

Citizens to Save the Hospital



Presentation to:

**John C. Fremont Healthcare District
Board of Directors**

23 November 2021

Citizens Initiative to Save the Hospital

Proposes the same 1% sales tax as Measure N did

But with four important differences...



1. Is initiated by citizens of Mariposa County through a petition process and not by the John C. Fremont Healthcare District
2. Adds a “sunset” to terminate the sales tax after 40 years
3. Changes the Expenditure Plan to more clearly describe how the funds are permitted to be used
4. Adds an Accountability and Transparency section to require more rigorous accounting and public reporting of the tax receipts and all expenditures

The last three changes address concerns voters had with Measure N.



Achievements to Date

- ✓ Committee formed
- ✓ Initiative written
- ✓ Notice of Intent submitted to the County Clerk
- ✓ Initiative announced in a press release
- ✓ Website launched – www.savethehospital.org
- ✓ Social Media launched
 - Facebook: Citizens to Save the Hospital
 - Instagram: @savejcfhospital
 - Twitter: @savejcfhospital
- ✓ County Fair booth staffed by members and volunteers
- ✓ Petition circulated and signed by 1706 registered voters (823 needed)
- ✓ Petition submitted on September 28TH to the County Clerk
- ✓ Board of Supervisors voted on October 19TH to put the measure on the ballot for the June 2022 Primary Election



Taxpayer Protection & Government Accountability Act

- Statewide proposition for the November 2022 General Election
- Retroactive to October 2021 (in Section 6h)
- Requires two-thirds vote to pass a tax (including for citizens initiatives in Section 6c)
- Contains other provisions (in Sections 6g and 8b) the citizens initiative does not—and cannot—meet:
 - “estimated annual amount”
 - “specific and legally binding and enforceable limitation”
 - “specific limitation on how the revenue [from the tax] can be spent”
 - Other requirements for the Title & Summary



Committee Recommendations

- Accept the likelihood the proposed proposition will pass in November 2022
- Replace the citizens initiative effort with one initiated by the Healthcare District (just as with Measure N)
- Make the changes needed to comply with the proposed proposition, but keep all three major changes made in the citizens initiative ordinance
- Continue to target the June 2022 Primary Election



Committee Next Steps

- Withdraw the citizens initiative (after the District submits its ordinance)
- Help keep the community informed on the changes being made (and why)
- Continue to fundraise, recruit volunteers and plan for the campaign
- Reorganize as a campaign committee to run the “Yes On Measure O” campaign



Questions/Comments



Thank You