

**TOWN OF
APPLE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA**

AGENDA MATTER

Subject Item:

**ADOPT A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE LOCAL TAXPAYER, PUBLIC SAFETY AND
TRANSPORTATION PROTECTION ACT OF 2010**

SUMMARY STATEMENT

A coalition of local government, transportation and transit advocates filed a constitutional amendment with the California Attorney General, called the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety, and Transportation Protection Act of 2010, for potential placement on California's November 2010 statewide ballot. Approval of this ballot initiative would close loopholes and change the constitution to further prevent State politicians in Sacramento from seizing, diverting, shifting, borrowing, transferring, suspending or otherwise taking or interfering with tax revenues dedicated to funding local government services, including redevelopment, or dedicated to transportation improvement projects and mass transit.

California's voters have repeatedly passed separate ballot measures to stop State raids of local government funds, and to dedicate the taxes on gasoline to fund local and State transportation improvement projects. With the State facing deficits in the tens of billions of dollars each year, however, the Legislature has increasingly turned to local governments to balance its budget. As a result of these ongoing raids on local funds, the League of California Cities, the California Redevelopment Association, the California Transit Association and the California Alliance for Jobs have sponsored the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Act of 2010. If passed by the voters in November 2010, the measure would:

- Prohibit the State from taking, borrowing or redirecting local taxpayer funds dedicated to public safety, emergency response and other vital local government services.
- Protect dedicated transportation and public transit funds, such as the sales tax on gasoline (Prop. 42 funds) and the Highway User Tax on gasoline, from State raids.
- Prevent the State from redirecting or taking public transit funds.
- Prevent the Legislature from taking or directing how locally imposed taxes such as parcel tax, utility users, transient occupancy and sales taxes may be expended.

This staff report requests that Council consider the endorsement of the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act of 2010, and authorize the listing of the Town of Apple Valley in support of this initiative.

Recommended Action:

That the Town Council adopt Resolution No. 2010-11 endorsing the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act of 2010, which is a proposed constitutional amendment and authorize the listing of the Town of Apple Valley in support of this initiative.

Proposed by: Linda Mayfield

Item Number _____

T. M. Approval: _____

Budgeted Item Yes No N/A

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-11

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY SUPPORT OF THE LOCAL TAXPAYER, PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION PROTECTION ACT OF 2010

WHEREAS, California voters have repeatedly and overwhelmingly passed separate ballot measures to stop State raids of local government funds, and to dedicate the taxes on gasoline to fund local and state transportation improvement projects; and

WHEREAS, these local government funds are critical to provide the police and fire, emergency response, parks, libraries, and other vital local services that residents rely upon every day, and gas tax funds are vital to maintain and improve local streets and roads, to make road safety improvements, relieve traffic congestion, and provide mass transit; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact that voters have repeatedly passed measures to prevent the State from taking these revenues dedicated to funding local government services and transportation improvement projects, the State Legislature has seized and borrowed billions of dollars in local government and transportation funds in the past few years; and

WHEREAS, this year's borrowing and raids of local government, redevelopment and transit funds, as well as previous, ongoing raids of local government and transportation funds have lead to severe consequences, such as layoffs of police, fire and paramedic first responders, fire station closures, stalled economic development, healthcare cutbacks, delays in road safety improvements, public transit fare increases and cutbacks in public transit services; and

WHEREAS, State politicians in Sacramento have continued to ignore the will of the voters, and current law provides no penalties when state politicians take or borrow these locally-dedicated funds; and

WHEREAS, a coalition of local government, transportation and transit advocates recently filed a constitutional amendment with the California Attorney General, called the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety, and Transportation Protection Act of 2010, for potential placement on California's November 2010 statewide ballot; and

WHEREAS, approval of this ballot initiative would close loopholes and change the constitution to further prevent State politicians in Sacramento from seizing, diverting, shifting, borrowing, transferring, suspending or otherwise taking or interfering with tax revenues dedicated to funding local government services, including redevelopment, or dedicated to transportation improvement projects and mass transit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Apple Valley, California, hereby:

1. Formally endorses the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act of 2010, a proposed constitutional amendment.
2. Authorizes the listing that the Town of Apple Valley is in support of the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act of 2010.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 23 day of February, 2010.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

TOWN CLERK