

## Transient Occupancy Tax

Dear Fellow Artesians:

The City Council has placed this measure on the ballot for your consideration. The transient occupancy tax is a tax on the use of a hotel in Artesia. When an occupant or “transient” checks out of the hotel, the tax is charged to the occupant’s bill, which the occupant pays directly to the hotel and is collected by the city. Your YES vote on this measure would update the transient occupancy tax which has remained at 6% for over 33 years.

Like many cities in California, Artesia is facing financial difficulties. Thankfully, over the years, the City Council has been saving money for tough times. For the first time in many years, we have had to dip into that savings. However, we cannot continue to rely on our savings year after year to keep our budget balanced. We have already made difficult cuts in services and programs but cuts alone will not be enough—we need your help!

Your YES vote:

- WILL update the transient occupancy tax
- WILL NOT affect your residential property tax
- WILL NOT affect Artesia sales tax rates
- WILL establish the transient occupancy tax at 12.5%
- WILL help the city to provide services including public safety, recreation programs, and senior services.

A NO vote:

- Will keep the transient occupancy tax at 6% (the rate since 1976)
- Will reduce our options for balancing our budget

This measure will provide the city with a stable source of revenue, which is especially important now, since the State will continue to raid our city’s revenues to balance the state budget! Thank you.