

PIEDMONT POST

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SERVING THE CITIZENS OF PIEDMONT

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Do you support Measure GG? Why? If this measure passes, how would you prioritize the funds generated by the measure?

I support GG.

The City of Piedmont delivers outstanding services to its citizens on a comparatively lean operating budget. Piedmonters benefit from safe streets, well-paved streets, responsive police and fire departments, beautiful parks, and engaging recreational programs at a lower-cost per capita than Berkeley, Oakland, and Emeryville. This is something of which we can all be proud.

City services today are under inflationary pressure from rising personnel costs, a competitive Bay Area employment market, aging infrastructure, and outdated technology. Without a significant commercial tax base, Piedmont has few levers to raise revenue.

Measure GG is a thoughtful approach to generate revenue in support of our current city services. The proposed increase, from 1.30% to 1.75 %, is comparable — and in many cases less — than the transfer tax for similarly priced homes in neighboring cities.

If measure GG passes, it will not represent a sudden windfall for the city; the funds will help enable the City to sustain its current level of service. If measure GG does not pass, more difficult discussions and prioritization of services will need to occur.

I encourage Piedmonters to support the city services we enjoy by voting yes on GG.