



Ballot Measure Primary Argument Submission Form

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A ballot argument shall not be accepted unless accompanied by this completed form, which shall contain the printed name(s) and signature(s) of the person(s) submitting it or, if submitted on behalf of a bona fide association of citizens/organization, the name of the association/organization and the printed name and signature of at least one of its principal officers.

Word count limit for Primary Arguments = 300

Ballot Measure I for the general election to be held on 11/8/16.

Primary Argument in Favor of Primary Argument Against

This argument is submitted by: (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/>	The Legislative Body of the City of Belmont If this argument is filed by the legislative body of the City of Belmont, fill in the name of the governing body below and fill in both sides of this form
Legislative Body:	
Contact Person's Printed Name:	Contact Person's Signature:
Title:	
Phone:	Email:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Member(s) of the Legislative Body of the City of Belmont If this argument is filed by any member(s) of the legislative body, fill in the information below and complete both sides of this form.
Member(s) of the Legislative Body:	Name of Legislative Body:
Contact Person's Printed Name:	Contact Person's Signature:
Title:	
Phone:	Email:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bona Fide Association of Citizens/Organization If this argument is filed by a bona fide association of citizens/organization, the signers of the argument must be affiliated with the association/organization, be authorized to sign the argument on its behalf, provide the printed name and signature of at least one principal officer of the organization, and complete both sides of this form.
Name of Association/Organization: <u>Belmont Citizens for Responsible Spending - Against Measure I</u>	
Principal Officer's Printed Name and Title: <u>Timothy E. Strinden, President</u>	[Redacted Signature]
Contact Person's Printed Name: <u>Timothy E. Strinden</u>	[Redacted Signature]

<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual signers must be eligible to vote on the measure.
Contact Person:	Phone:
Mailing Address:	
Fax:	Email:

Please complete the reverse side of this form.

Primary Argument Signers Form			Each signer must designate in which capacity they are signing. Check the one box that applies.			
<p>No more than five signatures shall appear with any argument. If more than five signatures are submitted, the first five listed shall be printed.</p> <p>Names and titles listed will be printed in the order that they are listed below.</p> <p>If the signers are part of a bona fide association/organization, there is no requirement that they be eligible to vote on the measure. However, for each such signing individual(s), the title under the signer's name shall list the name of that bona fide association/organization and may include their position within that association/organization.</p> <p>By signing below, the undersigned state that they have read the argument and believe it not to be false or misleading.</p>			Legislative Body of the City of Belmont	Member(s) of the Legislative Body of the City of Belmont	Bona Fide Association of Citizens/Organization	Individual(s) eligible to vote on the measure
1.	Name: Timothy E. Strinden	Title: retired federal auditor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	[Redacted]					
		Date: 8/19/16				
2.	Name: Dave Warden	Title: Vice President, Mid-Peninsula Water District	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	[Redacted]					
		Date: 8/19/2016				
3.	Name: Tran Tran	Title: Financial Controller	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	[Redacted]					
		Date: 8/19/16				
4.	Name: Bill Larsen	Title: retired criminal prosecutor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	[Redacted]					
		Date: 8-19-2016				
5.	Name: Gordon M. Seely, Ph.D.	Title: Professor of History Emeritus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	[Redacted]					
		Date: 8-19-2016				

Submit a second form (this side only) for alternate signers attached to this form and the argument.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Signers	<input type="checkbox"/> Registered	N/A	Signed	Dated
Bona Fide Association	<input type="checkbox"/> Verified	N/A	Signed	Dated

Argument Against Measure I

Belmont officials claim there is a “crisis” and “emergency” requiring a sales tax increase. Yet, the City’s financial condition is the best it’s been in many years. Expected new revenues are more than adequate to bring the City’s infrastructure (mainly streets and storm drains) up to par.

Furthermore, this is a **general** tax—not earmarked for infrastructure. The City could use it for any purpose. In fact, the City cannot legally say now how the funds will be used. We are giving the City a “**blank check**,” which can be spent on employee salaries, pensions, and literally whatever City Hall wants over the next 30 years.

Belmont’s financial reserves have increased by more than \$6 million over the past six years to \$9.7 million, which could be spent on streets and storm drains.

This improving revenue trend will only accelerate in future years, with new development projects contributing \$2-\$3 million more each year! This includes an estimated \$1.5 million per year in hotel taxes alone from the new Marriott and Hilton hotels.

Belmont could raise another \$700,000 each year just by increasing its hotel tax rate to 12%—matching most surrounding cities—with no added burden on our residents or businesses.

Estimated yearly revenue increases from new projects include approximately \$260,000 in property taxes, \$231,000 from Crystal Springs Uplands School (CSUS), and \$300,000 in rent from a new Clear Channel digital billboard!

These new revenues are **much higher** than the \$1.3 million the City expects to raise from this proposed tax. **Increasing our sales tax rate to 9.5%** would make Belmont’s rate higher than all cities in San Mateo County but one! This high sales tax will hurt our local retail businesses.

This sales tax increase is **not** needed and should be **rejected**. **Vote NO on Measure II!**

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