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CITY OF BERKELEY  
CITY CLERK DEPARTMENT

## ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE M

**Measure M does not guarantee appropriate rehabilitation of our streets or the cessation of flooding.** Further, it enables funding of experimental technologies that may add to the cost of fixing our streets and sewers.

**After many years of under-funding and neglect, Berkeley's streets are in terrible condition.** The Metropolitan Transportation Commission ranks Berkeley streets near bottom (81<sup>st</sup>) among 98 cities. This is one problem area that has been extensively studied and for which clear cost estimates and solutions are available. Our City Auditor has made specific scientifically-based recommendations: to bring our streets into very good condition and reduce the unfunded streets liability to ZERO will take \$85 Million over five years and \$7.5 Million annual maintenance thereafter.

This is not what's proposed in Measure M. **Measure M doesn't insure that the streets chosen for remedial action are those indicated under Best Management Practices and the state-of-the-art *StreetSaver* program.** If the wrong streets are chosen, the overall cost will go up. Fixing streets BEFORE they fail costs far less than reconstructing failed streets (\$36 Thousand to \$309 Thousand per mile versus \$1.15 Million per mile).

**Berkeley has not had prudent fiscal governance.** Our employee costs have ballooned and are eating up moneys for vital needs. We have over \$500 Million in unfunded infrastructure need and ZERO dollars set aside to meet it. According to a recent voter survey, streets/sewers are top priority. We need the FACTS and a community-based consensus plan BEFORE Council presents ill-conceived tax measures to the voters. **Measure M is NOT a true start toward solving our street and sewer problem.**

**We can do better. Join us in voting NO on Measure M.**

**Berkeley Budget SOS**

**Committee for FACTS**

**LeConte Neighborhood Association**

**Northeast Berkeley Association (NEBA)**

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**Ted Edlin; President, Council of Neighborhood Associations (CNA); former Chair, Housing Advisory Commission; former Commissioner, Fire Safety Commission**