



MEASURE T – 2024

Madera County Transportation Authority

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**MADERA COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF MADERA AND CHOWCHILLA TO CONSIDER
EXTENDING ANNUAL PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD FOR MEASURE T**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: In a joint statement released today by the Madera County Transportation Authority on behalf of its member agencies, the County of Madera and the Cities of Chowchilla and Madera will be considering resolutions to adopt mandatory 30-day public review periods for expenditure of Measure T funds beginning in 2025. This will allow additional public review and oversight in the event Measure T is passed by voters.

The Measure T Steering Committee, which included citizen representatives from all five county supervisorial districts, unanimously adopted ballot language and an expenditure plan which was submitted to the MCTA Board in June 2024. During this process, a group of Madera citizens separately formed a Political Action Committee and submitted a petition with enough signatures to place a virtually identical measure on the ballot as a “citizen” initiative. Under California State law, this lowered the threshold for passage from a 2/3 vote to a simple majority.

The Citizen Initiative’s version of Measure T and its expenditure plan used the exact same language as the Measure T renewal that was developed by the Measure T Steering Committee. However, there was one exception. The original version used by the citizen’s group was circulated prior to the adoption of the final version by the Madera County Transportation Commission sitting as the Madera County Transportation Authority, as well as the County Board of Supervisors, the City of Chowchilla, and the City of Madera. The final version added additional public review opportunities as follows:

“Each jurisdiction will annually identify specific streets and roads that will be prioritized for repair and/or refurbishment and hold annual public meetings to review the proposed plan not less than 30 days prior to adoption by the local jurisdiction and the MCTA board.”

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While neither the County nor any of the other agencies may amend or change the language of the citizen group's Initiative Measure T on the ballot at this point, they are all seeking to reaffirm their commitment to additional public review opportunities in the event Measure T is adopted by voters. In this regard, the County and agencies are now in the process of considering resolutions that call for this review period beginning in 2025 for all Measure T expenditures for as long as such revenues are received.

"We all believe it was important to make this commitment to the voters as envisioned by the Steering Committee and continue to make improvements in our process as outlined in the new Expenditure Plan," said MCTA Board Chair Leticia Gonzalez. "Our new plan calls for greater oversight, independent audits, and a massive reallocation of funds to address the condition of our local roads."

The new Expenditure Plan calls for 80% of funds to be allocated for local streets and roads, 14.5% for regional projects, 4% for transit services and 1.5% for administration which would include greater public outreach and reporting. It also sets aside 10% of funds for disadvantaged communities. It continues to include provisions ensuring that the development community continues to pay its share for road improvements and does not in fact receive Measure T funds.

Madera County is expected to act at its October 1st Board Meeting with the City of Madera following on October 2nd and the City of Chowchilla on October 8th. For more information and to review and compare the expenditure plans submitted by both the steering committee and the citizens' initiative, please visit MeasureT-2024.com

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