

REBUTTAL TO THE ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE A

The opposing argument takes a very narrow view regarding the purpose, scope and scale of the proposed measure.

Existing funds from sustainable timber harvesting will continue to be responsibly utilized for community forest stewardship. But the forest alone was never intended to be overly burdened to fund all parks, open spaces, urban, regional, neighborhood and coastal access trails, habitat protection and maintenance efforts that span from the agricultural landscapes of the Arcata Bottom, Humboldt Bay, the Mad River and the forested hillsides.

This modest tax will provide dedicated funding that complements and supplements existing funding and leverages state/federal funding that contributes greatly to the high quality of life Arcata residents enjoy.

Contrary to the opposing argument, the City conducted numerous planning processes resulting in the development of plans/policies/projects that will be enabled by additional funding for expansion, maintenance, and improvement of parks, natural areas, open spaces, trails, creeks and waterways. This includes the General Plan, Climate Action Plan, Parks Master Plan, Open Space Protection Program, Western Greenbelt, Forest Management Plan and Creek and Wetlands Plan. This funding measure was discussed for years by Arcata's various advisory committees and City Council forums and recent polling of Arcata voters suggests strong support to expand and protect a legacy of natural areas, parks and trails for future generations.

PLEASE VOTE YES ON MEASURE A, and join our community of active supporters who support forward thinking green infrastructure investments that boost the economy, enhance community health and safety, and provide recreation, wildlife, and other benefits.

/s/ Michael J. Furniss, Principal, MJ Furniss and Associates

/s/ Jennifer Johnson, Owner, Adventure's Edge

/s/ Vivian Gerstein, Co-Captain of the Arcata High School Cross Country Team and the Humboldt Composite Mountain Bike Team

/s/ Dennis Rael, Founder of Los Bagels

/s/ Rees Hughes, Coordinator, Arcata Volunteer Trail Stewards