

## Rebuttal to Argument In Favor of Measure L

We agree that California's pension system needs reform. Unfortunately, Measure L does not achieve its stated goals and could cause irreparable harm. The Almanac said it best: "Initiative Not Real Pension Reform" ([tiny.cc/7nyeg](http://tiny.cc/7nyeg)).

Measure L threatens Menlo Park's finances and services:

- Read the impartial analysis: Menlo Park could be dropped by the state retirement plan, and thus incur lower investment returns and higher administrative costs. **It's reckless to take such a gamble with our finances.**
- The great services – libraries, parks, recreation facilities, and youth and senior programs – that help make Menlo Park unique could be in jeopardy if the talented employees that Menlo Park historically attracts go elsewhere.
- Legal costs will be borne by Menlo Park taxpayers.

Measure L is misleading and does not achieve promised savings:

- Measure L does nothing to reduce current expenditures since it would only apply to future hires. Savings would not begin to accrue for fourteen years; the full benefit would take thirty or more. ([tiny.cc/190cs](http://tiny.cc/190cs)). In contrast, City Council's solution created immediate savings: it requires all non-safety employees to share health care costs and, if contribution levels rise, pension cost increases.
- By changing the pension rate instead of raising pay in 2007, City Council saved Menlo Park approximately \$200,000 ([tiny.cc/190cs](http://tiny.cc/190cs)). Measure L proponents take that rate increase out of context, ignoring other components of compensation.
- Measure L does not address rapidly escalating police salaries and benefits.

Don't be fooled. Measure L is not the solution. Get the facts:

[www.NoOnMenloParkMeasureL.org](http://www.NoOnMenloParkMeasureL.org)

**Vote NO on Measure L.**

- /s/ **Gail L. Slocum, Esq.** August 5, 2010  
Former Mayor
- /s/ **Jim Tooley** August 8, 2010  
Chair, MP Parks & Recreation Commission
- /s/ **Carolyn Clarke** August 8, 2010  
MP Housing Commission
- /s/ **Michelle Wangberg** August 8, 2010  
MP Library Commissioner
- /s/ **Kelly Fergusson, PhD** August 8, 2010  
MP City Councilwoman, Former MP Mayor