

## Argument in Favor of Measure I-18

The passage of Proposition 64 legalized recreational cannabis in California and gave local governments the responsibility to provide oversight and regulations. Currently, the City of Paso Robles does not allow cannabis business activity other than deliveries to residences, but additional cannabis activities could someday be authorized. It is important to impose a reasonable and fair taxation of commercial cannabis businesses within the City, and protect local control.

Measure I-18 places a general tax on commercial cannabis businesses, which can protect the City in the event increased enforcement is needed. If approved, this would generate about \$15,000 per year; supporting street maintenance, police, fire, parks, recreation, and other programs. It does not amend the City's existing cannabis business regulations or authorize new or additional types of cannabis businesses.

The City's goals in regulating commercial cannabis businesses are to: reduce and eliminate the black market for cannabis; establish reasonable and comprehensive regulations that preserve the health and safety of our community; provide access to medical cannabis for those who benefit from its use; establish a new source of funding that benefits the community; and create a fair and reasonable tax structure that supports legally operated cannabis businesses.

Measure I-18 will be implemented with tightly regulated processes, which will necessarily impose additional costs on the City. All programs funded will be subject to oversight and review, and fully audited. Whether or not you support Proposition 64, it is important to ensure that legally operating cannabis business operations, such as cultivation and manufacturing, be fairly taxed. Measure I-18 is fiscally responsible, timely and prudent, and similar to a tax approved by the voters for the unincorporated areas of the County.

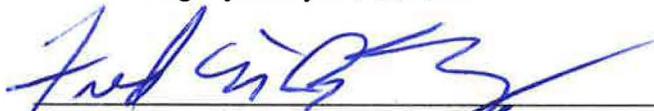
Your "YES" vote on Measure I-18 shows your support for protecting the values, quality of life, and health and wellness of the residents of the City of Paso Robles.



Steven Martin, Mayor



Steve Gregory, Mayor Pro-Tem



Fred Strong, Councilmember



Matt McClish

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# ARGUMENTS

## FORM OF STATEMENT TO BE FILED BY AUTHORS OF ARGUMENTS

All arguments concerning measures filed pursuant to Division 9, Chapter 3 (beginning with § 9200) of the Elections Code shall be accompanied by the following form statement **to be signed** by each proponent, and by each author, if different, of the argument:

The undersigned proponent(s) or author(s) of the primary argument **in favor of** ballot proposition **I-18** at the **General Municipal Election** for election for the **City of Paso Robles** to be held on **November 6, 2018** hereby state that the argument is true and correct to the best of (his/her/their) knowledge and belief.

Print Name <u>Steve Martin</u> Title <u>Mayor</u>	Signature <u>[Signature]</u> Date <u>7-2-18</u>
Print Name <u>STEVE GREGORY</u> Title <u>MAYOR Pro-TEM</u>	Signature <u>[Signature]</u> Date <u>7-2-18</u>
Print Name <u>Fred Strong</u> Title <u>City Council Member</u>	Signature <u>[Signature]</u> Date <u>7-2-18</u>
Print Name <u>Matt McElish</u> Title _____	Signature <u>[Signature]</u> Date <u>7/2/18</u>
Print Name _____ Title _____	Signature _____ Date _____