

Measure L Citizens' Oversight
Committee Report
2014-2015

July 6, 2016

Committee Report Requirement

Ridgecrest Municipal Code Chapter 3 Section 2.117

- (1) Review all appropriations of revenues received by the City from the sales and use taxes imposed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter to determine whether such funds are to be used as provided for in this chapter and the voter-approved measure that adopted this chapter;
- (2) Reviewing the audit prepared by an independent auditor retained by the City to perform the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report to determine whether such funds have been spent as provided for in this chapter and the voter approved measure; and
- (3) Prepare and issue the committee's own annual report setting forth their findings in regard to the foregoing

Measure L ballot to be voted on June 5, 2012. Measure L will “established a locally-controlled source of revenue for community’s services”.

Service priorities to be maintained by Measure L:

- Police officers & neighborhood police patrols
 - City streets & pothole repair
 - 9-1-1 emergency response times
- Anti-gang programs that keep youth off the streets
 - Crime prevention & investigation

Measure L information flyer

MLCOC Information

- Financial information
 - CAFR with independent auditor assessment
 - Measure L Budget plan and actual
 - Measure L monthly funding receipts
 - Expenditure reports traceable to Measure L income total
- Activity Information
 - Public Safety: Personnel and equipment expenditure
 - Public Works: Personnel , equipment, and street maintenance listing



New Roller

Measure L Funding

	Fiscal Year	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Carry Over From Prior Years: Measure L			\$ 316,758	\$ 400,313
Revenue		\$ 1,499,559	\$ 2,510,692	\$ 2,613,889
Expenditures		\$ 1,182,801	\$ 2,427,137	\$ 2,208,507
Public Safety		\$ 809,423	\$ 1,347,490	\$ 1,404,207
Public Works		\$ 357,994	\$ 1,079,647	\$ 804,300
Measure L accounting implementation		\$ 15,384		
Revenue over(under) expenditures- General Fund		\$ 316,758	\$ 400,313	\$ 805,695

Year 2014-2015 funded Public Safety and Public Works.

- Public Safety funded labor for twelve (12) officers, one (1) dispatcher, two (2) record clerks and one (1) code enforcement officer. Funding did not support material expenditures.
- Public Works funds were used to for a Crack Filling machine , street maintenance raw material and street maintenance (contract and city public works personnel). The streets include 6 paved street segments and prepped 7 streets (multiple segments).

Street Paved	Start	Finish
Gold Canyon	Cashmere	Pierce School
Upjohn	Forest Knoll	Sunland
Upjohn	Desert Candles	Karin
Upjohn	Silver Ridge	Holly Canyon
Fountain	Upjohn	Church
Drummond	Inyo	Downs

Streets Prepped	
Downs	Norma
Las Flores	Ward
Upjohn	Mahan
Dolphin	



Cracker Filler

Paved Streets: Measure FY14-15 Funding



Gold Canyon 0.7miles
from Pierce School



Upjohn from Holly Canyon



Drummond from Downs



Fountain from Church



Upjohn from Forrest Knoll

Prepped Streets: Measure FY14-15 Funding



Gateway from Upjohn



Norma from Drummond



Ward from Mahan



Mahan from Las Flores



Las Flores from Downs



Downs from Ridgecrest Blvd



Upjohn from Guam



Dolphin from Downs

Findings

- Measure L funds were allocated entirely to Public Safety and Public Works for the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 consistent with the prior Measure L funded years
- During Fiscal Year 2014-2015, Measure L revenue was planned to contribute 18.5% of the \$14.1M
- Street repair for the 4 lane arterials of Ridgcrest are expected to be completed during 2016 (Gateway Street). Prior to Measure L funding, street repair was predominantly pothole repairs
- Annual spending on streets maintenance is less than \$1.5M over 15 years as recommended to achieve overall improvement of the street network (reference Public Works' Pavement Management System study dated June 1, 2011 by Willdan Engineering)
- Measure L is used to pay close to half of the police officers for Fiscal Year 2014-2015
- In the near future TAB funding for street work will end. Measure L funding may essentially be the only major source for any street services, including Measure L matching funding qualifications.

Recommendations

- The tracking of Measure L expenditures has improved. The funds are clear as to how they have been expended. While streets maintenance and the Police Department staffing levels are unsustainable without Measure L Funds, it is critical that the City Council put another tax initiative on the ballot which sustains funding of Public Safety and Public Works.
- It is also recommended that the \$805,695 of carryover be used solely on street maintenance and repair and that Measure L Funds be used to maintain the current level of Police Department staffing/services.
- The Engineering Division has been applying for Federal and State funding. It is recommended that a budget is set aside from Measure L to ensure that matching funds, which are required, are available to ensure community projects can be completed with any grants received by the City.
- The expected updated 2016 report of Pavement Management System shall provide the City Council recommended levels of street repair planning which would achieve acceptable overall street condition level within 10-15 years. City Council support to executing to the report plan is recommended, notwithstanding the decision for a continued local sales tax.