



August 31, 2020

VIA U.S. MAIL

Jon Coupal
Chairman of the Board
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Foundation
621 Westmoreland Ave., Suite 202
Los Angeles, CA 90005-3962

Jon Coupal
Chairman of the Board
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Foundation
921 11th Street, Ste. 1201
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Carson's Sales Tax Information Activities

Dear Mr. Coupal:

I am the City Attorney for the City of Carson ("City"), and I am writing to you in reference to your letter dated August 24, 2020, concerning the City's activities and expenditures in relation to the City's sales tax measure placed on the November 3, 2020, general municipal election ("Letter"). Thank you for your concern and for reaching out to the City on this important issue.

The City understands the importance of ensuring that public funds are not utilized to advocate for or against the City's proposed sales tax measure for the November 3, 2020, general municipal election ("Sales Tax Measure") and the City has no intention of utilizing public funds for such purposes. However, it is important that City residents know and understand how the Sales Tax Measure works, the City's fiscal status, and other similar information in order to make an informed decision. As such, the City plans to engage in important informational activities in relation to the Sales Tax Measure as permitted by applicable law.¹

We thank you again for your interest in the City and Sales Tax Measure. Should you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at 949-223-1170.

¹ *Stanson v. Mott*, 17 Cal. 3d 206, 221 (1976); *See also Vargas v. City of Salinas*, 46 Cal. 4th 1, 27 (2009) [Validating city's communications regarding local initiative when city conveyed past and present facts relating to initiative, avoided inflammatory rhetoric, did not urge voters to vote in particular manner, and disseminated information through website and regular circulation of city's official newsletter].

Jon Coupal
August 31, 2020
Page 2

Very truly yours,

ALESHIRE & WYNDER, LLP



Sunny K. Soltani
Partner

SKS:RK

cc: Mayor Albert Robles, via email
Mayor Pro Tem Jim Dear, via email
Council Member Lula Davis-Holmes, via email
Council Member Jawane Hilton, via email
Council Member Cedric L. Hicks, Sr., via email
Sharon Landers, via email
John Raymond, via email