



Dear Voter:

May 1, 2012 is Election Day and San Gorgonio Memorial Health Care District is asking voters whether to extend the existing voter-approved parcel tax. This is not a new tax. It will provide funds for our area's only Emergency Room.

**YOUR BALLOT IS ENCLOSED.** *Do not throw it away!* All ballots will be cast by mail only. There will be no polling places. To count in this election, **ALL completed ballots must be received by the Registrar of Voters Office on or before May 1, 2012 at 8:00 p.m.** Voting is as easy as 1-2-3.

Step 1: Pull out your enclosed ballot and follow the instructions to cast your vote.

Step 2: Sign and date the postage-paid return envelope.

Step 3: Place the completed ballot in the envelope and return it immediately.

Completed ballots can be mailed OR hand-delivered to the Registrar of Voters Office, County of Riverside, 2724 Gateway Drive, Riverside, California 92507. A locked drop box is located outside the front entrance of the Registrar of Voters for deposit of vote-by-mail ballots 24 hours a day. For further voter convenience, an additional ballot drop-off box will be available at the San Gorgonio Memorial Health Care District during regular business hours, beginning on April 2. The ballot return box will be picked up at the close of business on May 1, 2012. After that time, any unreturned ballots will need to be driven to the Registrar of Voters office by 8:00 pm.

If you have questions, please contact:

- Registrar of Voters at 1-800-773-VOTE (8683) or (951) 486-7200; or
- Visit us at [www.voteinfo.net](http://www.voteinfo.net)

The San Gorgonio Memorial Health Care District and the Registrar of Voters is dedicated to serving the voters of the cities of Banning, Beaumont, Cherry Valley, Calimesa, Cabazon and surrounding areas and ensuring the integrity and security of the elections process. Remember, your vote counts! Thank you for voting on May 1, 2012.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Turner".

Mark Turner, CEO  
San Gorgonio Memorial Health Care District

**SAN GORGONIO MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE DISTRICT  
SPECIAL MEASURE MAIL BALLOT ELECTION  
MAY 1, 2012**



**POLLING PLACES WILL NOT BE ESTABLISHED FOR THIS ELECTION.**

The enclosed ballot is your **OFFICIAL BALLOT** for this election.



**VOTING INSTRUCTIONS**

**Your voted ballot must be in the possession of the Registrar of Voters no later than 8:00 p.m. on May 1, 2012. Postmarks are not accepted.**

1. Use a black ball point pen. **DO NOT** use felt tip, red or gel ink.
  - a. To vote for or against a measure, connect the head and tail of the arrow to the right of the word YES or NO for that measure.
  - b. One line connecting the arrow is preferred.
2. Remove the top stub and place the voted ballot card in the return envelope provided. Please keep the ballot folded the same way as you received it.
  - a. Sign your name and print your address where indicated. **If you fail to sign the envelope, your vote cannot be counted;** and
  - b. Seal the envelope.
3. Return your ballot:
  - a. By mail:
    - A postage-paid envelope is provided to conveniently return your ballot by mail. Since this is a mail ballot election, there are **no established polling places**. Voters temporarily residing outside of the territorial limits of the United States must add postage appropriate for their current location.
  - b. In Person to:
    - The Registrar of Voters office during regular business hours and until close of polls on Election Day. For your convenience the Registrar's office has a locked drop box at its entry for ballot drop off 24 hours a day; or to a ballot drop off site located at the district's main office during regular business hours. Please visit our website at [www.voteinfo.net](http://www.voteinfo.net) for a list of drop off locations.
  - c. You may verify that the Registrar of Voters has received your voted ballot by checking the return status online at [www.voteinfo.net](http://www.voteinfo.net).

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

- **UNABLE TO RETURN YOUR BALLOT PERSONALLY?** State law allows you to authorize your spouse, parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister or a person residing in the same household to return your ballot for you. You and your designated representative must complete the authorization statement on the enclosed return envelope.
- **SPOILED YOUR BALLOT?** Place the ballot card in the enclosed return envelope, place a check mark in the spoiled box on the return envelope and return it to our office. A new ballot will be sent to you if there is sufficient time to do so. If there is not sufficient time to return your ballot and receive another by mail, you may return your ballot personally to the Registrar of Voters office or call for further instructions at (951) 486-7200 or 1-800-773-8683.
- **ACCESSIBLE VOTING UNIT.** An Accessible Voting Unit is available upon request at the Registrar of Voters office.
- **CLOSE OF REGISTRATION.** The last day to register to vote for this election is April 16, 2012.

**Statements made on the following pages represent the views of the authors and are not endorsed by the County of Riverside. Internet web site addresses included in any statements are provided by the authors. The County of Riverside assumes no liability for the accuracy or content of web sites listed therein. Arguments in support of or in opposition to the ballot measures are opinions of the authors. The text, grammar, and spelling are as submitted by the authors.**

**HOW TO MARK YOUR PAPER BALLOT**

- Connect the head and tail of the arrow that points to your choice, like the example provided, also check both front and back of ballot for voting contests
- Use a black ball point pen. Do not use felt tip, red or gel ink
- One line connecting the arrow is preferred
- Please keep the ballot folded the same way as you received it

**TO MARK YOUR VOTE  
DRAW A LINE**



**VOTE!!!**

**For a demonstration on marking your ballot, visit [www.voteinfo.net](http://www.voteinfo.net)  
PARA ESPAÑOL LEA EL OTRO LADO**

**MEASURE "D"****ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SPECIAL PARCEL TAX FOR  
EMERGENCY HEALTHCARE SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, the San Gorgonio Memorial Health Care District (the "District") provides emergency healthcare services within the District; and

**WHEREAS**, inadequate staffing and equipment for emergency healthcare services may pose a risk to the health, safety, and general welfare of the District's residents and members of the public; and

**WHEREAS**, the District has an interest in providing adequate funding for its emergency healthcare services to ensure that there is sufficient staffing and equipment to service District residents and members of the public; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to California Constitution articles XIII A, section 4, XIII C, section 2(b), XIII D, section 3(a), California Government Code sections 50075 et seq., and section 53730.1, the District is authorized to impose special parcel taxes; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 27, 2001, the District adopted Resolution No. 01-1 proposing (i) the levy of an annual special parcel tax (the "Emergency Healthcare Services Tax") for a ten-year period beginning July 1, 2002, at the rate of \$38 per year per taxable parcel within the District, for the purpose of providing funds for an Emergency Department and its associated services on a 24-hour basis, and (ii) annual cost of living increases based on the Consumer Price Index for Los-Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, California, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor for all items ("Measure D"); and

**WHEREAS**, on March 5, 2002, two-thirds of the qualified voters of the District in voting in the election approved Measure D; and

**WHEREAS**, the Emergency Healthcare Services Tax expires on July 1, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, the District must find an immediate solution to provide adequate funding for its Emergency Department and its associated services for a twenty-four hour period and ensure the health, safety, and general welfare of its residents and members of the public; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to continue to provide adequate funding for the District's Emergency Department and its associated services for a twenty-four hour period and ensure the health, safety, and general welfare of its residents and members of the public, the District has determined it is necessary to extend the Emergency Healthcare Services Tax; and

**WHEREAS**, the District desires to extend the Emergency Healthcare Services Tax for a ten-year period, commencing July 1, 2012, to provide for the continued operation and maintenance by the District of an Emergency Department and its associated services on a twenty-four hour basis, and annual cost of living increases to such tax in accordance with the most recent Consumer Price Index for Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, California, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor for all items;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Board of Directors of the San Gorgonio Memorial Health Care District as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are incorporated herein and by this reference made an operative part hereof.

Section 2. Special Parcel Tax for Emergency Healthcare Services. Commencing July 1, 2012, the San Gorgonio Memorial Health Care District (the "District") special parcel tax (the "Emergency Healthcare Services Tax") is hereby extended and established for a ten-year period. The specific purposes of the special parcel tax and the annual cost of living increases thereof are to pay for the operation and maintenance of the District's Emergency Department and associated services on a 24-hour basis, including, but not limited to, the cost of obtaining, furnishing, operating, and maintaining equipment, and paying the salaries, benefits, and all other necessary and related expenses of emergency healthcare services personnel, equipment and apparatus as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors or as required by law, regulation or contractual obligation of the District, and any incidental expenses incurred in the administration of the tax, including, but not limited to, the costs of the election, and the cost of collection. The proceeds of the special parcel tax shall be used only for the specific purposes identified herein.

Section 3. Special Account. The proceeds of the Emergency Healthcare Services Tax shall be deposited in a special account, created and maintained by the District, and used only for the specific purposes identified in Section 2 hereof.

Section 4. Accountability Measures. The expenditures of the Emergency Healthcare Services Tax shall be monitored by a citizens' volunteer Oversight Committee (the "Committee") appointed by the Board of Directors to ensure conformance with this Ordinance. The Board of Directors shall establish the Committee not more than sixty (60) days after July 1, 2012. For so long as any proceeds of the Emergency Healthcare Services Tax remain unexpended, the District shall cause a report to be prepared by an independent auditor. The report shall be reviewed by the Oversight Committee and filed with the District Board of Directors no later than December 31 of each year, stating (1) the amount of special parcel tax proceeds collected and expended in such year; and (2) the status of any projects or description of any services or programs funded from proceeds of the special parcel tax.

Section 5. Application of Special Parcel Tax. The Emergency Healthcare Services Tax shall be assessed to the owner of each parcel within the District, unless the owner is by law exempt from taxation, in which case, the tax imposed shall be assessed to the holder of the possessory interest in such parcel, unless such holder is also by law exempt from taxation.

Section 6. Rate and Imposition of Special Parcel Tax. The Emergency Healthcare Services Tax shall be levied each year for a ten-year period, commencing July 1, 2012, on all taxable parcels of property, improved or unimproved, within the boundaries of the District, at the maximum rate of \$49.00 per parcel per year. Provided, however, such rate shall be increased annually by the most recent Consumer Price Index for Los

Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, California, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor for all items. The annual automatic increase to the maximum special parcel tax rate shall commence on July 1, 2013, and shall be imposed each July 1 thereafter.

Section 7. Severability. The Emergency Healthcare Services Tax shall not apply to any person, entity, or property as to whom or which it is beyond the power of the District to impose the tax herein provided. If for any reason any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof is found to be invalid, or if the special parcel tax is found inapplicable to any particular parcel within the District by a Court of competent jurisdiction, the balance of this Ordinance and the application of the special parcel tax to the remaining parcels within the District shall not be affected and, to this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are severable.

Section 8. Successors. To the fullest extent permitted by law, this Ordinance and its special tax authorization and authority shall be binding upon any successors in interest to the District or any successors in interest to the District's emergency healthcare functions and services.

**If you desire a copy of this resolution, please call the district elections official's office at (951) 486-7200 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.**

#### **ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE "D"**

**Measure "D" will NOT raise your tax rates.** What it will do is extend, **without increasing**, the existing measure already approved by voters.

When time counts, we need a first-rate Emergency Room and we need it nearby.

For 60 years, San Geronio Memorial Health Care District has served residents of Banning, Beaumont, Cherry Valley, Calimesa, Cabazon and surrounding areas. For its size, SGMH has one of the busiest Emergency Rooms with the shortest wait times in Southern California.

To keep the only Emergency Room in our community open, in 2002 local voters overwhelmingly voted to support a modest tax — Measure "D". Every penny of Measure "D" has stayed in our community to meet the emergency medical needs of local residents.

Without Measure "D", there may be fewer doctors and nurses, longer wait times, and residents in an emergency will have to drive 30 minutes or more to another hospital with an overcrowded emergency room.

**Measure "D" will** continue local funding to:

- Maintain local access to lifesaving emergency medical care
- Keep medical equipment and technology up-to-date
- Ensure the hospital has enough doctors and nurses to serve our growing community
- Increase access to state-of-the-art medical care and treatments
- Minimize Emergency Room wait times

Every penny from Measure "D" must stay in our community to provide emergency healthcare services. No funds can be taken away by the State or used for administrators' salaries.

Measure "D" will require a clear system of accountability including mandatory annual financial audits and independent citizen oversight to ensure the money is spent properly.

At approximately \$4 per month, Measure "D" is a small price to pay to ensure that your family has quick access to lifesaving emergency services when you need them most.

**Please join us in voting Yes On Measure "D".**

By: Ludwig Cibelli, M.D., Emergency Physician  
Dorothy Ellis, RN, Retired Nursing Director, San Geronio Memorial Hospital  
Bob Botts, Member, Banning City Council, Retired Businessperson  
Estelle Lewis, Banning Business Owner  
Jim Love, Owner, Beaumont Electric

#### **NO ARGUMENT FILED AGAINST MEASURE "D"**