

#2

BALLOT MEASURE SUBMITTAL FORM



All fields with an * are required.

Jurisdiction Name*: City of Albany	Election Date*: November 5, 2024
Note: The information as it appears within the tex	t box will be printed on the ballot and voter guide.
Insert ballot question text here*:	
enants and landlords, and to support rental provestablishing a supplemental special business lic	, residential rental code enforcement, legal assistance for viders to avoid financial hardship, shall a measure ense tax on residential rental businesses of 0.36% of gross ity and 1% of gross receipts for renting five or more units, til ended by voters, be adopted?
TYPE OF MEASURE*	PERCENTAGE NEEDED TO PASS*
🛛 Regular Measure 🗌 Parcel Tax	□ 50% + 1 □ 66.6667% ⊠ 2/3
Bond Measure Charter Amendment	t Other: Click or tap here to enter text.
FULL-TEXT OPTION*	
Full Text to be printed in the Voter Information Pa	amphlet:
YES (note: must provide an MS Word file)	
NO – Do not print, but it's accessible at: Click o	or tap here to enter text.
AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE/CONTA	CT PERSON*
Print Name:	Signature:
Phone #:	Email:
CONTACT INFORMATION (public use) Phone #: 510-528-5710	Email: <u>cityclerk@albanyca.org</u>

CITY OF ALBANY CITY ATTORNEY'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE "____"

A SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIAL BUSINESS LICENSE TAX ON RESIDENTIAL RENTAL BUSINESSES WITHIN THE CITY OF ALBANY TO FUND TENANT RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, CODE ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS RELATED TO RESIDENTIAL RENTALS, LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR TENANTS AND LANDLORDS, AND TO SUPPORT RENTAL PROVIDERS

Pursuant to Chapter 5, Article 2 of the Albany Municipal Code, the City imposes a business license tax on various businesses within the City.

On July 15, 2024, the City Council placed Measure "____" on the November 5, 2024 General Municipal Election. If approved by Albany voters, Measure "____" would add section 5-2.3.5 to the Albany Municipal Code to enact a supplemental special business license tax on the business of renting or leasing residential units in the City, effective January 1, 2025. The tax would be based upon number of units rented and gross receipts as follows:

Categories	Percentage of Gross Receipts
Residential Rental (four units or less)	0.36%
Residential Rental (five units or more)	1%

A "Residential rental" subject to the tax includes operating an apartment house, lodging house, and renting rooms, and/or any building structure, for dwelling, sleeping or non-transient lodging, including, but not limited to, a single-family house, duplex, triplex, townhouse, condominium, accessory dwelling unit, or co-operative.

Certain "residential rentals" would be exempt from the tax:

- 1. Units owned by a nonprofit affordable housing corporation.
- 2. Units with rents limited by law, deed restriction or agreements with public agencies, at affordable rates to households at no more than 80% of Area Median Income and whose tenants are income-qualified.
- 3. Units rented by the City or by City agreement.
- 4. Units on State University/college property providing housing for its students, faculty or staff.
- 5. Units on Albany Unified School District property providing housing for its faculty or staff.

Measure "____" empowers the City Council to adopt additional exemptions, and to reverse or amend those exemptions.

It is estimated that Measure "____" will provide an additional \$475,000 in annual local funding that would be deposited into a special "Rental Assistance and Code Enforcement Fund". Revenues from this special tax would be solely dedicated to fund the following purposes:

- 1. Local tenant rental assistance programs to assist qualifying tenants with costs of rent, utilities, security deposits and other reasonable occupancy costs.
- 2. Code enforcement activities to enhance residential rental unit monitoring and response to address habitability issues and other Code violations.
- 3. Free or reduced-cost legal services to qualifying tenants and landlords of residential rental units.
- 4. Support of rental providers to avoid financial hardship.

Measure "____" authorizes the City Council to adjust the rate of the tax and to adopt supplemental procedures to implement it, provided the Council does not increase the rate or methodology of this tax beyond what is set forth above.

Pursuant to Article XIIIC of the California Constitution (Proposition 218), Measure "____" requires 2/3 supermajority approval of Albany voters to pass. If Measure "____" does not pass, the special business license tax will not be enacted.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure "____". If you desire a copy of the Measure, please call the City Clerk's office at (510) 528-5710 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.

/s/ MALATHY SUBRAMANIAN City Attorney

RECEIVED Alameda County

AUG 07 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-63

Reg. of Voters

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL CALLING FOR THE PLACEMENT OF A SPECIAL TAX MEASURE ON THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION BALLOT FOR SUBMITTING TO THE VOTERS AN ORDINANCE ADDING SECTION 5-2.3.5 TO ARTICLE 2 (LICENSE TAX) OF CHAPTER 5 (GENERAL LICENSING AND BUSINESS REGULATIONS) OF THE ALBANY MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH A SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIAL BUSINESS LICENSE TAX ON RESIDENTIAL RENTAL BUSINESSES OPERATING WITHIN THE CITY OF ALBANY TO FUND TENANT RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, CODE ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS RELATED TO RESIDENTIAL RENTALS, LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR TENANTS AND LANDLORDS, AND TO SUPPORT RENTAL PROVIDERS; AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK OR HER DULY AUTHORIZED OFFICERS TO CARRY OUT ALL THE NECESSARY PROCEDURES FOR SAID ELECTION

WHEREAS, Section 2.01 of the Albany City Charter provides that the City's General Municipal Election will be held on each even year and shall be consolidated with the Statewide General Election to be held in said City on Tuesday, November 5, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the City of Albany is a charter city and pursuant to Article XI, Section 7 of the California Constitution and Section 1.03 of the Albany City Charter is empowered to exercise all powers necessary and appropriate for a municipal corporation and the general welfare of its inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, Section 5.01 of the Albany City Charter provides that except as otherwise provided in the Charter or City ordinances, City elections shall be conducted in accordance with the State Elections Code; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 9222 of the California Elections Code, the City Council has the authority and desires to submit a ballot measure to the voters of the City of Albany for their approval and adoption at the General Municipal Election to be held in the City on November 5, 2024; and

1	WHEREAS, the ballot measure is an ordinance adding Section 5-2.3.5 to Article 2 of		
2	Chapter 5 of the Albany Municipal Code to:		
3	(A) Establish a supplemental special business license tax on residential rental		
4	businesses operating within the City of Albany to fund tenant rental assistance		
5	programs, Code Enforcement efforts related to residential rentals, legal assistance		
6	for tenants and landlords, to support rental providers to avoid financial hardship		
7	("Special BL Tax") at the following rates:		
8 9	1.) 0.36% of gross receipts earned from the business of renting four residential		
10	units or less within the City of Albany; and		
11	2.) 1% of gross receipts earned from the business of renting five or more		
12	residential units within the City of Albany; and		
13	(B) Incorporate an exemption from the tax for any residential rentals rented by the City		
14	of Albany or pursuant to an agreement with the City of Albany.		
15	WHEREAS, the specific terms of the Special BL Tax measure are provided for in the		
16			
17	ordinance to be considered by the qualified voters, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" (the "Special		
18	BL Tax Ordinance" or "Special BL Tax Measure") and by this reference made an operative		
19 20	part hereof, and in accordance with all applicable laws; and		
20	WHEREAS, the "Rental Assistance and Code Enforcement Fund" and are dedicated		
22	for the following sole and exclusive purposes:		
23	 To fund local tenant rental assistance programs, including financial assistance 		
24	to assist qualifying tenants in paying the cost of rent, security deposit, utility		
25	service, or any other costs reasonably related to occupancy of a residential rental		
26	unit within the City;		
27			
28			
	- 2 -		

To increase funding for Code Enforcement activities in order to enhance the City's monitoring of conditions at residential rental units and to enhance the City's response to address Code violations and other conditions affecting habitability within residential rental units;

• To fund free or reduced-cost legal services to be made available to qualifying tenants and landlords of residential rental units within the City;

• To fund support of rental providers to avoid financial hardship.

WHEREAS, on November 6, 1996, the voters of the State of California approved Proposition 218 (California Constitution, Article XIIIC), an amendment to the State Constitution which requires that all special taxes which are imposed, extended or increased must be submitted to the electorate and approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the qualified electors voting in the election; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments which enact the Special BL Tax constitute a tax "increase" subject to Proposition 218; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Proposition 218 (California Constitution Article XIIIC, §2(b)), a local election for the approval of an increase to a special tax may be scheduled for any date authorized by the California Elections Code; and

WHEREAS, the next regularly scheduled general election for City Council members on November 5, 2024 is a date authorized under the California Elections Code for the placement of a special tax measure; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Government Code Section 50077, on July 15, 2024, the City Council held a public hearing after due notice regarding calling for an election on the Special BL Tax Measure; and

- 3 -

WHEREAS, pursuant to Albany City Charter Section 2.05, "[T]he affirmative vote of a majority of the Council shall be necessary to adopt any ordinances, resolutions or claims against the City, which vote shall be taken by ayes and noes and entered upon the record".

NOW THEREFORE, THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DECLARE, DETERMINE, AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1 Recitals. The City Council hereby finds and determines that the foregoing recitals are true and correct, are incorporated herein and by this reference made an operative part hereof.

Section 2 Submission of Ballot Measure. Pursuant to Albany City Charter Section 2.05, California Elections Code §9222, and any other applicable requirements of the laws of the State of California relating to the City of Albany, the City Council, by a simple majority vote of its members, hereby orders the Special BL Tax Measure to be submitted to the voters of the City at the General Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

Section 3 There is hereby called and ordered to be held in the City of Albany, California on November 5, 2024, a General Municipal Election for the purposes of submitting to the voters the Special Business License Tax Measure as set forth in Exhibit A.

Section 4 The City Council hereby orders that the ballot question for the Measure shall be presented and printed upon the ballot submitted to the qualified voters in the manner and form set forth in this Section 4. On the ballot to be submitted to the qualified voters at the General Municipal Election to be held on November 5, 2024, in addition to any other matters required by law, there shall be printed substantially the following ballot question:

- 4 -

Fo fund local tenant rental assistance programs, residential rental ode enforcement, legal assistance for tenants and landlords, and to	YES
upport rental providers to avoid financial hardship, shall a measure stablishing a supplemental special business license tax on residential	
ental businesses of 0.36% of gross receipts for renting four or fewer nits in the City and 1% of gross receipts for renting five or more nits, providing approximately \$475,000 annually until ended by	NO

Section 5 This Measure requires the approval of a two-thirds (2/3) supermajority of the qualified electors casting votes at the General Municipal Election.

Section 6 Conduct of Election. The City Clerk is authorized, instructed, and directed to coordinate with the Alameda County Registrar of Voters/Elections Official to procure and furnish any and all official ballots, printed matter and all supplies, equipment and paraphernalia that may be necessary in order to properly and lawfully conduct the election.

Section 7 Impartial Analysis. Pursuant to California Elections Code Section 9280, the City Council hereby directs the City Clerk to transmit a copy of the Measure to the City Attorney. The City Attorney shall prepare an impartial analysis of the Measure, not to exceed 500 words in length, showing the effect of the Measure on the existing law and the operation of the Measure, and transmit such impartial analysis to the City Clerk not later than the deadline for submittal of primary arguments for or against the Measure. The impartial analysis shall include a statement indicating whether the Measure was placed on the ballot by a petition signed by the requisite number of voters or by the City Council. In the event the entire text of the Measure is not printed on the ballot, nor in the voter information portion of the sample ballot, there shall be printed immediately below the impartial analysis, in no less than 10-font bold type, the following: **"The above statement is an impartial analysis of Ordinance or Measure _____. If you desire a copy of the Ordinance or Measure, please call the Office of the City Clerk at (510) 528-5710 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you."** Section 8 The City Clerk is hereby directed to cause notice of the Measure to be published in a newspaper of general circulation, or any other newspaper designated as an official newspaper of the City of Albany in accordance with Elections Code §12111 and Government Code §6061.

Section 9 Placement on the Ballot. The full text of the Measure shall be printed in the voter information guide and pursuant to Elections Code §9223 voters may obtain a copy of this Resolution and the Measure, at no cost, upon request made to the City Clerk.

Section 10 Public Examination. Pursuant to California Elections Code §9295, the Measure will be available for public examination for no fewer than ten (10) calendar days prior to being submitted for printing in the voter information guide. The City Clerk shall post notice in the Clerk's office of the specific dates that the examination period will run.

Section 11 That in all particulars not recited in this Resolution, said election shall be held and conducted as provided by law for holding Municipal Elections in the City of Albany.

Section 12 That the General Municipal Election, to be held in the City of Albany, shall be canvassed by the Registrar of Voters of the County of Alameda, State of California.

Section 13 That the City Clerk of the City of Albany is hereby authorized instructed and directed to provide the Alameda County Registrar of Voters with all pertinent information and material as required.

Section 14 That the City Clerk of the City of Albany is hereby authorized and directed to file a copy of this Resolution immediately upon its adoption with the appropriate County agencies. With the concurrence of the City Attorney, the City Clerk is hereby authorized to make such minor, technical and clarifying changes to this Resolution and/or the Exhibits hereto as may be deemed necessary and appropriate.

Section 15 The Voter Information Guide shall include the ballot question's wording to the voters as set forth above, and the exact wording of the proposed Albany Municipal Code sections or present Albany Municipal Code with language to be deleted shown in strikeout type and the language to be added to be shown in <u>underlined</u>, *italicized*, or otherwise **highlighted** in the Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

The approval of this Resolution is exempt from the California Section 16 Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Special BL Tax Measure to be submitted to the voters is a special tax dedicated to funding tenant rental assistance programs, Code Enforcement efforts related to residential rentals, legal assistance for tenants and landlords, community and homeless prevention services. However, the funding is not committed to any specific project or service; and any future decisions to approve particular projects or services utilizing the tax proceeds will be subject to environmental review at the earliest feasible time prior to the point at which such future decisions are made. As such, under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), this Measure is not a project within the meaning of CEQA because it creates a government funding mechanism that does not involve any commitment to any specific project that may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment. If revenue from this Measure were used for a purpose that would have any such effect, the City would undertake the required CEQA review for that particular project at the earliest feasible time prior to approval of the project. Therefore, under CEQA Guidelines Section 15060, review under CEQA is not required prior to enactment of the Measure.

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing is a full, true, and complete copy of the Resolution duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Albany at a regular meeting thereof on the 15th day of July, 2024. JUHN MIKI, MAYOK **ATTACHMENT:** Exhibit A – Proposed Supplemental Special Business License Tax Ordinance



City of Albany

1000 San Pablo Avenue • Albany, California 94706 (510) 528-5710 • www.albanyca.org

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-63

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,

The 15th day of July, 2024, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Jordan, López, and Tiedemann

NOES: Council Member Hansen-Romero

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: Mayor Miki

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this

16th day of July, 2024.

Anne Hsu CITY CLERK

EXHIBIT "A"

"To fund local tenant rental assistance programs, residential rental code enforcement, legal assistance for tenants and landlords, and to	YES
support rental providers to avoid financial hardship, shall a measure	
establishing a supplemental special business license tax on	
residential rental businesses of 0.36% of gross receipts for renting	
four or fewer units in the City and 1% of gross receipts for renting	NO
five or more units, providing approximately \$475,000 annually until	
ended by voters, be adopted?"	

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY ADDING SECTION 5-2.3.5 TO ARTICLE 2 (LICENSE TAX) OF CHAPTER 5 (GENERAL LICENSING AND BUSINESS REGULATIONS) OF THE ALBANY MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH A SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIAL BUSINESS LICENSE TAX ON RESIDENTIAL RENTAL BUSINESSES OPERATING WITHIN THE CITY OF ALBANY TO FUND TENANT RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, CODE ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS RELATED TO RESIDENTIAL RENTALS, LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR TENANTS AND LANDLORDS, AND TO SUPPORT RENTAL PROVIDERS

NOW THEREFORE, THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: AUTHORITY.

This Ordinance is enacted in accordance with the authority granted to cities by Article XI,

Section 7, Article XIIIA, Section 4 and Article XIIIC, Section 2 of the California Constitution

and the California Elections Code.

SECTION 2: ADDITION OF SECTION 5-2.3.5 TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE.

Section 5-2.3.5 is hereby added to Chapter 5 of the City of Albany Municipal Code and shall read as follows:

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"5-2.3.5 Supplemental Special Tax on Residential Rental Businesses.

a. In addition to any other business licenses taxes due under this Chapter 5, every person engaged, directly or indirectly, including through an interest in another entity, in the business of renting or leasing residential dwelling units in the City of Albany shall pay an annual supplemental special business license tax equal to the percentage of gross receipts earned by said business, as set forth below.

Categories	Percentage of Gross Receipts
Residential Rental (four units or less)	0.36%
Residential Rental (five units or more)	1.%

b. For purposes of this section, "gross receipts" means the total amount of money, credits, reimbursed expenses, value of any free or reduced rent, or other things of value actually received or receivable in connection with engaging in residential rental business in the City of Albany, including any transfer or sale of any materials, goods, wares, merchandise, or other things of value, or for the performance of any act or service, of any nature, for which a charge is made, credit allowed, or other thing of value received, without any deduction on account of the cost of property sold, cost of materials used, labor or service costs, interest paid or payable, reimbursed or passed through expenses, or losses or other expenses. Gross receipts includes all payments made to a lessor, or paid to third parties on behalf of a lessor as part of a lease agreement, including but not limited to, taxes, business taxes, insurance, mortgage payment, rent, and the cash value of all services rendered to or on behalf of the lessor by a lessee.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following shall be excluded from the definition of gross receipts:

1. Any other tax required by law to be included in or added to the rent and collected from the tenant;

2. Such part of the rent returned by lessors to the lessees by way of cash or credit allowances or refundable security, cleaning and other deposits collected from the tenant, provided, however, that any deposits that are lawfully forfeited and not returned to the tenant shall be counted as gross receipts;

3. Whenever there are included within the gross receipts amounts which reflect rent for which credit is extended and such amount proved uncollectible in a subsequent year, those amounts may be excluded from the gross receipts in the year they prove to be uncollectible; provided, however, if the whole or portion of such amounts excluded as uncollectible are subsequently collected, they shall be included in the amount of gross receipts for the period when they are recovered.

c. For purposes of this section, "residential rental" shall mean conducting or operating an apartment house, lodging house, and every person engaged in the business of conducting or letting rooms, and/or any building structure, for dwelling, sleeping, or non-transient lodging, including, but not limited to, a single-family house, duplex, triplex, townhouse, condominium, accessory dwelling unit, or co-operative.

d. Gross receipts from the following categories of residential rentals shall not be subject to this Section, but shall be subject to the general business license tax provided elsewhere in this Chapter:

1. residential rental units owned by a nonprofit corporation whose primary purpose is the provision of affordable housing;

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2. residential rental units whose rents are controlled under local, state or federal law, deed restrictions, or agreements with public agencies, at rental rates that are affordable to households earning no more than 80% of Area Median Income and whose tenants must be income-qualified;

3. any residential rental unit rented by the City or pursuant to an agreement with the City;

4. any residential rental unit on property owned or leased by a State university or college whose primary purpose is the provision of housing for students attending the university or college, or faculty or staff employed by the university or college;

5. any residential rental unit on property owned or leased by the Albany Unified School District whose primary purpose is the provision of housing for faculty or staff employed by the School District;

6. any additional exemption(s) that the City Council may adopt, from time to time, by resolution or ordinance. The City Council may also, by resolution or ordinance, reverse or amend any such additional exemption(s) at any time.

e. The tax imposed by this section shall be operative on January 1, 2025.

f. The proceeds of the supplemental special business license tax shall be deposited in the Rental Assistance and Code Enforcement Fund and shall be used for the following sole and exclusive purposes:

1. To fund local tenant rental assistance programs, including any City rental voucher program or other financial assistance to assist qualifying tenants in paying the cost of any rent, security deposit, utility service, or any other costs reasonably related to occupancy of a residential rental unit within the City; 2. To increase funding for Albany Code Enforcement activities in order to enhance the City's monitoring of habitability at residential rental units and to enhance the City's response to address violations and other conditions affecting compliance with applicable State and local codes;

3. To fund free or reduced-cost legal services to be made available to qualifying tenants and landlords of residential rental units within the City;

4. To fund support of rental providers to avoid financial hardship.

g. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the supplemental special business license tax shall be collected and administered as set forth in Chapter 5 of this Code.

h. The City Council may reduce the tax rate set forth in this Section and may terminate any such reductions and restore the rate to the maximum provided in this voter-approved ordinance, without further voter approval.

i. The Finance Director shall annually prepare and submit to the City Council a report regarding the special tax proceeds collected and expended, as well as any other information required by Government Code sections 50075.1 and 50075.3.

j. The City Council may, from time to time, adopt supplemental ordinances, resolutions, policies, programs and procedures as necessary for the implementation of this Section, provided no such action increases the codified rate or methodology of this supplemental business license tax in this Section."

SECTION 3: CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT.

Under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), this Measure is not a project within the meaning of CEQA because it creates a government funding mechanism that does not involve any commitment to any specific project that may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment. If revenue from this Measure were used for a purpose that would have any such effect, the City would undertake the required CEQA review for that particular project at the earliest feasible time prior to approval of the project. Therefore, under CEQA Guidelines Section 15060, review under CEQA is not required prior to enactment of the Measure.

SECTION 4: SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 5: EFFECTIVE DATE.

Pursuant to California Constitution Article XIIIC §(2)(d) and California Elections Code §9217, this Ordinance shall take effect only if approved by a two-thirds (2/3) supermajority of the eligible voters of the City of Albany voting at the General Municipal Election to be held on November 5, 2024 and shall become effective 10 days after the City Council has declared the results of the Election. Ordinance No. 2024-04 was submitted to the People of the City of Albany at the November 5, 2024 General Municipal Election. It was approved by the following vote of the People: YES:

NO:

Ordinance No. 2024-04 was thereby adopted by the voters at the November 5, 2024 election and shall become effective ten (10) days following adoption of a resolution declaring the results of the election at a regular meeting of the City Council held on December ____, 2024 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an ordinance duly and regularly adopted by the People of the City of Albany, California.

Anne Hsu, City Clerk