MEASURE G
TOWN OF LOOMIS

ADVISORY VOTE ONLY. If a local transactions and use tax is enacted in the Town of Loomis, should its revenue be used predominantly to support the continued operation of the Loomis library?

YES

NO

TOWN ATTORNEY’S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE G:
LOOMIS ADVISORY MEASURE

Measure G is an advisory vote of the citizens of Loomis concerning the expenditure of new Town of Loomis transaction and use tax revenues if Measure F is approved by the voters of the Town at this same election.

Advisory Measure G is not a tax and does not create or increase taxes. Rather, Measure G allows Town of Loomis voters to voice their opinions on whether new revenues received by the Town (if Measure F is approved at this election) should be used predominantly to support the continued operation of the Loomis library.

Advisory Measure G is not binding on the Town Counsel. Section 9603(c) of the California Elections Code states:

“... ‘advisory vote’ means an indication of general voter opinion regarding the ballot proposal. The results of the advisory vote will in no manner be controlling on the sponsoring legislative body.”

However, the Loomis Town Council has placed this Measure on the ballot to guide the Council in making future decisions concerning the expenditure of revenue from Measure F.

Jeffrey A. Mitchell
Town Attorney

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure G. If you desire a copy of the ordinance or measure, please call the Elections Division at (530) 886-5650 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.
**Argument in favor of Measure G**

This Advisory Measure directs the Town Council that the ¼ cent “sales” tax in Measure F should be used predominantly to support the library. It requires a simple majority vote of 50% plus one. This reinforces the citizens’ support for the library as shown in overflow turnout at Council meetings, pages of petition signers, and a professional voter survey showing community support for this tax. While an advisory measure is not legally binding on the Council, it makes clear to them what the community expects. In a small town such as Loomis, the community holds the Council accountable. It should be noted that the Council has shown its support by a full 5-0 vote in favor of this library and community learning center project. Measures F and G provide both funding and advisory direction to the Council on the funds’ use. A Yes vote on both Measures F and G means not simply a continuation of the Loomis Library but also its growing potential to meet today’s local community needs and expectations. Books, movies, music, storytime, computers and internet, newspapers, community room, programs and classes, events, a meeting place, literacy, interest groups, and much more. Your yes votes on F and G provide so much for so little!

By the “Measures F and G for Your Loomis Library” Campaign Committee, www.FundYourLoomisLibrary.com

Brian Baker  
Mayor Town of Loomis

Rhonda A. Morillas  
Council Member

Bonnie London  
President Friends of Loomis Library

Robert Ferreira  
President, Loomis Basin Chamber of Commerce

Ann R. Baker  
Loomis Union School District Trustee

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**Rebuttal to argument in favor of Measure G**

Measure G was placed on the ballot to undermine Proposition 13 and the Constitution's two-thirds vote requirement for tax increases. Another ballot measure, Measure F, proposes to increase sales taxes and it would have required a two-thirds vote under the California Constitution if it had dedicated the new tax revenues to the Loomis Library. Instead, Measure F was drafted as a general tax increase, which only requires a majority vote, and this measure was placed on the ballot to require that the tax revenues from Measure F be used for the Loomis Library. To protect Proposition 13 and the two-thirds vote requirement from this sneaky scheme, we need to send a message by voting NO on Measure G.

We object to this sort of “ballot box budgeting,” where voters are asked to set aside tax increases for library services without being allowed to transfer existing funds from less popular government programs to fund the library.

We believe that taxes are already too high, Loomis has more taxpayers’ money than ever before, and we don’t need a tax increase to fund the library. Instead of chasing consumers and businesses out of town with tax increases, we should be encouraging local business activity. Furthermore, if taxes must be increased, the funds should be available for vital public services, not permanently dedicated to a single purpose. Libraries are wonderful, but other government services are also important.

Please vote NO on Measure G.

David P. Harris  
Resident, Loomis

Ed Rowen  
President, Placer County Republican Assembly

Debra Jackson  
Chairman, Placer Tea Party

Dan Sokol  
Past President, League of Placer County Taxpayers

Jean Pagnone  
Treasurer, Placer County Taxpayers Association
Libraries are important, but it makes no sense to lock-in a permanent revenue stream for them when we know that Loomis may have many other pressing needs in the future. Road maintenance, road widening, public safety, and fire protection are critical priorities for our community, so it would be a mistake to prevent future tax revenues from being used for these things instead of library expenses. The future is always difficult to predict, but we know that library expenses will not always be the top priority for Loomis, so we must oppose this measure.

This misguided proposal was placed on the ballot as part of a deliberate scheme to undermine Proposition 13 and the Constitution’s two-thirds vote requirement for tax increases. Another ballot measure, Measure F, proposes to increase sales taxes and it would have required a two-thirds vote under the California Constitution if it had dedicated the new tax revenues to the Loomis Library. Instead, Measure F was drafted as a general tax increase, which only requires a majority vote, and this measure was placed on the ballot to require that the tax revenues from Measure F would support the Loomis Library. To protect Proposition 13 and the two-thirds vote requirement from this kind of scheme, we need to send a message by voting NO on Measure G.

Technology is changing the way we read books and use libraries. We should not permanently dedicate tax dollars to an old-fashioned library in a way that could prevent us from responding to technological changes and future community needs. We should not encourage the politicians who want to trick us into raising our taxes, which are already too high, by promising to spend the revenues on libraries.

Please vote NO on Measure G.

Thomas N. Hudson
Executive Director, California Taxpayer Protection Committee

Ed Rowen
President, Placer County Republican Assembly

Debra Jackson
Chairman, Placer Tea Party

Jean Pagnone
Treasurer, Placer County Taxpayers Association

Rebuttal to argument against Measure G

A library gives a small town a vibrant hub for learning and gathering.

Opponents don’t know the measure or the community. Measures F and G come from grassroots demand to keep a library here, not from devious politicians. Measure F is for 10 years, not permanent. Fire protection is a separate district. The money is to be “predominantly” for the library. The Town is fiscally conservative, and its budget can’t cover a library, so this extra money is needed for a sustainable library community center. The lease is only $1 a year. The library will be managed under Friends of the Library as employer, with a conservative budget to adjust to Town revenues. This is a sound measure.

Of course technology changes libraries. We will have traditional books and kids programs, but also Internet, audio books, eBooks, DVDs, CDs, public computers, tech programs for kids and adults (Get Grandma on Facebook!), tax help, literacy work, speakers and events, classes and discussion groups, Loomis history exhibit, as well as community room space under local control and available inexpensively for community use.

With Measures F and G, we will keep a library in Loomis that is responsive to our needs, is able to change with the times, and will reflect the values and sense of community that is the heartbeat of Loomis. Outsiders like our opponents may not understand, but Loomis residents do. That’s why we chose to live here.

Please vote Yes on Measures F and G.

(www.FundYourLoomisLibrary.com)