

ORDINANCE NO. .

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE EXISTING ONE-HALF CENT RETAIL TRANSACTIONS (SALES) AND USE TAX IN THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO FOR GENERAL FUND PURPOSES FOR A PERIOD OF AN ADDITIONAL TWENTY (20) YEARS

WHEREAS, the County of San Mateo continues to face demand for, and expenses in providing, essential County services and facilities that its residents rely on, such as:

- Providing affordable homes for seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, and families;
- Maintaining transit services for the elderly and people with disabilities;
- Combatting human trafficking;
- Maintaining emergency operations and 911 police, fire, and paramedic dispatch;
- Maintaining child abuse protection programs;
- Maintaining healthcare for low-income children, seniors and people with disabilities;
- Maintaining fire and emergency medical (paramedic) response;
- Maintaining pre-school, after-school and library programs for children and teens, including reading programs and homework centers;
- Addressing the effects of sea level rise;
- Keeping County parks open;

- Maintaining countywide gang and drug task forces;
- Providing neighborhood health clinics; and

WHEREAS, the Board is considering whether to use general funds to further develop long-term solutions to the local affordable housing crisis;

WHEREAS, on November 6, 2012, the voters of the County of San Mateo approved “Measure A,” a half-cent sales tax to be in effect for ten years and currently scheduled to sunset in 2023;

WHEREAS, the voters’ approval of Measure A and the subsequent sales tax revenues received as a result of Measure A have allowed the County to preserve and enhance existing programs and services as well as launch innovative initiatives like the Big Lift, a \$15 million County investment in childhood literacy, in addition to funding a variety of needs, including a new public safety dispatch center, farmworker housing, summer reading programs, paratransit transportation, and library and parks renovations;

WHEREAS, Measure A is codified as Chapter 5.152 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code, and the instant ordinance amends Section 5.152.160 to extend the existing tax for an additional 20 years, to 2043;

WHEREAS, the Board has concluded that continuation of the current sales tax is critical to the continued provision of essential County services;

WHEREAS, the Board has the authority pursuant to Section 2 of Article XIII C of the California Constitution, section 53723 of the California Government Code, and section 7285 of the California Revenue and Taxation Code to levy, increase, or extend a transactions and use tax throughout the County of San Mateo subject to approval by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the entire county.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, **ORDAINS** as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 5.152.160 of Chapter 5.152 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code, is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

SECTION 5.152.160. SUNSET. The tax imposed by this Chapter shall be imposed from the Operative Date of the tax as defined in section 5.152.020 of this Chapter through and including March 31, 2043, and, thereafter, shall no longer be imposed.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall take effect thirty days after its final adoption by the Board of Supervisors by a two-thirds vote, or upon adoption by a majority vote of the electorate of the ballot measure described in paragraphs 6 and 7 of Resolution No. 074680 of this Board of Supervisors, whichever date is later, provided that the ordinance shall only take effect if it is approved by both the Board of Supervisors and the electorate.