



**CITY OF LARKSPUR
Staff Report**

August 3, 2022, City Council Meeting

DATE: July 25, 2022

TO: Honorable Mayor Hillmer and the Larkspur City Council

FROM: Dan Schwarz, City Manager
Shannon O'Hare, Assistant to the City Manager

SUBJECT: POLICY FOR THE USE OF REVENUES GENERATED BY THE *LARKSPUR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES MEASURE*, ESTABLISHING THE CITY STORM DRAIN SYSTEM AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AS THE PRIORITY USES OF FUNDS

ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt the attached resolution outlining priority uses for the *Larkspur Disaster Preparedness and Essential Services Measure*.

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND

At its July 20, 2022, meeting, the Larkspur City Council waived the first reading and introduced Ordinance 1059 to impose a one-quarter cent transactions and use tax for disaster preparedness and essential services to be approved by voters. The Ordinance is before the Council for a second reading and adoption at the August 3, 2022, City Council meeting. Should the Council adopt the Ordinance, the one-quarter cent transaction and use tax (sales tax) will be placed on the November 8, 2022, ballot as the *Larkspur Disaster Preparedness and Essential Services Measure*.

It has been the City's practice with previous sales tax measures (Measure C and Measure B) to set a policy that enumerates the general parameters for how funds from the measure will be used. The measure is a general tax and its ultimate use is an annual decision of the Council with input and advice from staff and the Citizens Oversight Committee. Adopting a policy statement emphasizes for voters that the City is seeking this measure not to supplement the General Fund but to address concerns for which the City is struggling to identify a revenue source. The policy will take effect should the measure pass.

The Council directed staff to bring a measure before voters with the intent that funds from the measure be primarily used on infrastructure and essential services that are vital to the Larkspur community's well-being and safety but have no existing revenue source to adequately fund. The Council wants to

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underscore that the primary purpose of the measure is to 1) address the needed repairs and retrofits to Larkspur's storm drain system 2) provide additional investment in local disaster preparedness efforts. To that end, it is proposed that the Council adopt the following policy statement that shall be in effect if the *Larkspur Disaster Preparedness and Essential Services Measure* is approved by voters.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact with the passage of this policy.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Council adopt the attached resolution.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Schwarz, City Manager

Attachments

1. Resolution

CITY OF LARKSPUR
RESOLUTION 63/22

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LARKSPUR
ADOPTING A POLICY FOR THE USE OF REVENUES GENERATED BY THE
LARKSPUR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES MEASURE,
ESTABLISHING STORM DRAIN MAINTENANCE AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
AS THE PRIORITY USE OF FUNDS**

WHEREAS, on August 3, 2022, the City Council approved an ordinance placing the *Larkspur Disaster Preparedness and Essential Services Measure* (the Measure) on the November 8, 2022 ballot; and

WHEREAS, the City Council placed the *Larkspur Disaster Preparedness and Essential Services Measure* on the ballot following a lengthy process to assess the needs of the City and gauge public opinion and support for such a measure; and

WHEREAS, the City Council placed the *Larkspur Disaster Preparedness and Essential Services Measure* on the ballot following a lengthy process to assess the needs of the City and gauge public opinion and support for such a measure; and

WHEREAS, a significant priority of the community is that the City address the condition of Larkspur’s critical infrastructure including its storm drain system to prevent flooding, road damage, and spills of contaminated water – a network that is estimated to need \$20-30 million in repairs to maintain the deteriorating system as well as retrofits to meet new engineering and environmental wastewater quality standards; and;

WHEREAS, the community also places a high priority on emergency/medical response, 9-1-1services, and creating local disaster preparedness programs and efforts to help Larkspur prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters and emergency events; and

WHEREAS, any remaining funds from the Measure shall be spent on other permissible government purposes to create a sustainable and vibrant community including public safety and other essential services identified in the *Larkspur Disaster Preparedness and Essential Services*; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LARKSPUR DOES
RESOLVE, DECLARE, DETERMINE, AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:**

With respect to revenues from the *Larkspur Disaster Preparedness and Essential Services Measure* on the November 8, 2022, ballot, it shall be the policy of the Larkspur City Council to prioritize the City’s storm drain system and invest in City disaster preparedness programs and initiatives. The remaining amount will be directed to other community improvements or to other permissible governmental purposes, including but not limited to public safety and the other essential services identified in the *Larkspur Disaster Preparedness and Essential Services Measure*, as appropriate.

8.4 ATTACHMENT 1

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the City Council of the City of Larkspur duly introduced and regularly adopted the foregoing resolution at a regular meeting held on August 3, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBER:

NOES: COUNCILMEMBER:

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBER:

ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBER:

Dan Hillmer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Alison Foulis, City Clerk