

Argument In Favor of Measure M

VOTE YES ON MEASURE M

It is a fact: our city streets are failing faster than we can repair them. If they are not repaired at a sustainable level now, the price tag for keeping them functional will escalate dramatically. Based on the City Auditor's 2011 report, fixing a street before it fails costs from **\$36,000 to \$306,000 per mile**. Reconstructing a street after it fails costs **\$1.15 million per mile**. 12% of our streets are currently "failed." If we do not act now our "failed" streets will escalate to 21% in 5 years.

Our city budget for street repair in 2014 is only \$3.6 million dollars. The current projection to keep all of our streets in good repair is \$46 million. **The longer we wait, the more expensive it will become.** At the end of five years the price tag escalates to roughly \$71 million.

At a cost of only \$30 per year for an average property, this bond measure will contribute \$30 million for our streets and allow us to make related improvements for watershed health and flood control.

Measure M is a wise investment in our town.

Without Measure M, the condition of our streets will continue to worsen and the City will be unable to fix them. When we refurbish a street, we will include watershed improvements such as permeable paving and bio-swales to reduce flooding and filter runoff. Measure M can also provide matching funds for grants for more extensive watershed health improvements: a win-win for the City of Berkeley. Let us take care of, and improve, our city's infrastructure now.

Make a wise investment in our city streets, provide matching funds for grants, create opportunity for watershed improvements.

Vote YES on Measure M.

1. Loni Hancock, State Senator
2. Linda Maio, Vice Mayor
3. Weldon Rucker, former City Manager
4. Margo Schueler, Public Works Commissioner
5. Sherry Smith, President and on behalf of the League of Women Voters, Berkeley, Albany and Emeryville

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