REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF CARD MEASURE A

CARD claims they’ve provided "safe and well maintained parks and recreational facilities" for 70 years. But in 2015, CARD ignored a consultant's report that Shapiro Pool needed about $500,000 work to bring it up to code, after years of deferred maintenance. Instead the board closed Shapiro Pool and approved a $400,000 payment toward the CalPERS pension deficit. In March 2019, CARD made another off-schedule payment of $740,038, and increased their annual payment from $150,000 to $300,000 for the next five years. In 2024 payment will increase to $350,000/year.

While the district claims that property tax revenues "have not kept up with inflation rates," the truth is, they have not kept up with increasing demands from CalPERS to pay more toward district employees' over $2,700,000 pension deficit. The district claims the state has cut funding, but the truth is, the state is back filling property devaluations due to the Camp Fire for the next six years. CARD's budget goes up roughly a million a year. Property values are constantly increasing, and new housing brings permit fee revenues and more property taxes. But, not fast enough to cover employees who demand 70% of their highest year's salary in retirement, while paying less than 10% of the cost. So, this tax will increase annually to account for inflation, projected at 1.9% and rising.

This is an end-run around Proposition 13. No on Measure A.

Juanita Sumner