

Nevada City Newsletter

City of Nevada City



Measure C Frequently Asked Questions

Why did the City Council place Measure C on the November 8, 2016 ballot?

In April 2015, the Nevada County Consolidated Fire District ended an 11-year co-staffing arrangement by withdrawing three firefighters assigned to Station 54, Nevada City's only fire station. Attempts to operate with the City's remaining three professional firefighters and implementing rotating brown-outs (station closures) adversely affected response times. This prompted the City Council to authorize hiring three new full-time firefighters to operate the station 24/7 with minimum staffing of at least two firefighters per shift. This added approximately \$275,000 in new annual operating expenses to the City's budget. Pending a permanent solution, the City has used temporary Measure L general sales tax revenues to cover the added expense. With Measure L expiring March 31, 2018, the City Council placed Measure C on the ballot to provide a

sustainable funding source for these replacement firefighters. The City Council also expressed an interest in augmenting the City's 10-member sworn police staffing by an additional officer. An additional \$120,000 is allocated for Police staffing, with the remaining \$37,000 available for public safety equipment, training, and facility maintenance. Measure C is expected to generate approximately \$432,000 annually.

What can Measure C proceeds be used for?

Measure C proceeds must be used exclusively for professional fire and police protection purposes: including the operation, maintenance, and improvement of fire and police facilities within the City; maintenance, replacement, and upgrading of fire and police equipment; staffing and training of professional career fire and police personnel and support staff; and expenditures necessary to support mutual aid from and to like agencies in other jurisdictions in time of need, and for no other purpose.

What accountability provisions are there to ensure Measure C proceeds will be used appropriately?

Measure C requires the City Council establish a citizens' oversight committee to assure expenditures are used only for the purposes outlined above.

How much will Measure C cost?

Measure C is a 3/8 of one cent transactions and use tax. This translates to \$0.38 (38 cents) for every \$100.00 spent on taxable goods.

What will the Nevada City sales tax rate be if Measure C passes?

Passage of Measure C will result in a sales tax rate of 8.875% for twelve months until Measure L expires when the rate will drop back to the current 8.5% rate. If the County's library tax proposal passes, it will add an additional 1/8 cent to the existing 1/8 cent rate (an additional 0.125%).

If I have an additional question about Measure C, who should I contact?

Please contact City Manager Mark Prestwich via email at mark.prestwich@nevadacityca.gov.



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Balancing Compassion and Safety

Allowing people who are homeless to camp on your property may seem like a way of helping them by providing a place for them to sleep. However, the dangers involved in this are great. Fires have been started by homeless encampments because they are trying to stay warm. Garbage has littered property and creeks and becomes a sanitation issue. Some people who are homeless are not mentally stable and can get aggressive if you approach them in an inappropriate manner.

If there are individuals camping on your property, you can call the Police Dept. immediately to have them removed. If someone has been camping on your property for an extended amount of time or you are concerned that it might become a problem, you can take measures to assist with trespassing issues. Contact the Police Dept. (265-4700) to complete a 602 letter. You will then need to post "No Trespassing" signs and call immediately if someone is on your property. If you live outside City limits, contact the Sheriff's Dept. (265-1471) They have a similar process.

The best way to help them is to provide information about the resources available to them, such as Hospitality House, County Social Services Dept or Streicher House. You can directly give this to them or post it near your No Trespassing signs.



City Hall Closed:

Nov. 11:

Veteran's Day

Nov. 24 & 25:

Thanksgiving

Dec. 26:

Christmas

City Council Meetings:

All meetings begin at 6:30pm

Nov. 9 and 30

Dec. 14

Trail Closures:

Sierra Streams Institute received grant funding to complete fire clearing work on the Hirschman's Pond property. This work will take place this winter. Please be prepared for trail closures during the time that work will be completed. Signs will be posted and announcements will be sent to local media.

Events in Nevada City

Victorian Christmas

Sun's, Dec. 4, 11, 18
Wed's, Dec. 14 & 21

Farmer's Market

Nov. 19th is the last Saturday morning Farmer's Market

These events include street closures. For more information visit the Chamber website at: nevadacitychamber.com

Neighborly Advice

Garbage Cans

Please be sure to remove your WM cans from sidewalks & streets as soon after pick up as you can.

Sidewalks

Property owners are responsible for the maintenance of the sidewalk adjacent to your property. Please be sure to sweep leaves, trim overhanging branches and shovel snow.

Leaf Clearing

Leaves should be placed in your yard waste bin. It can be a hazard to blow them into streets.