

TaxpayersAdvocate.org

7770 Regents Road, Suite 113-286 • San Diego CA 92122-1967 • 619-857-1857 • Fax 619-615-2025
info@taxpayersadvocate.org • www.taxpayersadvocate.org

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Contact:
Scott Barnett
President
619-857-1857

Prop E to Cost Carlsbad over \$50 Million

1389 Jobs & \$2.6 Million Annually Lost – Will Require Eminent Domain Action

San Diego—TaxpayersAdvocate.org today released an independent critical analysis of Carlsbad Proposition E, demonstrating harsh impacts if the measure passes November 7th. TaxpayersAdvocate.org retained Rea & Parker Research www.rea-parker.com to undertake the review of the July 2006 RSG report, commissioned by the City of Carlsbad.

“Prop E will cost Carlsbad taxpayers \$50.1 million to purchase the land, result in a future loss of \$2.6 million annually, and cost up to 1389 jobs,” said Scott Barnett, president of TaxpayersAdvocate.org.

Eminent Domain Action Required to Maintain Agricultural Uses Mandated under Prop E

A key provision of Proposition E is the maintenance of agricultural uses on the subject properties.

“Cities cannot require a property owner to maintain a specific commercial operation on their property. The only way to full-fill Prop E’s mandate is for the city to condemn the property and sub-lease the farming operation,” said Barnett. Condemning and purchasing the property through eminent domain will cost an estimated \$50.1 million.

Legal and Financial Liability of Prop E

Not calculated in the study is the significant legal liability, and associated costs of Prop E.

“We did not study that, but obviously it won’t be cheap,” said Barnett. “Carlsbad did not conduct a similar study of the city-sponsored Proposition D. But it is clear that the purported goals of maintaining critical open-space could be achieved under Prop D without eminent domain as under Prop E,” said Barnett

The study, conducted over the last several months is part of an on-going review by TaxpayersAdvocate.org of municipal government budgets and ballot measures in the San Diego region. TaxpayersAdvocate.org is committed to educating the public on government spending and holding politicians accountable.

For the full report see: www.taxpayersadvocate.org