

RESOLUTION NO. 04-37

A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL DECLARING THE RIGHTS OF RIDGECREST CITIZENS TO HAVE QUALITY MUNICIPAL SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE, AND EXPRESSING THE CITY COUNCIL'S INTENTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS, DESIRES, AND DEMANDS OF THE COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, we, the residents of the City of Ridgecrest, are bound to one another as though we belonged to one large family; desiring life in a well-run, clean, secure and comfortable yet invigorating community; and

WHEREAS, the National Research Center Citizen Survey conducted in Ridgecrest in 2002 clearly showed our pride in our neighbors/our community, while non-the-less demanding major improvements in certain services; specifically infrastructure construction and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the Survey showed that while the vast majority of our community "feels safe" and enjoys a good relationship with City Police and other City Employees, it is clear that Police services must not be diminished because of, among other things, the intrusion of the drug counter-culture in the lives of our youth; and

WHEREAS, Ridgecrest has been sorely impacted by the cascading effects of the deficit spending of the California state government; having already lost over \$17 million to state raids on City coffers, having lost millions of dollars more in lost grant opportunities, and losing more City revenues every year in order to comply with the State's voracious demands; and

WHEREAS, citizens have recommended during open discussions that local sales tax revenue might be raised to counter the State's drain on the revenues needed to provide quality Police, other municipal services, and infrastructure construction and maintenance; in this way, not only local residents, but visitors who use our services and infrastructure would contribute to their support.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Ridgecrest, California, as follows:

1. The City Council is committed to provide the quality municipal services and infrastructure construction and maintenance that are needed, desired, and demanded by the people of this community, and are our rights as citizens of Ridgecrest.
2. The City Council will place on the November 2, 2004, Election Ballot a Measure that would, if passed by the electorate, impose a three-quarter cent Transaction Use Tax ("Local Option Sales Tax") on retail sales in the City of Ridgecrest, in order to support City General Fund services which are composed of Police, other municipal services, and infrastructure construction and maintenance.

3. The City Council directs Staff to report three (3) times annually, in open public meetings, the amount of available "Local Option Sales Tax" funds, how funds have been expended to date, and plans for expenditure of funds in the future, maintaining true to the public intent in the expenditure of said funds; receipt and balance of budgeted funds.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of June, 2004, by the following vote.

AYES:

NOES:

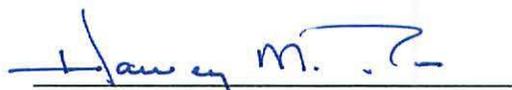
ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:



Ronald H. Carter, Mayor

ATTEST:



Harvey M. Rose
City Clerk