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CITY OF BERKELEY
CITY CLERK DEPARTMENT

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE N

Vote YES on N. Invest in the health and well-being of our City.

Berkeley has major disparities in health, based on race and income. Critical to the health and success of our youth is access to opportunities for exercise and recreation. Unfortunately, Berkeley has half as many public pools as it did two years ago.

We need Measure N to rebuild the Willard and Warm Water Pools and restore all of our pools.

Opponents of Measure N have presented a "sky is falling" picture of the city's fiscal health, **but these arguments are false.**

Berkeley's fiscal health is sound. We have a better bond rating (AA+) than most sovereign governments, and our debt payments make up only 2% of annual revenues. We are not verging on bankruptcy, and are in strong financial shape.

Opponents argue that the City shouldn't undertake any major project until it has cash to cover all unfunded liabilities, but this is just as **untrue** as saying a homeowner shouldn't repair his roof without having all the money in the bank to pay off his mortgage. To let our pools crumble and disappear is **pennywise and pound-foolish.**

Opponents have also **wildly exaggerated** the availability of other pools in Berkeley.

We need Measure N to ensure that all people throughout our city have access to pools for exercise, therapy, and recreation.

Don't give in to the misinformation. **Vote YES on N.** Invest in our pools for future generations and improve the health, value and success of our city.

/s/ Gordon Wozniak, Berkeley City Councilmember

/s/ Shahryar Abbasi, ASUC External Affairs Vice President

/s/ C. Mark Humbert, President, Neighborhood Association; Claremont-Elmwood resident

/s/ Lisa Stephens, Chair, Berkeley Rent Stabilization Board; former Chair, Parks & Recreation Commission

/s/ Thomas F. Killilea, ~~President, Berkeley PTA Council~~

Schools & parent leader