

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE OO

Vote YES on Measure OO—Kids First! Help Oakland's kids stay on the right track. Address root problems before they begin—with **NO** tax increase.

No challenge is greater, or mission more important, than making sure our children have a chance to learn, grow and contribute to a better future and safer community for all of us.

Consider the FACTS:

- 100+ known gangs in Oakland.
- Teens and young adults are 40-50% of Oakland's homicide victims.
- Oakland has one of the highest drop-out rates in California.
- Nearly half of all Oakland students have been truant from school without excuse.

Challenges facing kids in Oakland are growing, but the resources to help them are not.

Kids First! was created by voter mandate in 1996. Thanks to YOU—the Oakland voter—a small percentage of the City's budget is dedicated to serve the needs of children and youth.

Kids First! programs work! An independent evaluation at 25 schools showed program participants improved school attendance by 83% and 86% improved their academic test scores.

YES on Measure OO expands the model program established by Oakland voters to improve children's lives—increasing fiscal accountability at City Hall.

YES on Measure OO includes tough fiscal accountability provisions. The City Council can't be trusted to adequately fund services our kids depend on. **YES on OO** requires an Oversight Committee, annual program evaluations, and annual audits—ensuring that funds are spent efficiently and as promised to voters.

YES on Measure OO won't raise taxes. It allocates existing City funds to support after-school programs, improve graduation rates, and reduce the number of kids turning to gangs and drugs.

YES vote on Measure OO is a win-win for Oakland kids and taxpayers. For a lawn sign, visit <http://www.kidsfirst2coalition.org>

s/David Kakishiba

President, Oakland Board of Education

s/Linda Boessenekcer

Executive Director, Girls Incorporated of Alameda County

s/Sheilagh Andujar

Principal, Oakland Technical High School

s/Isaiah Toney

Co-Chairperson, Citizen's Planning & Oversight Committee, Oakland Fund for Children & Youth

s/Reverend George Cummings

Co-Chairperson, Oakland Community Organizations

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE OO

Don't be fooled: Kids First! Will hamstring the City's ability to provide essential services for seniors, families AND kids.

Consider the facts: The City of Oakland already gives over \$26 million annually to nonprofits for kids programs beyond the \$10 million allocated under the original Kids First!

Measure OO will lock the city into earmarking up to another \$26 million a year forever. The City will be mandated to fund only a narrow group of specific kids' programs at the expense of our libraries, police, fire, parks and recreation, street repair and services for seniors.

The original Kids First! Is already assured of receiving about \$10 million a year until 2021. If Measure OO passes, the City will have to cut more than the equivalent of the entire Oakland Parks & Recreation program just to meet Measure OO requirements. Not only will Oakland's children suffer, but so will all other Oakland residents.

The bottom line is that the City must allocate existing funds to meet the needs of ALL of Oakland's residents – or else the future we hand Oakland's kids will be an unmitigated financial disaster.

Vote NO on Measure OO.

s/Daniel Farrell

Fire Chief

s/Susan Montauk

Oakland Parks Coalition Chair

s/John Bliss

Soccer Coach

s/Bobbie Bond

Former Commissioner On Aging

s/Sylvester Grisby

Former Member Library Advisory Commission