



## Local Ballot Measure: S

Arguments and rebuttals are the opinions of the authors. We print them exactly as submitted.

### Argument In Favor of Measure S

**VOTE YES FOR MEASURE S!** MEASURE S establishes an additional 0.5% general purpose sales tax that will allow funds to be used where we need them most: for the repair and maintenance of City infrastructure. City facilities such as the Fire House, streets, roads, sidewalks, and parks all have rehabilitation needs that have been deferred due to lack of money caused by stagnant growth and sluggish property and sales tax revenues. With the high cost of doing business, revenues are not keeping up with essential City demands.

The new 0.5% sales tax revenue can also be used for the purchase of equipment vital to effective fire prevention services, such as a new fire engine, and will allow the City to continue to provide and enhance its popular and beneficial youth and adult programs.

Without MEASURE S revenues, the City will have to choose whether to continue to defer infrastructure improvements and program needs or eliminate or reduce existing local program and service expenditures.

Without MEASURE S the City's sales tax rate will continue to be lower than the rate in surrounding cities, meaning Gonzales is failing to capture its share of vital tax revenues; patrons are already paying the higher rate while shopping outside of Gonzales. MEASURE S would put the City on an even footing with other Monterey County cities at a tax rate of 9.25% and ensure that collected taxes stay local. A significant portion of the new tax would be paid by travelers who stop in town for gas and food.

**Yes on MEASURE S** includes strong fiscal accountability with annual independent audits and review by a Citizen's Oversight Committee to monitor spending, guaranteeing funds are spent responsibly.

We stand in support of MEASURE S and urge you to vote **YES ON MEASURE S** on November 5th!

/s/ Jose L. Rios, Mayor

/s/ Scott Funk, Mayor Pro Tem

/s/ Elizabeth Silva, Council Member

/s/ Lorraine Worthy, Council Member

/s/ Maria Orozco, Council Member

### Rebuttal To Argument In Favor of Measure S

No arguments against Measure S were submitted.