

Reminder: November 8 is Marina's Local Election

Among an unprecedented 17 state ballot measures, it's important to remember that this is also Marina's local municipal election. As Marina's Chiefs of Police and Fire, we want to make sure that in this busy election year our residents have the factual information they need to make an informed decision about Measure U, Marina's measure to update our existing Business License Tax (BLT) Ordinance.

Among other objectives, Measure U can help maintain current levels of police and fire services amid continued State funding takeaways, including a 40% reduction in gas tax revenues. Measure U will help the City of Marina address essential public safety services that help keep the community safe.

Marina's business tax rates have not changed since 1978. If Measure U is enacted, it would ensure smaller businesses pay lower amounts than larger corporations. Currently, there are 17 different BLT rates. If enacted, Measure U would eliminate the existing rate categories and establish a single rate based on 0.2% of gross receipts.

Like all city revenues, Measure U would be subject to strict fiscal accountability and responsible oversight by the City Council. Measure U funds are also subject to independent financial audits and yearly public reports to the community.

We encourage all eligible Marina voters to be informed and remember to vote this November 8th. You can read more about our local elections and Measure U by visiting www.ci.marina.ca.us.

Doug McCoun, City of Marina Fire Chief
Edmundo Rodriguez, City of Marina Chief of Police