

Town of Portola Valley

Compiled by Portola Valley Town Clerk Ms. Sharon Hanlon

Measure Q

Do the People of the Town of Portola Valley adopt an ordinance that continues the reduction of the general purpose Utility Users Tax levied on telephone, gas, water and electricity, set forth in Chapter 3.32 of the Portola Valley Municipal Code, from 5.5% to 4.5% on the charges made for such utility services for a period of four years from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2018?

Full Text

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY AMENDING SECTION 3.32.075 [REDUCTION IN GENERAL TAX] OF CHAPTER 3.32 [TELEPHONE, GAS, WATER AND ELECTRICITY USERS TAX] OF TITLE 3 [REVENUE AND FINANCE] OF THE PORTOLA VALLEY MUNICIPAL CODE

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Town of Portola Valley wish to maintain the reduced 4.5 percent Utility User Tax imposed on all users of telecommunications, gas, water and electricity for an additional four years.

NOW, THEREFORE, the citizens of the Town of Portola Valley do **ORDAIN** as follows:

1. Amendment of Code. Section 3.32.075 [Reduction in General Tax] of Chapter 3.32 [Telephone, Gas, Water and Electricity Users' Tax] of Title 3 [Revenue and Finance] of the Portola Valley Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

3.32.075 Reduction in General Tax

The five and one-half percent taxes imposed on telephone users set forth in Section 3.32.040, electricity users set forth in Section 3.32.050, gas users set forth in Section 3.32.060, and water users set forth in Section 3.32.070 are each reduced to four and one-half percent for a period of four years from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2018.

2. Environmental Review. This ordinance is not a project for the purpose of the California Environmental Quality Act.

3. Effective Date; Posting. The effective date of this ordinance shall be 10 days after the date the Town Council declares the results of the election at which the ballot measure regarding this ordinance is adopted by a majority vote of the electors voting on the measure.

Effective Date: _____, 2013

ATTEST AS TO DATE:

Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ **Margaret A. Sloan**
Town Attorney

Impartial Analysis of Measure Q

This measure asks whether the people of Portola Valley wish to continue the reduction of the existing five and one-half percent (5.5%) Utility User's Tax levied on telephone, gas, water and electricity charges to four and one-half percent (4.5%) for a period of four years from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2018, at which time the tax will revert to five and one-half percent (5.5%). A "Yes" vote is in favor of continuing the reduction of the Utility User's Tax to four and one-half percent (4.5%). A "No" vote is not in favor of continuing the reduction of the Utility User's Tax, resulting in the tax reverting to and being collected at five and one-half percent (5.5%) effective July 1, 2014. In order for the tax to continue to be reduced to four and one-half percent (4.5%), the ballot measure must be approved by more than fifty percent (50%) of the voters voting on the measure.

The proceeds from the Utility User's Tax are deposited into the Town's General Fund and are expended for general governmental purposes, including, but not limited to, the maintenance of streets, parks, trails and drainage structures.

This ballot measure does not affect the Town's second Utility User's Tax, a two percent (2%) Utility Users Tax on telephone, gas, water and electricity charges, the proceeds of which are deposited into the Town's restricted Open Space Fund.

/s/ **Margaret A. Sloan**
Town Attorney for
Town of Portola Valley

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure Q. If you desire a copy of the Measure, please call the Town Clerk's Office at (650) 851-1700 extension 10 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you. A copy of the Measure may also be found at <http://www.portolavalley.net>.

**No Argument For or Against
Measure Q Submitted**