

Frequently Asked Questions About Merced's Cannabis Commercial Business Measure Y



Q: What is Measure Y?

A: On March 6, 2018, the Merced City Council unanimously finalized and placed the Merced Commercial Cannabis Business Measure Y on the June 5th ballot. Measure Y is a local cannabis commercial business measure that, if enacted by voters, will provide locally-controlled funding to maintain and protect police, fire, parks and recreation services.

Q: Why was Measure Y placed on the ballot?

A: Over the last 10 years, the State has taken millions of dollars in locally controlled funding from Merced. The Merced City Council placed Measure Y on the ballot to provide funding for public safety services and parks and recreation services within the City. In a recently conducted survey, over 62% of Merced residents felt that crime in general has increased over the last few years. The Council decided to place this measure on the ballot to ensure that the City has an independent source of locally-controlled revenue to:

- Provide rapid responses to neighborhood fires
- Retain qualified police officers
- Prevent gang activity in the City and preventing youth violence and drug use
- Maintaining neighborhood-based policing to make areas surrounding parks safer
- Protect and maintain 9-1-1 emergency response times

Q: How would Measure Y help maintain and improve our public safety and parks and recreation services?

A: Measure Y provides funds for Merced's local public safety, parks and recreation services by ensuring that those involved in the cannabis industry pay their fair share for the business they conduct in our city. If enacted by voters, Measure Y funds are legally required to only be used for police, fire, parks and recreation services.

Q: What does Measure Y cost?

A: Measure Y is not a tax on residents or their property. If enacted, Measure Y taxes commercial cannabis growers at 10% of gross receipts or \$25 per square foot of cultivation space, which would generate about \$1 million every year. Funds from this measure would be subject to strict accountability provisions, including annual audits and independent citizen's oversight of all funds to ensure funds are spent efficiently and responsibly. By law, Measure Y funds can only be used for police, fire, parks and recreation services, and cannot be used for other purposes.

Q: When is the Election?

A: June 5th, 2018. To register to vote online and for more information, please visit the Merced county elections department at www.co.merced.ca.us/225/Elections

Q: How can I get more information about Measure Y?

A: For more information, please visit www.cityofmerced.org