



# David defeats Goliath!

**3 of 5 tax/bond measures defeated in San Mateo County for a taxpayer savings of \$223 million**

by Robert Giedt

Thanks to diligence on the part of the LPSM, and the agreement of many right-thinking voters, 3 of the 5 big-budget special election bond/tax measures were sent down to defeat on Tuesday, June 5.

Do something about the *rising cost of living!*

On June 5, vote *against* all tax increase proposals.  
Vote **NO** on Measures A, B, C, D, & F.

Libertarian Party of San Mateo County  
www.LPSM.org - 1-800-ELECT-US

Fortunately, those three measures that the voters finally said “No!” to were the ones with the largest price tags: Measure A (Sequoia Union High School District bond; \$170 million, with interest), Measure B (Belmont/Redwood Shores School District tax; approximately \$26 million), and Measure D (San Bruno library bond; \$27 million, with interest). The two that narrowly passed were Measure C (Millbrae library bond; \$19 million), and Measure F (Atherton parcel tax; \$1.6 million). Responsible voters saved their combined communities \$223 million, much thanks to the LPSM!

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## The LPSM needs you to be an active volunteer

by Robert Giedt

If you’ve ever thought about helping the libertarian effort, these next few months are a good place to start. The LPSM is looking for a few volunteers to serve as local candidates in November’s elections. If you don’t feel like running for an office, there are numerous other ways to help the cause.

With the November annual elections coming up, it’s not too soon to think about running for a local office. The candidate filing period for November’s election is July 16 through August 10—right around the corner! There are many school district and municipal positions coming up for reelection. Check Shape the Future (<http://www.shapethefuture.org>) and the San Mateo County Clerk’s office (<http://www.care.co.sanmateo.ca.us>) for more information on your local races. Many LPSM members have run for office in the past and would be willing to provide any information they’ve gleaned from the process. If you’re not happy with the current candidates, the best way to change the system is from within.

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## April & May meeting notes

by Linden Hsu

### April Notes

Both the dinner and business meetings were light and informal. The flurry of activity in the preceding weeks (for ballot measure arguments) seemed to have drained most involved.

### Advertising

Christopher Schmidt suggested that the LPSM advertise in local papers for the upcoming (June) elections. The main goals are to familiarize the public with the LP (regarding fiscal restraint), and to advocate voting against the various tax and bond measures. Several members planned to submit potential ads to the Executive Committee for approval.

Linden will modify the *World’s Smallest Political Quiz* to fit within newspaper ad form factors for a possible future campaign.

### Organizing

Jack Hickey proposed the use of “Zip Code Captains” to organize candidates

for elections and to mobilize volunteers for outreach activities. His role as de facto “Party Whip” will be reduced now that he has returned to the work force.

### May Notes

There were two business items in May. Most of the remaining discussion and dinner conversation seemed very light-hearted. It seemed that a significant portion of the evening was used to “test the water” on various proposals; however, no new major initiatives resulted.

### Outreach

Jack reported his participation at the *Independent Newspaper Group’s* editors’ forum. There, he expressed his opposition to the tax/bond measures on the ballot for San Mateo County’s June 5 elections. He also spoke out against Measure D at a local forum in San Bruno.

### Ads, petitions

We authorized Christopher to craft an ad opposing the upcoming tax/bond

measures and to place it in local newspapers.

*[The ad, reproduced at reduced size above, ran in all county Independent Newspaper Group papers (combined circulation 168,000) in the last two issues preceding the election. —pub.]*

We also authorized him to purchase materials for upcoming fundraising and signature drives. ☺

**NEXT 2 BUSINESS MEETINGS:**

**Thursday, June 21 and  
Thursday, July 19**  
Hobee’s Restaurant  
1111 Shoreway Road  
Belmont  
*(off Ralston on the bay side of 101)*

**Dinner (optional):**  
6:00–7:30PM in the dining room alcove

**Business meeting:**  
7:30–8:45PM in the dining room alcove

**Libertarian Party**  
Region 41-San Mateo County  
<http://www.lpsm.org>

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**Publicity Chair**  
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**Database Chair**  
Ann Turner  
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**Judicial Committee**  
Linden Hsu, Steve Marsland,  
Christopher Schmidt

**David defeats Goliath—**  
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All five elections were extremely close, so bond proponents could theoretically argue that “the will of the majority was narrowly defeated by the few.” Not so. Historically, special elections have a minuscule voter turnout. The prime example here was for Measure A, where of the 118,704 people that *could* have voted, only 16,423 (14%) voted “Yes” on the measure. 14% does not a majority make. And that tiny 14% nearly took the election! In addition, a scant 2,302 (21%) of the Millbrae voters voted for their library bond, and it was enough to put the entire city into debt for years to come.

While it is the voters we must thank for ultimately defeating these bloated measures, our victory was helped in no small part by some members of the LPSM. Jack Hickey made two public appearances in San Bruno prior to the election. Linden Hsu submitted both the Millbrae and San Bruno arguments against those two ballot measures. Christopher Schmidt wrote the five arguments against (<http://www.smartvoter.org/2001/06/05/ca/sm/meas/>), while he and Margret Schmidt created the ad in all San Mateo County issues of the *Independent* that ran in the issues before the election. [See page 1.] Great work, gang!

(Many thanks to Christopher Schmidt who contributed details to this article.)

**Volunteer—**  
*(continued from page 1)*

But if running for an office doesn’t work for you, you can contribute in many other ways:

- Donate money.
- Donate your time (find candidates you agree with and help walk their precinct, distribute their flyers, put up posters, etc.)
- Become more active with the LPSM.
- Write letters to the editor about your concerns.

Remember, the only way to get a hit is to step into the batter’s box, and if we get enough hits, we’ll eventually drive in the winning run.

**Why you received this newsletter**

If you are a dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party, and reside in San Mateo County, you’ll receive a copy of this newsletter each month. We also mail it to people who we’d like to join the Party. If your address label says “COMPLIM”, you asked for information, registered to vote Libertarian or we were given your name by a current member. You have a 3-month complimentary subscription. We hope you’ll become a dues-paying member!

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<http://www.lpsm.org>

**June 2001**

- David defeats Goliath (3 of 5 tax/bond measures defeated)
- The LPSM needs *you* to volunteer

**Membership Form**

*(includes membership in the national, state and local Libertarian Party)*



**The Libertarian Party**  
*of San Mateo County*

853 Middlefield Road #4, Palo Alto, CA 94301-2919

**Please print:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The Libertarian Party is the Party of Principle. To assure and affirm that our party never strays from its principles, we request our members to sign the pledge below. (Non-signers cannot vote on party business.)

*I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**I choose to set my dues at:**

- \$10 Local newsletter only (*signature/pledge not required*) \_\_\_\_\_
- \$25 Basic \_\_\_\_\_
- \$100 Sustaining \_\_\_\_\_
- \$250 Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_
- \$500 Patron \_\_\_\_\_
- \$1,000 Life \_\_\_\_\_

**Plus an additional contribution to the San Mateo Region:**

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Pledge \_\_\_\_\_
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ One-time Donation \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment method:**

- Check (payable to the Libertarian Party)
- Visa       MasterCard

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_