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PRESS RELEASE

Compton City Council Approves Measure Aimed At Repairing Local Streets, Parks and Enhancing Public Safety

Council vote authorizes special election and one percent sales tax ballot measure

COMPTON – Tuesday, Compton Mayor Aja Brown and the City Council voted to adopt a resolution consolidating a Special Municipal Election with the already scheduled Los Angeles County primary election on June 7, 2016. The Council adopted a resolution by a 5-0 vote to put the Vital City Services and Neighborhood Protection Measure on the ballot for voters to decide upon.

In June, Compton voters will be asked to approve the Vital City Services and Neighborhood Protection Measure, a proposed ordinance to add a one percent sales tax to fund repairing local streets, sidewalks and enhancing pedestrian street lighting. Additionally, the measure would provide funding for more public safety personnel including sheriffs, firefighters and paramedics, expand youth job training, gang and drug prevention programs, economic development, improve local parks and stabilize basic services throughout the City. The estimated annual revenue to the City of Compton if passed by voters will generate over $7 million annually and would require citizens’ oversight.

“This ordinance addresses an issue important for our residents —our streets,” said Mayor Aja Brown. “It addresses Compton’s urgent and critical infrastructure needs and if passed, voters will ensure that millions are allocated towards community reinvestment, including over $100 million to repave every Compton street, the creation of local jobs and the expansion of youth job training, gang and drug prevention programs. This measure will provide funding to meet
critical service needs—which our residents deserve—including adding a much-needed fire station on the City’s east side and providing additional sheriff’s personnel. I'm truly thankful for the support and leadership of the entire City Council. Teamwork makes the Vision work.”

First District Councilmember Janna Zurita added, “I understand how important fixing our streets are to our residents. Now Compton residents have a voice in moving Compton forward and not only getting our streets fixed but making sure that there is money for youth job training, gang and drug prevention programs and much needed improvements to our parks. It’s a win win for the City of Compton and its residents.”

“The one percent sales tax increase is not something I’m anxious to move forward,” stated newly appointed Third District Councilmember Tana L. McCoy. “However, I feel the public should have the right to vote on this proposal. The action taken Tuesday by the Council only gives the public the right to vote on the proposal and does not actually approve the one percent increase. I do recognize the need to improve our city’s streets, graffiti services and street maintenance at better and higher levels of service.”

In passing Tuesday’s resolutions Mayor Brown noted her strong partnership with Second District Councilmember Isaac Galvan who says his main priority is to secure Compton’s economic future.

The Vital City Services and Neighborhood Protection measure will appear on the City of Compton’s June 7, 2016 ballot.

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