# Measure I will be on the November 8 ballot to continue library services

The City of Riverside has placed Measure I on the November 8 ballot in order to continue and enhance library programs and services.

In 1992, the State shifted funds from cities to meet their budget obligations causing a reduction in local funding. In an effort to secure a dedicated revenue source for our local libraries, the City placed Measure C – a $19 annual parcel tax – on the ballot in 2002. The measure passed with a 69% majority. This funding source will generate $1.43 million for libraries this year which represents 22% of the overall library budget. However, Measure C has a ten year term and is due to expire in June of 2012.

The Riverside Public Library has used the Measure C funds along with general funds to serve Riverside's 300,000 plus residents, through extended hours of operation, books, electronic resources, materials for the hearing and visually impaired and by providing programs to engage residents in reading and education.

If approved by voters, Measure I will allow the City to continue funding for programs such as homework and reading programs as well as allow the libraries to further the goals of future priorities such as additional expanded hours of operation, computers and programming.

If approved, provisions of the Measure I extension of the parcel tax will be the same as what currently exists, which means no tax increase, all funds will be restricted for library services only and it will expire in ten years.

In order to vote on Measure I, individuals must be registered voters within the City of Riverside. The deadline to register is October 24, 2011.

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