

Sample Arguments Appendix

Some of the arguments submitted to the Orange County Registrar of Voters that led to the defeat of Capistrano Unified's bad bond measures. Formatting, such as bolded text, has been preserved and appears as it did in the Voter Guide.

Argument Against Measure M [2016]

Orange County residents already are among the highest taxed in America – Measure M seeks to **increase our taxes by \$889 Million (\$1.8 BILLION with Interest)!**

This bond measure is opposed by your trusted representatives:

- **State Senator Patricia Bates**
- **Assemblyman Bill Brough**
- **County Supervisor Lisa Bartlett**

Every Mayor in **Every City** located within Capistrano Unified School District also:

- opposes this bond and
- urges you to **VOTE NO ON MEASURE M!**

Here's why:

A bond works like a government credit card -- paying off that credit card requires the government to raise your taxes.

The increased taxes we'd be forced to pay would be **IN ADDITION TO THE OTHER TAXES RESIDENTS ALREADY PAY**, including:

- Property Taxes
- Mello Roos Taxes
- Existing School Bond Taxes
- State School Bond Taxes
- Income Taxes
- Sales Taxes

Aren't we taxed enough already?

MEASURE M IS THE LARGEST BOND EVER PROPOSED by a school district in Orange County history!

What would this property tax increase likely mean for you?

- **Property Owners:** will be forced to pay increased property taxes.
- **Renters:** will suffer rent increases as landlords pass on the costs of higher taxes.
- **Customers:** will see higher prices as businesses pass on the cost of higher taxes.

South Orange County residents can't afford an \$889,000,000.00 tax hike!

Just four years ago, California voters approved Proposition 30. The teachers' unions promised "billions in new funding for our schools" from Proposition 30. Proposition 30 raised income taxes and sales taxes. Measure M would now raise your property taxes. What tax will they raise next?

NO MORE TAXES -- tell education bureaucrats they need to live within their means (instead of relying upon over-burdened taxpayers to pay ever increasing taxes)!

VOTE NO ON MEASURE M!

www.TheRealCUSD.com

s/ Tony Beall
Mayor, City of Rancho Santa Margarita

s/ Frank Ury
Mayor, City of Mission Viejo

s/ Laurie Davies
Mayor, City of Laguna Niguel

s/ Pam Patterson
Mayor, City of San Juan Capistrano

s/ Mike Munzing
Mayor, City of Aliso Viejo

Rebuttal to the Argument in Favor of Measure M [2016]

Taxpayers have not finished paying back CUSD's existing bond – millions remain unpaid!
Now they want \$889,000,000 more!

VOTE NO ON MEASURE M!

SECURED PROPERTY TAXES WOULD INCREASE:

- On your home or business real estate.
- If you failed to pay these taxes, they could foreclose on your property!

UNSECURED PROPERTY TAXES WOULD INCREASE:

- On business and personal property, such as:
 - Mobilehomes
 - Boats
- On your business personal property, including:
 - Machinery
 - Equipment
 - Ovens
 - Computers
 - Copiers/Printers

- Telephones
- Furniture
- Desks/Chairs
- Supplies

MILLIONS WOULD BE SPENT ON SALARIES AND CONSULTANTS.

Bond supporters stated, “the measure can only be spent on repairs, facility upgrades, technology infrastructure, and replacing aging portables.”

- THIS IS FALSE!
- Millions would be spent to pay:
 - f Consultants selling the bonds!
 - f Salaries of CUSD’s classified employees and consultants!

THIS BOND WILL NOT REDUCE CLASS SIZES.

- Students are routinely forced into overcrowded classes, making learning more difficult.
- However, no bond money will be spent to hire more teachers to reduce class sizes!

TAXPAYER PROTECTIONS ARE LACKING.

- CUSD isn’t required to complete any improvement project at any school!
- CUSD disbanded the Citizen Oversight Committee with their existing bond!
- CUSD is seeking this bond to fund certain projects (asbestos removal/roof repairs) they previously promised to pay for with their existing bond!

The Orange County Taxpayers Association remains “**concerned about the size and scope of Measure M.**”

VOTE NO ON MEASURE M!

www.TheRealCUSD.com

s/ Jim Reardon

Vice President, Capistrano Unified School District Board of Trustees

s/ Wayne A. Brown

Director, Government Relations, South Orange County Economic Coalition

s/ Tony Beall

Mayor, City of Rancho Santa Margarita

s/ Frank L. Ury

Mayor, City of Mission Viejo

s/ Laurie Davies

Mayor, City of Laguna Niguel

Rebuttal to the Argument in Favor of Measure H [2020]

It is the responsibility of the CUSD Board of Trustees to ensure that students and staff have facilities that are safe and well maintained. Trustees are responsible for maintaining and repairing facilities within the annual operating budget.

Much of what is proposed in the bond language are repairs to bring CUSD facilities up to **minimum** health and safety standards.

As taxpayers, we rely on the Board of Trustees to be our voice to the State of California. We rely on the Trustees to make use of any and all tools at their disposal to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff. For instance, the Williams Settlement requires that schools be kept in “good repair.” It provides a mechanism that school districts can use to obtain the necessary funds to ensure that all students have access to school facilities that are clean, safe, and functional (working plumbing, roofs that do not leak and HVAC systems that are operational).

In our opinion, taxpayers should not be required to come in “after the fact” and finance repairs in the form of a long term (30 years) bond measure.

It is not good governance to finance what should have been short term repairs into long term debt.

s/ Dawn Urbanek
Concerned Citizen

s/ Wendy Shrove
Concerned Citizen

Argument Against Measure I [2020]

Orange County residents already are among the highest taxed in America - Measure I seeks to **increase our taxes by \$300 Million (\$519 Million with Interest)!**

Voters should:

- Oppose this bond and
- **VOTE NO ON MEASURE !!**

Here's why:

A bond works like a government credit card — paying off that credit card requires the government to raise your taxes.

The increased taxes we'd be forced to pay would be **IN ADDITION TO THE OTHER TAXES RESIDENTS ALREADY PAY**, including:

- Property Taxes
- Existing CUSD School Bond Taxes

- State School Bond Taxes
- Income Taxes
- Sales Taxes
- Utility Taxes
- Gasoline Taxes

Aren't we taxed enough already?

What would this property tax increase likely mean for you?

- **Property Owners:** will be forced to pay increased property taxes.
- **Many Renters:** will suffer rent increases as landlords pass on the costs of higher taxes.
- **Customers:** will see higher prices as businesses pass on the cost of higher taxes.

Aliso Viejo, Dana Point and Laguna Niguel residents can't afford a \$300,000,000.00 tax hike (\$519,000,000.00 with interest)!

Just eight years ago, California voters approved Proposition 30's "temporary taxes". Proposition 30 raised income taxes and sales taxes. Then via Proposition 55 in 2016, most of those same "temporary taxes" were extended twelve years! Both times the teachers' unions promised billions in funding for our schools.

Measure I would now raise your property taxes. What tax will they raise next?

NO MORE TAXES — tell education bureaucrats they need to live within their means (instead of relying upon over-burdened taxpayers to pay ever increasing taxes)!

VOTE NO ON MEASURE I!

www.NoCUSDBonds.com

s/ Craig P. Alexander
Concerned Citizen, Dana Point

Rebuttal to the Argument in Favor of Measure I [2020]

CUSD is seeking this bond to fund certain projects (asbestos removal/roof repairs/earthquake retrofitting/renovating science laboratories) they previously promised to pay for with their existing bond (Measure A - November 1999)!

Taxpayers have not finished paying back CUSD's existing bond! - millions remain unpaid!

Now they want \$300,000,000.00 more [\$519,000,000.00 with interest]!

VOTE NO ON MEASURE I!

SECURED PROPERTY TAXES WOULD INCREASE:

On your home or business real estate.

If you fail to pay these taxes, they can foreclose on your property!

This bond tax will be added to your property tax bill for almost 30 years.

UNSECURED PROPERTY TAXES WOULD INCREASE:

On business and personal property, such as:

Mobile homes

Boats

On your business personal property, including:

Machinery

Equipment

Ovens

Computers

Copiers/Printers

Telephones *Furniture

Desks/Chairs

Supplies

BOND FUNDS WOULD BE SPENT ON SALARIES AND CONSULTANTS.

A large percentage of the bond funds would be spent to pay consultants selling the bonds and salaries for "...staff development and training expenses..."

TAXPAYER PROTECTIONS ARE LACKING.

- CUSD isn't required to complete any improvement project at any school!
- CUSD disbanded the Citizen Oversight Committee for the existing bond!

NO MORE TAXES -- Taxpayers are required to maintain and repair our homes and businesses. Tell education bureaucrats they need to live within their means too!

VOTE NO ON MEASURE I!

www.NoCUSDBonds.com

www.CapoKidsFirst.com

s/ Craig P Alexander

Concerned Citizen, Dana Point

Argument Against Measure G [2022]

Orange County residents already are among the **highest taxed** in America – Measure G seeks to **increase our taxes by \$114 Million (\$213 Million with Interest)!**

Voters should oppose this bond by **VOTING NO ON MEASURE G!**

Here's why:

A bond works like a government credit card -- paying off that credit card requires the government to raise your taxes.

The increased taxes we'd be forced to pay would be **IN ADDITION TO THE OTHER TAXES RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES ALREADY PAY**, including:

- Property Taxes
- Existing CUSD School Bond Taxes
- State School Bond Taxes
- Income Taxes
- Sales Taxes
- Utility Taxes
- Gasoline Taxes

Aren't we taxed enough already? Plus runaway inflation!

What would this property tax increase likely mean for you?

Property Owners: will be forced to pay increased property taxes.

Renters: will suffer rent increases as landlords pass on the costs of higher taxes.

Customers: will see higher prices as businesses pass on the cost of higher taxes.

Aliso Viejo residents can't afford a \$114,000,000 tax hike (\$213,000,000 with interest)!

Ten years ago, California voters approved Proposition 30's "temporary taxes". Proposition 30 raised income taxes and sales taxes. Then via Proposition 55 in 2016, most of those same "temporary taxes" were extended twelve years! Both times the teachers' unions promised billions in funding for our schools.

Measure G would now raise your property taxes again.

To put all this in perspective, in 2020 CUSD paid its Superintendent \$448,615 in salary and benefits and an Assistant Superintendent \$347,973.20. In contrast the Governor of California was paid \$279,560.74 in 2020 (www.TransparentCalifornia.com).

NO MORE TAXES -- tell education bureaucrats they need to live within their means (instead of relying upon over-burdened taxpayers to pay ever increasing taxes)!

VOTE NO ON MEASURE G!

www.CapoKidsFirst.com

Parent Union | California Policy Center | 18002 Irvine Blvd., Suite 108 | Tustin, CA 92780

s/ Michael A. Munzing
Member of the City Council of Aliso Viejo

s/ William Andrews Phillips
Aliso Viejo Resident

s/ Jonathan David Wolf
Aliso Viejo Resident

s/ Abraham Edward Klein
Aliso Viejo Resident

Rebuttal to the Argument in Favor of Measure G [2022]

CUSD is seeking a new \$114 MILLION bond tax to fund the many of the same repair projects, retrofitting & renovations that **they previously promised to complete with their previous bond** (Measure A)!

Now they want another **\$213 MILLION (when interest is added)! TO BE CLEAR... with our poor economy, inflation & sky-high gas prices, CUSD wants to burden us with an additional bond tax.**

VOTE NO ON MEASURE G!

THIS BOND IS NOT EQUITABLE! The bond measure proposes a long list of projects to **Aliso Niguel High School. A large percentage of those students live in LAGUNA NIGUEL.** If this measure passes, **those Laguna Niguel families will not pay for this bond. Is that fair to Aliso Viejo taxpayers?**

SECURED PROPERTY TAXES WOULD INCREASE:

- On your home or business real estate (for almost 30 years).
- If you fail to pay these taxes, they can foreclose on your property!

RENTERS – Your rent will likely increase as landlords pass this new tax on to you!

BOND FUNDS WOULD BE SPENT ON SALARIES AND CONSULTANTS.

It's always a red flag when anyone admits that a portion of the bond funds would be spent to pay consultants, staff development, and training.

TAXPAYER PROTECTIONS ARE LACKING.

- CUSD isn't REQUIRED to complete any improvement project!

• CUSD also disbanded the Citizen Oversight Committee for the existing bond!

NO MORE TAXES! -- Taxpayers must maintain and repair their homes and businesses, tell **EDUCATION BUREAUCRATS** to do the same!

VOTE NO ON MEASURE G!

www.CapoKidsFirst.com

s/ Michael A. Munzing
Member of the City Council of Aliso Viejo

s/ William Andrews Phillips
Aliso Viejo Resident

s/ Jonathan David Wolf
Aliso Viejo Resident

s/ Abraham Edward Klein
Aliso Viejo Resident