

Newark Utility Users Tax Opposition

Ballot Opposition Statement: Newark Utility Users Tax Opposition

Vote NO on DECEPTIVE Taxes. Vote NO on this DECEPTIVE Tax.

This General Tax will be placed in the General-Purpose Fund and can be spent on ANYTHING. This Tax MIGHT be spent the popular services such as ‘public safety; streets/pothole repair; parks/recreation; neighborhood police patrols, crime prevention, drug/gang-prevention programs.’ This Tax WILL be spent on Union City’s BIG problem: Pension. Newark has a BIG Pension problem and this Measure completely skips ‘the elephant in the room.’ Newark’s Pension deficit is growing at ½ million dollars per year. Voters can be certain that they are being misled by this Measure because the Measure’s purposes fail to mention the biggest financial problem of all – Pension debt.

Newark already has General Fund Taxes to pay for ‘public safety; streets/pothole repair; parks/recreation; neighborhood police patrols, crime prevention, drug/gang-prevention programs.’ The proof is that these services are already ongoing and paid for with ongoing taxes. The City needs new taxes for these popular services so that the existing General Fund taxes can be diverted into the Pension accounts for the GROWING Pension deficits.

The secret purpose of this Utility Tax is to ensure that ensure that Pension reform can be ignored for a few more years. Newark’s Overlords receive glorious Pensions. They can retire much better that the average taxpayer. This Utility Tax

ensures that Newark's Overlords can postpone the needed reform. The Newark's Overlords will never reform themselves as long as the taxpayers are giving them what they want.

Require the City to correct the fatally flawed Pension program before providing more taxes. As long as the voters give the City plenty more taxes, Pension reform will be ignored and your share of the Pension debt will keep growing – faster.

Don't wait. Demand accountability Now. Demand Pension reform Now.

Marcus Crawley – President

Alameda County Taxpayers Assoc.