Argument in Favor of Measure E

We encourage you to vote yes to increase the Business License tax for recycling establishments such as Recology which operates at the northern end of Brisbane. This Measure affects recycling businesses with a volume of over 100,000 tons per year and will increase the maximum tax by $1 million up to a total of $4 million plus annual increases equal to 3% or changes to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), whichever is greater.

Why we need the increase in this Business License Tax? When this tax was originally approved by the voters of Brisbane, a cap of $3 million per year plus an annual CPI increase was adopted. While this has provided strong and reliable revenue for the City, the City and the affected business acknowledge that the tax should be higher, given the volume of activity.

This tax is but one of many revenue sources the community has adopted that provide for an expanded tax base and predictable and reliable revenues. Other efforts include an increase in hotel occupancy taxes, new business license taxes on liquid storage facilities and increasing fees on soil processing operations.

What is the Fiscal Benefit? This Measure will increase the allowable tax by $1 million per year as well as allow for an annual increase based on either changes to the CPI or 3%, whichever is greater. The funds generated from this tax will pay for general services of the City such as police, fire, and general community welfare.

Is this tax fair? This tax is a relatively small amount to the total revenue for this type of business activity. The City of Brisbane, the City of San Francisco and the affected business have worked together to agree on a fair and equitable tax.

SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY’S FISCAL HEALTH. VOTE YES ON MEASURE E

Date: August 1, 2017
Signed: 
Lori S. Liu, Mayor
City of Brisbane

Signed: 
W. Clarke Conway, Mayor Pro-tem
City of Brisbane

Signed: 
Madison Davis, Councilmember
City of Brisbane
Signed: Clifford R. Lentz, Councilmember
City of Brisbane

Signed: Terry O'Connell, Councilmember
City of Brisbane