



Frequently Asked Questions About Measure I

Belmont Streets and City Services Measure

Q: What is Measure I?

A: On July 26th, 2016, the Belmont City Council unanimously voted to place Measure I on the November 8, 2016 ballot for voters' consideration. If approved, Measure I will provide locally-controlled funds for local priorities, including street and road repair, storm drain repair, and other essential city services. Measure I is a ½ cent local sales tax measure that will expire in 30 years.

Ballot Question

Measure I - Belmont Streets and City Services -	
<p>To provide local funding for maintaining general City of Belmont services/ facilities, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fixing potholes; • repairing 69 miles of City streets; • maintaining 911 emergency response; • repairing deteriorating storm drains; • reducing traffic congestion/ improving public safety on neighborhood streets; 	YES
<p>shall Belmont enact a 1/2 cent sales tax, providing \$1,300,000 annually for 30 years, requiring citizen's oversight, independent audits, with all funds for local City of Belmont services, and no funds for Sacramento?</p>	NO

Q: Why was Measure I placed on the November ballot?

A: Belmont's roads rank as the worst in San Mateo County and rank in the bottom 8% of the entire Bay Area. Many of Belmont's neighborhood streets are not only deteriorating but are also on steep hillsides. Over the last 20 years, State action has resulted in the loss of nearly \$16 million in revenue for the City of Belmont. These takeaways have left the City without the funds needed to address millions in infrastructure needs for roads, storm drains, and other essential city services.

After extensive community input over the last two years, the Belmont City Council unanimously voted to place Measure I on the November 8, 2016 ballot to provide locally-controlled funds for local community priorities.

Q: What community priorities can Measure I address?

A: Measure I would provide locally-controlled funding for local community priorities that can help address community priorities such as:

- Fixing potholes and repairing streets
- Repairing the City's 69 miles of streets and roads
- Maintaining 9-1-1 emergency response times
- Repairing deteriorating storm drains
- Reducing congestion and improving safety on streets including Alameda and Ralston
- Maintaining neighborhood police

Q: How does Measure I address storm drain repair?

A: The community priorities survey performed by the City in 2014 and 2015 identified repairing storm drains in Belmont neighborhoods as a major priority for the City – particularly for neighborhoods vulnerable to flooding. The City’s storm drain infrastructure is over 50 years old, and many pipes are deteriorated and rusted through. Improving local storm drain infrastructure is critical to protecting the environment and water quality by reducing runoff and associated pollutants from entering Belmont’s creeks and the Bay. If enacted, Measure I will allow the City to begin replacing and repairing deteriorating storm drains, reducing flooding and protecting water quality in Belmont creeks and the Bay.

Q: When was the last time a general tax was increased for the City?

A: In 1972 for the purchase of Twin Pines Park.

Q: What is the current sales tax rate and what will it be after it is implemented?

A: Now - 9.00%: After – 9.25%.

Q: How do I know the condition of the roads and which ones might benefit from this additional revenue?

A: Belmont’s streets have been ranked at the bottom in San Mateo County and in the bottom 8% of the entire Bay Area, by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). You can view the 2015 PCI Scores as presented in the [MTC Special Report](#). This report is posted on the City’s website, under the Capital Financing for Infrastructure webpage. A listing of the PCI ratings for individual streets can be viewed by viewing the [Belmont Street PCI listing table](#).

Q: How will future infrastructure improvements be determined?

A: The City has developed Master Plans for streets, sewers, and storm drains, which include comprehensive Capital Improvement Programs (CIP). Fact sheets have been prepared for each infrastructure component and list key projects planned. They are available for viewing on the City’s website, under the Capital Financing for Infrastructure webpage. Annually, as part of the Budget, the Council reviews the first five years of the CIP and authorizes funding.

Q: Is Measure I accountable?

A: Yes. If enacted, State law requires all of Measure I funds to remain local. Measure I requires annual independent audits and a Citizen’s Oversight Committee to review all funds.

Q: How can I find out more information about Measure I?

A: You can find more information by visiting the City’s website at:
<http://www.belmont.gov/city-hall/city-government/election-information>