



SOLANO COUNTY TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Update by Michael Nolan, President

July 24, 2018

The Solano County Taxpayers Association (SCTA) has been busy as part of our stated purpose of "efficiency in government; stimulate the public interest in civic affairs; effect reduction in taxes; assist governments by studying and recommending regional policies."

Last week we filed with the State Supreme Court an "amicus" letter supporting the effort to knock the scheme to dissolve California into three new states off the ballot. Just the fact that this plan might be adopted would cause political and economic chaos for the state for which the people would have to pay. Proposition 9 was not a well thought out proposition. For instance, a dozen school and community college districts would be split apart because their boundaries would cross the new state lines. The Supreme Court in a unanimous order removed Proposition 9 from the 2018 ballot stating "because significant questions have been raised regarding the proposition's validity and because we conclude that the potential harm in permitting the measure to remain on the ballot outweighs the potential harm in delaying the proposition to a future election." After a hearing the Court may decide to put it in the 2020 ballot.

On the local front, the Citizen's Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) is working on their "annual report" on Measure Q as required by law. They have issued an interim report which is available on their website <dixonmeasureq.com> under their May 16, 2018 meeting.

We continue to try to make the Dixon Unified School District comply with their promise to the Voters and SCTA in regards to 2016's Measure Q school bond.

One of the primary projects financed by Measure Q is the reconstruction of Old Dixon High School on 455 East A Street to turn it into a fully operational Middle School for approximately 900 students after having been dormant for the last 10+ years. SCTA and nearby residents are concerned the proposed Middle School will have devastating traffic impacts on the surrounding community. The District attempted to exempt themselves from compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) which requires local agencies to identify and mitigate environmental impacts their project may have on the community.

Last Thursday's School Board Agenda listed "CEQA Information, Discussion, Action of the findings of the traffic study and the next steps." However, other than a few Power Point slides NO other background material were provided to the public for review. The District's environmental consultant admitted NO background material available for the public to review either on the website or at the District office because the traffic study report had not been written. At the meeting a Dixon resident, who lives in the vicinity, questioned if the study considered "future and anticipated development in Dixon." She pointed out that the consultant's proposed "traffic analysis" did not include all the streets in the downtown area that will be impacted by traffic. She called the District's efforts a "sham". In response the consultant told the Board that it was unknown at this time how long it would be to compose the "traffic study" report, however, the Board decided to discuss it at their September meeting, at which time it would be available to the public.

SCTA is asking concerned residents to help SCTA ensure the District mitigates their impacts on the community. Please contact SCTA at solanotaxpayers@sbcglobal.net email address if you want to help make sure community impacts from the new middle school are mitigated.