

# THE *Measure “T”* CITIZENS’ OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (COC) FACT SHEET

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## **An Independent Perspective**

The Citizens’ Oversight Committee (COC) is a key component of the *Measure “T”*, local half-cent sales tax for regional transportation improvements that was passed by the Madera County voters in 2006 for 20 years.

As mandated by the *Measure “T”* Administrative Code, the COC was created to provide an increased level of accountability for the allocation of *Measure “T”* revenues to ensure that the program is functioning as promised.

The COC is comprised of seven members: five represent each of the Madera County supervisorial districts in addition to two “at-large” members. The COC conducts its work in such a way as to ensure that its deliberations are conducted in an open, public manner. The COC’s positions on key *Measure “T”* issues are regularly presented to the MCTC Board of Directors and its policy advisory committees.

The seven members of COC are playing a key role in shaping Madera County’s transportation future as they work diligently to ensure that the *Measure “T”* program is a success.

## **COC Roles and Responsibilities**

The COC has a number of responsibilities to ensure that the implementation of the *Measure “T”* program is successful and carried out in accordance with the voter-approved Investment Plan. These include:

- Receive, review, inspect and recommend action on independent financial and performance audits related to the Measure;
- Receive, review, and recommend action on other periodic reports, studies and plans from responsible agencies. Such reports, studies and plans must be directly related to Measure programs, revenues, or expenditures;



- Review and comment upon Measure expenditures to ensure that they are consistent with the Investment Plan;
- Annually review how sales tax receipts are being spent and publicize the results; and
- Present Committee recommendations, findings, and requests to the public and the Authority in a formal annual report.

In carrying out its list of duties, the COC strives to work in such a manner that does not cause unnecessary project delays, but allows for sufficient time to make objective recommendations.



**What is Measure “T”?**

The Madera County Transportation Authority (MCTA) was established to administer the proceeds of Measure “T”. In 2006 Madera County voters approved Measure “T” the half-cent sales tax for local transportation projects.

Measure “T” is a twenty-year program that funds highway and road capital projects, street maintenance, pedestrian and bicycle improvements, and public transit enhancements

that: improve traffic safety; relieve traffic congestion; and leverage other state and federal funds.

Measure “T” is projected to yield approximately \$213 million for transportation projects in Madera County through 2027.

The MCTA administers Measure “T” revenues through a planning and programming process, which includes an Expenditure Plan and Annual Work Program. Per Authority policy, the AWP is prepared annually and serves as the annual funding authority for the Measure “T” program.

The Annual Work Program recognizes funds available for projects according to the Measure “T” Investment Plan and outlines each local jurisdiction’s Annual Expenditure Plan with respect to the available funds.



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