007
Series C - $34,935,795 - Issued July 12, 2011
Series D - $27,500,000 - Approved for issuance March 10, 2016 but not on tax bills yet.

Because property values and new construction have not happened as anticipated, the District cannot issue more bonds under Measure J because your cost would exceed the $25 per $100,000 in assessed valuation.

In order to get around Proposition 39 restrictions, The District is asking voters to approve a NEW bond measure. Approval of this new bond measure would create a separate $25 per $100,000 tax rate limitation, thus doubling the tax rate authority which, in turn, will increase the amount of taxes you pay.

In reviewing the list of projects to be funded by Measure Q, they appear to be primarily maintenance and routine improvements. There are no new facilities or major programs.

The District promises not to issue more bonds under Measure J, but the new tax created by Measure Q will certainly increase the amount of taxes we pay.

As stated in the Board's June 9, 2016 meeting minutes, the alternative is for the District to wait until assessed values increase to issue the remaining authority under Measure J.

Vote No on Measure Q! http://bit.ly/NoYubaBond

/s/ Patricia A. Miller, President
Sutter County Taxpayers Association

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE Q

It's not that complicated.

Measure Q will not increase total District debt by one penny.

Ten years ago, voters passed Measure J, which helped repair and rehabilitate classrooms and colleges throughout Yuba Community College District. However, drastic shifts in property values during the Great Recession delayed issuance of the last portion of Measure J bonds due to State-mandated restrictions. If passed by voters, the District legally will be required to replace the unused Measure J bonds with bonds approved under Measure Q. No additional debt can be created and no more Measure J bonds will be sold.

Measure Q will save millions.

Measure Q will save taxpayers millions of dollars by slashing borrowing costs through the use of short-term loans at low interest rates. Responsibly, Measure Q will not burden future generations.

Measure Q is a prudent investment in our community.

Measure Q will allow us to continue the job of improving our community colleges with projects that go far beyond "routine maintenance" including upgrading science, math, engineering, technology and vocational education classrooms and expanding nursing and health care training facilities. Measure Q also will create new construction jobs that will boost our local economy.

The decision is yours.

By smartly reauthorizing $33.565 million of bonds that WERE ALREADY APPROVED by voters in 2006, but which were never issued, we can continue the job of improving our local community colleges and ensure that we get the best, most fiscally responsible deal possible. The decision is clear. Vote YES on Measure Q!

/s/ Hardial Duly, Retired Educator and
Grand Jury member

/s/ Steven Durfor, Sheriff-Coroner

/s/ Jesse Ortiz, Yolo County Superintendent of Schools