Rebuttal to Argument In Favor of Measure L/ Sales Tax

This Sales Tax Measure is NOT ‘simply a request to maintain the one-half percent sales tax’ as the Argument in Favor claims. The new sales tax is a FOREVER tax. The existing sales tax must be renewed by the voters who approve the performance of City leadership. Measure L will require dissatisfied voters to launch an initiative process, pay legal fees and collect thousands of signatures to challenge this sales tax. The Full Text of the Measure explains that this is a ‘permanent’ tax.

The City Council’s Argument in Favor skipped over its attack on the voters’ right to hold the leadership accountable. The City Attorney’s ‘Impartial Analysis’ joined the City Council in a failure to advise the voters that their legal rights are being compromised. The leadership’s use of selective facts proves that the bureaucracy needs more scrutiny, not less scrutiny. The voters must not give the politicians a free pass.

Part of the problem with this sales tax is that it is presented to the voters as a special tax that ‘helps support the core services of the city, including police and fire fighters’ but it is actually only a general tax that ‘goes directly to the City of Albany’s general fund’ to be spent on ANYTHING.

When the City is forthright with the financial facts, the voters can trust the City. Until then Vote NO.

Submitted by
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