

Measure P Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2023



WHAT IS MEASURE P?

Measure P is a local sales tax of one-cent, approved by voters in 2022. Measure P will end after 9 total years.

WHEN MEASURE P WAS APPROVED, RIDGECREST RESIDENTS IDENTIFIED THEIR TOP PRIORITIES FOR REVENUE:

- A Community Pool: Rebuilding Pinney Pool
- Public Safety: Funding police officer positions
- Fire Services Response: Retaining our two local fire stations
- Quality of Life: Community Events and City Infrastructure

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FY 2023 MEASURE P OBJECTIVE SUMMARY

- 4 Police Officer Positions
- Kern County Fire Department Service Contract
- Pool Design and Engineering
- \$14M Pool Bond
- Pool Operations and Maintenance Costs
- Recruitment and Retention of City Staff
- Public Outreach and Events
- Additional Projects - as funding allows

REINSTATING POLICE OFFICERS

Measure P restored four police officer positions, enhancing 911 response and public safety. Combined with Measure V, this brings the total funded officer positions to 22.

In FY23, \$49,792 was spent on RPD positions, with more spending expected in FY24.

SGT. PINNEY AQUATICS COMPLEX

Measure P funds cover the initial \$55,958 spent on design and engineering for a new community pool, a key community priority.



MAINTAINING FIRE SERVICES

The FY23 cost of sustaining Ridgecrest's KCFD services (\$415,183) was covered by the General Fund and will be reimbursed by Measure P in FY24.

NEW CITY POSITIONS

Measure P funded 5 new City positions (\$44,222):

- a police dispatcher
- police records clerk
- HR administrator
- kennel attendant
- community events coordinator

Due to the short amount of time and unpredictable amount of revenue generated during FY23, the City took the advice of their auditor and borrowed from the General Fund to cover the FY23 fire service expenses. This is budgeted to be paid back to the General Fund during FY24.

Economic Development/ Public Outreach

Measure P provided \$56,438 for community building events such as “City Nights” and “Night on Balsam.”

These events were well attended by community members and continue to be under high demand.

Pool Bond and Operations/Maintenance

More than 1 ¼ Million in funds from FY23 were carried over to FY24. After paying back the General Fund for the Fire Services Contract and new personnel, there is ample revenue to help fund the pool bond and budget for operations and maintenance costs for the Sgt. Pinney Aquatic Center.

SUMMARY

Measure P generated 8% of the City of Ridgecrest's total tax revenue in the fourth quarter of FY23. These revenues were spent in accordance with the City's objectives and the Voter's wishes, already creating a positive impact in the community.