

The New Measure A INDEPENDENT TAXPAYER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (ITOC)

FACT SHEET



An Independent Perspective

The Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee (ITOC) is a key component of Measure A, the Countywide half-percent transportation sales tax program that was extended by Sacramento County voters in 2004 for a 30-year term.

As mandated by the Measure A Ordinance and Expenditure Plan, the ITOC was created to provide an increased level of accountability for the allocation and expenditure of Measure A revenues—an independent forum to ensure taxpayers that the program is functioning as promised.

The ITOC consists of individuals with a breadth of relevant professional experience who offer STA the benefit of their collective insight to promote the efficient and timely delivery of Measure A projects. The ITOC conducts its activities in an open manner at publicly-noticed meetings. It provides regular reports to the STA Governing Board on program implementation, along with recommendations for enhancing the fiscal integrity and performance of the Measure A Program.

The ITOC is a functional partner to the STA—providing independent oversight of the expenditure of Measure A funds and generating recommendations to the STA Board regarding implementation of the Measure A program over time.

ITOC Roles and Responsibilities

The ITOC has a number of responsibilities to ensure that Measure A is successfully implemented according to the voter-approved Ordinance and Expenditure Plan:

- Conduct annual fiscal and compliance audits of STA and agencies that receive Measure A revenues.
- Present an annual report to the STA Board on the audit findings and recommendations
- Develop program performance standards for project delivery, cost control, schedule adherence, and other applicable activities.

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ITOC Roles and Responsibilities

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- Conduct periodic performance audits of STA and agencies that receive Measure A revenues.
- Review and report on the delivery status of Measure A capital projects and on-going programs.
- Provide recommendations as part of the 10-year Expenditure Plan review process.
- Review proposed debt financing plans to ensure that the benefits of accelerated project delivery exceed the cost of debt issuance.

The ITOC carries out these duties in a manner that encourages useful analysis without causing unnecessary project delays. The public is welcome to attend and testify at ITOC meetings.

What is Measure A?

Travel throughout Sacramento County and you'll see highway improvements, light rail extensions, bus routes, newly paved streets, and bike lanes that were funded, at least in part, by the County's \$1.5 billion Measure A transportation sales tax program which expires in 2009. Measure A provides an important local match for state and federal transportation investments in the County.

In November 2004, more that 75% of voters Countywide approved a new Measure A program to 2039. This 30-year extension will generate more than \$10 billion in sales tax and new development impact fee revenues for transportation improvements, operations, and maintenance. The STA Board has already begun to deliver some critical projects by accelerating the availability of funds through the issuance of public debt.

